

MEDIA INFORMATION

Colourful quilt artwork weaves together stories of 200 school children across Bradford district

A stunning quilt made up of 200 individual fabric squares which stitches together the stories and memories of primary school children from across Bradford district is now on display at The Broadway, Bradford.

The colourful new artwork was commissioned as part of 'Untold Stories – Hidden Communities', a project supported by Bradford 2025, the city's UK City of Culture 2025 bid. The project was led by students at Feversham Primary School, supported by artist and teacher Alisa Yates, who were interested in finding out what other children's lives were like across the district.

The pupils made a video which was sent to every primary school in Bradford inviting them to create their own 'square' in response to a series of questions including 'what are your family like?' and 'what stories and memories would you like to tell?'

17 primary schools stepped up to the challenge and for the last six months, more than 200 pupils have been creating their individual pictures which reveal hidden gems in their daily lives. The finished patches were hand-stitched together by Alisa and the Feversham students to create a large-scale artwork which celebrates the many cultures and communities who live in the district.

To mark the completion of the project a new film created by Bradford filmmaker, Jack King, has been released which captures the making of the quilt and the final

work being hung in situ at The Broadway. It also features pupils showcasing their finished artwork and telling the story which inspired their personal piece. The film can be viewed here <https://youtu.be/C551eu96sYQ>

Artist and teacher Alisa Yates said: “We wanted this project to put a spotlight on the varied experiences of children across the district and weave them together into one narrative piece which reflects what it means to be growing up in Bradford today. The finished quilt is just fantastic, and I hope people will come, take a look and think about who made each square and the story each picture is trying to tell.”

The quilt will be on display at The Broadway, Bradford – which is a founding partner for the Bradford 2025 bid – throughout the summer holidays in a dedicated space next to the Select shop.

Added Shanaz Gulzar, chair of Bradford 2025: “We want to thank all the pupils for working so hard to create this beautiful artwork – I’m sure it will bring a smile to the faces of everyone who sees it. We love to celebrate the fact that Bradford is the UK’s youngest city, and we can’t underestimate the impact that winning the title of UK City of Culture to Bradford would have on the lives of young people across the district. We want them to feel proud of being from Bradford and excited about the opportunities that winning the title could bring, and this project is just one of many which will capture the voices and experiences of our younger generations.”

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For more information, images or interviews please contact Debbie Bradley debbie@anitamorrisassociates.co.uk / 01943 603311

NOTES TO EDITORS

Bradford 2025 is the city's bid to be UK City of Culture 2025, the bid will be submitted in 2021. Awarded every four years by Government the UK City of Culture title has had a transformational impact on previous host cities, securing millions of pounds of investment and acting as a catalyst for creative place-making and culture-led regeneration. Bradford joins a number of cities and areas competing for the title with Conwy, Medway, Gloucester, Southampton and South of Scotland amongst others, also having announced their intentions to bid.

<https://bradford2025.co.uk/>