

Warwickshire Libraries is seeking proposals for a creative practitioner /organisation to:

- **Deliver 10 dance sessions inspired by different cultures across Warwickshire Libraries between July 2024 to March 2025, aimed at 4 different target groups.**
- **Deliver a minimum of 1 event on International Dance Day (Tuesday 29th April 2025).**
- **Improve health and wellbeing through storytelling, movement, and dance, and broaden awareness of different cultures and their dance forms.**

Fee: a maximum of £5,000 (plus VAT if applicable); an inclusive fee (to include all travel & delivery costs).

Deadline for application: Monday 20th May (12.00 midday) 2024.

Summary of Brief:

Warwickshire Libraries is a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), directly funded by Arts Council England (ACE), to deliver a range of programmes and activities. We are seeking an experienced creative practitioner/ organisation to deliver our exciting new Cultural Beats commission.

This will include:

- Delivering 10 dance sessions from different cultures across 10 Warwickshire Libraries.
- Delivering sessions to the 4 target age groups:
 - Under 5s (3 sessions)
 - Young People (3 sessions)
 - Adults (2 sessions)
 - Intergenerational (2 sessions)
- Delivering a minimum of 1 event on International Dance Day – Tuesday 29th April 2025.
- Engaging a minimum of 10 participants per session.
- Dance sessions that potentially include South Asian Heritage Month (July/ August 2024), East and Southeast Asian Heritage Month (September 2024) and Black History Month (October 2024).
- Celebrating and engaging the different cultural communities across Warwickshire.



- Promoting the wider Warwickshire Libraries offer during sessions.
- Creating digital content to support the promotion of the sessions and to capture the sessions digitally, for YouTube and social media content.

Working in partnership with the Warwickshire Libraries NPO Team to:

- Incorporate evaluation, consultation and data capture including photography and filming into the sessions and on International Dance Day 2025.
- Promote the 10 sessions and to create digital social media and film content.
- Deliver and promote the International Dance Day event/ activity.

Please note the 10 libraries have provisionally been identified for the sessions.

Delivery Timeframe: June 2024 to April 2025

Timetable:

Deadline for submissions: Monday 20th May 2024 (12.00 midday)

Informed of invitation to selection meeting: Friday 24th May 2024

Selection meeting: Monday 3rd June 2024 – Nuneaton Library

Successful Creative Practitioner informed: Friday 7th June 2024

Planning meeting with NPO Team: June 2024

International Dance Day Event: Tuesday 29th April 2025

Location: Working from your own premises, as well as meetings (live and online) with the NPO Team and delivering a minimum of 10 sessions and 1 event on International Dance Day in April 2025.

Fee: The maximum amount available is £5,000 (plus VAT if applicable). Your proposal must include a full breakdown of costs to include all expenses, goods, travel, and services.

Reporting to:

- Dr Anjna Chouhan – NPO Creative Producer

Contractual Details: Please note that Warwickshire Libraries will contract the supplier to deliver the commission and the payments will be staged depending on your budget to deliver the proposal.

How to Submit a Proposal (see below for details)

Both individuals and organisations can submit a quotation.

Proposals should include the following:

- Credentials for your organisation and/ or CV; please include a CV for any individuals who will be involved in this delivery.
- Examples of similar programmes/events/projects you have delivered, via websites, LinkedIn, or other evidence.



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- An outline proposal of your initial ideas for delivering the commission and a delivery plan, based on this brief.
- A methodology of how you propose to meet the requirements and outputs of the brief. This should be no more than 500 words.
- A cost breakdown/ budget. Your proposal must include a full breakdown of costs to include all expenses, goods, and services (please itemise VAT if applicable).
- Details of two referees for whom you have done similar work.

Please note: if you are successful, we will ask for Public Liability Insurance and DBS.

Selection – Proposals will be assessed against the following:

- How well the proposal meets the brief;
- Knowledge and passion for libraries and the role they play in their communities;
- Knowledge and passion for dance and engaging different audiences.
- Experience of delivering dance sessions/workshops/events for communities of all ages;
- Experience of project/programme management;
- Ability to meet established budgets and work to a schedule; and value for money/ price.

Proposals are encouraged from creative practitioners and organisations residing in Warwickshire and across the West Midlands area, and from artists who have previously lived, were born and/or have studied here, or have family links to the area.

Warwickshire Libraries wish to attract a more diverse range of proposals from people of different ages, ethnicities and educational backgrounds, from all parts of the wider community, who can bring fresh ideas and new perspectives. Previous experience is valued; however, we aim to take a whole person/organisation approach to our commissions.

Please e-mail your proposal and any supporting documentation by Monday 20th May (12.00 midday) 2024 to:

Dr Anjna Chouhan – NPO Creative Producer, Warwickshire Libraries:
anjnachouhan@warwickshire.gov.uk

For any queries:

- Dr Anjna Chouhan: anjnachouhan@warwickshire.gov.uk | 07773662828



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Warwickshire Libraries Cultural Beats Brief – Further Information:

Cultural Beats is part of the Activity Plan for the Warwickshire Libraries NPO, which is informed by the ACE Let's Create strategy – www.artscouncil.org.uk/lets-create. There are three outcomes for the strategy, and this commission sits within Cultural Communities, which stipulates that villages, towns and cities thrive through a collaborative approach to culture.

The commission outcomes are to:

- Improve access to a full range of cultural opportunities wherever people live.
- Work with communities to better understand, and respond to, their needs and interests, resulting in increased cultural engagement and the wide range of social benefits it brings.
- Work collaboratively through place-based partnerships to support and involve communities in high-quality culture, improve creative and cultural education for children and young people, improve health and wellbeing through creative and cultural activity, build skills and capacity in the cultural sector, and grow its economic impact.
- Connecting people and places, including diaspora communities nationally and internationally.

Background Information

Warwickshire Libraries NPO

As the first library service in the West Midlands to become an NPO, Warwickshire Libraries is being funded directly by ACE from April 2023 to March 2027, with the opportunity to reapply at the end of the period. It is both an honour and an accolade to be awarded NPO status.

ACE describes NPOs as “leaders in their areas, with a collective responsibility to protect and develop our national arts and cultural ecology.” The NPO award will provide funding on top of the service’s Warwickshire County Council budget for additional activities and programmes to extend and enhance our arts, heritage and culture offer across the county, particularly focusing on areas of greater need.

Our overarching ambition is to grow and develop a high-quality cultural offer for and with the people of Warwickshire that delivers against Warwickshire County Council priorities, ACE’s Let’s Create strategy and four investment principles:

- Inclusivity and relevance
- Environmental responsibility
- Dynamism
- Ambition and quality



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In essence, the NPO is about making arts and culture more attractive and accessible to all Warwickshire residents, wherever they live, whatever their circumstances or previous levels of engagement.

The Warwickshire Libraries NPO will focus heavily on the levelling-up agenda. The NPO team will support Warwickshire County Council ambitions towards narrowing gaps and creating equality of opportunity for all Warwickshire residents, with a particular emphasis on rural communities, young people, and those living in less advantaged parts of the county. Of the 22 Warwickshire areas identified for levelling-up, 17 are in the Nuneaton and Bedworth district.

For more information on Warwickshire County Council policy on levelling-up:

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-970487194-271>

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-808477336-692>

Warwickshire Libraries

We have 18 council-run libraries, three mobile libraries and a Schools Library Service. In addition, Warwickshire Libraries has specialist reading and learning, digital and outreach teams, and has recently introduced a tablet lending scheme. We also support a vibrant network of 13 social enterprise libraries, and our services actively involve hundreds of volunteers.

The Warwickshire Libraries service is part of the British Library's Living Knowledge Network and has a crucial role to play in delivering the Warwickshire Waterways Strategy, as well as the Warwickshire Heritage and Culture Strategy 2020 – 2025. Both are key five-year strategies for Warwickshire County Council, shaped around three main themes: health and wellbeing, sense of place, and economic vibrancy.

Our work and programmes need to meet the key aims of the Council Plan, which prioritise the following:

- To have a thriving economy and places that have the right jobs, skills, education, and infrastructure.
- A county where all people can live their best lives; where communities and individuals are supported to live safely, healthily, happily and independently.
- Sustainable for the future, which means adapting to and mitigating climate change and meeting net zero commitments.

Key themes in our NPO Programme support all the above.

For further information: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries



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