



PRESS RELEASE
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13 UK ORGANISATIONS SHARE £100,137 IN THE 7TH ROUND OF GRANTS FOR THE CLORE POETRY AND LITERATURE AWARDS

13 organisations across the UK have been announced as recipients of £100,137 in grants from the 7th round of the Clore Poetry and Literature Awards funded by the Clore Duffield Foundation.

The Award-winning projects span schools, colleges, community, arts and cultural arts organisations within urban and rural areas throughout the whole of the UK. The highest of the shortlisted grants is £10,000 and the lowest £2,150.

The funded projects include a project for young people in Argyll based on Boswell and Johnson's tour of the Hebrides; an after-school club focused on the work of Roger McGough & Michael Morpurgo; a Thames Estuary project encouraging families to read together; a poetry and writing project in Derry for young people with Down's Syndrome; a Powys project focused on Welsh writers and aimed at disengaged teenagers; and a project for primary school children in Brixton focusing on the work of 18th-century black writers.

The Clore Poetry and Literature Awards, founded in 2011, specifically target the development of imaginative new ways to engage children and young people in the experience of poetry and literature, both in and out of school. They represent a £1 million strategic investment in poetry and literature for young people in the UK. The recipients are:

Age Exchange Theatre for *A Way with Words*

Award: £9,770 London (Blackheath)

A considered intergenerational project for children and young people by this admired company in Blackheath, it will tackle serious literature and involve full-length novels. There will be 12 weekly sessions on novels related to the themes of evacuation and the Holocaust, with older people contributing their memories and young people exploring the experiences. There will be a poet-in-residence in the local library during the school summer holidays and a performance of the children's work at the Age Exchange Theatre, and at local residential care homes. The poetry generated by the project will be made into a book.

Arts Connection for *Alternative Stories*

Award: £8,500 Wales (Powys)

A project for 40 disengaged teenagers in two mainstream schools in Wrexham and Powys. The work of R S Thomas and Grahame Davies will be explored in lively ways using a range of media, creating podcasts, and film-making. Teachers see this as an exciting opportunity to develop new approaches to learning and inclusivity. Writers to lead the project will be chosen through an open tender process. The project is helpfully focused on the locality and the use of digital media is well-considered.

Black Cultural Archives for *The Other Georgians: A Reimagining*

Award: £7,933 London (Brixton)

This project integrates the forthcoming 'The Black Georgians' exhibition of archive materials related to Georgian life. It will involve 240 Year 5 children from Brixton schools, introducing them to the works of 18th-century black writers – Equiano and Sancho. The project will develop INSET and resources for teachers and develop the children's poetic response to the writer's work, leading to a celebratory event. The work will be lead by the poet, Adisa.

Collective Encounters for *Writing for Change*

Award: £7,000 North West (Liverpool)

A young writers' programme in North Liverpool which will explore political literature and also develop new writing. A group of 25 14-19 year olds will study political playwrights of the past and present (Brecht, Wesker, Osborne etc.) and receive masterclasses from contemporary writers. They will work with a playwright to develop their own work on political issues to be performed at Unity Theatre, Liverpool. This is an unusual project which is led by a strong local organisation which has attracted a range of impressive funders for its commitment to social change.

Dorset Youth Association for *Youth Club: 'Read, Write and Share'*

Award: £9,851 South West (Dorchester)

A project to pilot the introduction of poetry and literature into a county-wide network of youth club activities in Dorset. This project will encourage youth club leaders and community librarians to include literature and poetry in their activities, providing opportunities for young people to discover and continue reading for pleasure through two-hour sessions for six weeks. This is an energetic attempt to parachute literature into a relatively book free world which is outside formal education.

Foyle Down Syndrome Trust for *The Poet in Us*

Award: £6,600 Northern Ireland (Derry)

The Foyle Down Syndrome Trust was set up in Derry by parents in 1995. This project is for 17 young people with Down Syndrome who will be offered 40 literature and poetry workshops, focused on local poets and writers. The workshops will be held at the Shared Future Centre and at the public library in Derry. They will culminate in a sharing event in July 2016 at the Brunswick Movie Bowl, compered by Michael O'Donoghue, a young poet with Down Syndrome whose work has been published.

High Peak Community Arts for *For the Love of Books*

Award: £5,000 East Midlands (Derbyshire)

The project proposes to run workshops located on social housing estates in Glossop, New Mills and Buxton and aims to introduce young families to books and storytelling. There will be ten weekly sessions for a minimum of ten families, aiming to establish the practice of parents and children reading regularly together. The project is run by an effective local arts organisation with a commitment to generating a love of reading.

Ideas Test for *Wandering Words*

Award: £10,000 South East (Kent)

An unusual application to create a poetry squad (15 young people) who will look at the work of Simon Armitage, Nancy Gaffield and Patience Agbabe before going on their own five day walk along the old drover roads, starting in Medway and ending in

Canterbury. A writer and a sound artist will accompany them and the squad will engage with communities along the way. They will then create their own written and sound compositions. The resulting work will be performed in schools, at the 'Wise Words' live event, and as a 30 minute radio show.

Ilkley Literature Festival for *Chicken Shop Shakespeare*

Award: £9,600 Yorkshire (Ilkley)

A project to enable less academic secondary school students to connect with Shakespeare, in three schools in Leeds, Bradford and Ilkley. There will be workshops in each school presenting the chosen texts in contemporary language. The students will then produce their own responses in writing. These will also be filmed and placed on the Festival website. The project is a good approach to widening access to Shakespeare and the link with a local literature festival gives it added power.

New Mills Business and Enterprise College for *So You Think You Are Funny*

Award: £2,150 East Midlands (Derbyshire)

20 young people from Year 10 and Year 11 who are reluctant writers will be involved in an eight week comedy writing programme with the Manchester comedy company Comedysportz. The students will learn stand-up and sketch-writing, leading to a comedy evening at the College. The College has been working hard to raise standards and this is one of its new and optimistic responses to support the students' learning.

Pop Up Projects CIC for *Pop-up Tales*

Award: £5,000 (London)

This inter-generational creative writing project on Canvey Island – a collaboration between Pop Up and Arvon – will see 20 low income parents and children working together with a children's writer and an illustrator over three days to produce an exhibition in words and pictures inspired by joint reading of a well-known children's picture book. The exhibition will feature a short, imaginative film about the project, its participants and the tale they are telling through the exhibition. This Pop Up community project will be part of a planned literature programme across the island in March 2016, called 'Canvey Reads'.

Sefton Children's University for *My Sefton, My Learning Journey*

Award: £9,061 North West (Merseyside)

Ten Primary schools which participate in the Children's University will be involved in this project which aims to develop literature-based after school clubs. Schools will receive resources for a six-week after school programme which will be based on the works of Roger McGough and Michael Morpurgo. A writing workshop and a live web workshop will be included, where children will get to meet writers and poets from the local area and children will be involved in learning to write a book. Each school will submit 10 pieces for an anthology which will be printed locally.

Templar Arts and Leisure Centre Trust for *A visit from Boswell and Johnson*

Award: £9,672 Scotland (Argyll and Bute)

A group of 80 young people, drawn from various youth forums in different locations around Argyll and Bute, will be introduced to the works of Johnson and Boswell and their documented tour of the Hebrides. A writer will lead the work and help the young people to develop a contemporary equivalent of the Johnson and Boswell account, focusing on different topics and also involving media artists, to create a graphic account of the areas.

Dame Vivien Duffield, Chairman of the Clore Duffield Foundation, said:

“This is an impressive list of projects: well-thought through, sophisticated, wide-ranging in terms of the written sources of inspiration, and also in terms of the geographical spread. We are delighted to see our funding reach from Powys to Argyll and Bute; from Derry to Dorset, and to be spanning work by writers such as Boswell and Brecht, among the wide range of living writers involved.”

The Clore Duffield Foundation is a grant-making charity which concentrates its support on cultural learning, creating learning spaces within arts and heritage organisations, leadership training for the cultural and social sectors and enhancing Jewish life. The Foundation is chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE and celebrated its 50th Anniversary last year.

The closing date for entries to Round 8 of the Clore Poetry and Literature Awards will be Spring 2016 – date to be confirmed. See www.cloreduffield.org.uk for details.

The Clore Duffield Foundation is a supporter of the Cultural Learning Alliance, a collective voice working to ensure that all children and young people have access to culture. Sign up to the Alliance: www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk

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