

CONTACT

Debbie Bradley at Anita Morris Associates
Debbie@anitamorrisassociates.co.uk |

MEDIA INFORMATION

FINAL

Summer Unlocked set to unleash a packed cultural programme across Bradford district

Bradford District will be brought to life with an explosion of culture this summer with acrobatics on canals, dancing in the streets and poetry in car parks thanks to 'Summer Unlocked'; a family friendly programme of free cultural and sporting events running throughout the school holidays.

Summer Unlocked will animate the outdoor spaces that became sanctuaries during lockdown, with cultural activities bursting onto streets, neighbourhoods, civic spaces, moors, gardens and parks. This exciting programme includes live theatre, music, film, performance and more to unlock imaginations across the district this summer.

Performance highlights include the award-winning Seeta Patel Dance Company's reimagining of Stravinsky's iconic ballet, *The Rite of Spring*, in the powerful classical Indian dance style Bharatanatyam, performed in the City Park Mirror Pool. Bradford-based learning disability live arts company Mind the Gap has collaborated with acclaimed director Nickie Miles-Wild to create *Leave the Light on For Me*. Staged in Lister Park, this new piece of outdoor theatre combines physical performance, evocative soundscapes and family humour which explores how people with learning disabilities engage with conversations around climate change.

Jellyfish Theatre's brand-new adventure, *The Wagon of Dreams*, is an interactive show for children aged 3+, performed with the help of handmade puppets, original music and loads of (socially distanced) audience interaction. *The Persian Paddleboarder*, a unique, floating performance by Bobak Champion, sees a mix of physical theatre, clowning, acrobatics and hip-hop dance take to the waterways with performances on Lister Park Boating Lake, Apperley Bridge, Saltaire Canal and Bingley Five Rise Locks.

Taking culture out onto the streets, *Minicinemagic!*, a mobile cinema projector housed within a classic Mini Cooper, will be parking up across the district projecting good news stories about people in each neighbourhood. People can share their very own 'mini-moments' for inclusion in the Minicinemagic! Newsreel by sending texts, photos and short video clips to www.illuminos.co.uk/latestnews, texting 07762 117008 or posting on social media using the hashtag #bradfordminimoments. *Front Room Poetry* invites people to join them in their outdoor sitting room

at skate parks, residential neighbourhoods and community centre car parks across the district, to hear some of the most exciting spoken word artists, wordsmiths, storytellers and rappers from across the UK. **COMPACT DISCO** will get people moving with its travelling discotheque, complete with a giant mobile disco ball, sequined performers and not-to-be-missed personalised playlist, coming to a residential neighbourhood near you.

There will be music, dance and art in abundance including **The Peace Artistes'** riotous and raucous explosion of brass, woodwind and percussion which will pop up in parks across the district and people can try their hand at break dancing at **Breakin for Love** with urban dance giants Tech Styles International and The Clean North Crew. Creative minds can also enjoy **The Chalk Dance**; a series of family-friendly pavement art workshops hosted by Urban Canvas.

Many of the district's cultural venues are also hosting special events as part of the Summer Unlocked programme. '**Another World**', set in Parson's Field at the Brontë Parsonage Museum, is a new installation by NEON Studio which allows visitors to explore an imaginary world where the Brontës, Bradford's most famous literary family, ran wild. The stunning South Square Centre in Thornton, which recently reopened following an eight-month capital renovation project, will host '**Titanic Relunched**'; recreating the elaborate Titanic-themed fancy dress party which marked the opening of this historic arts space in 1982.

Little ones can join one of Bradford Libraries special **Teddy Bear Picnics** with interactive storytelling, crafts and much more. Families can also look forward to getting out and active with activities such as climbing towers, dance and den building, as part of the Holiday Activities and Food programme, 'The University of Summer Fun'.

Foodies can also get their fill at the Summer Unlocked Food & Drink Weekender from 29 July - 01 August 2021 featuring more than 15 street-food vendors and a dedicated bar, which will transform City Park in the centre of Bradford.

Summer Unlocked is supported by Bradford Council, The Leap and Bradford 2025. The University of Summer Fun is funded by the Department for Education's Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) and is designed to provide children and young people with free, fun activities at holiday clubs this summer.

Portfolio Holder for Healthy People & Places, Cllr Sarah Ferriby, said "This Summer, we want families and residents across the district to feel empowered to get out and about and explore the fantastic public spaces we have here in Bradford. Summer Unlocked will offer Covid-safe activities for all the family that will create moments of surprise, activation, celebration and reflection."

Added Richard Shaw, Bradford 2025 Bid Director: “The Summer Unlocked programme offers families the chance to see, hear and experience an incredible line-up of artists, musicians and performers and more, for free, set against the backdrop of our beautiful streets, canals, parks and squares. It’s a brilliant opportunity to go out and try something different and see Bradford’s public spaces brought to life in a whole new way. It’s great to see a momentum building throughout the summer as we ramp up cultural activities across the district as part of our bid to become UK City of Culture 2025.”

For a full list of events, dates and locations go to www.visitbradford.com/SummerUnlocked

ENDS

Summer Unlocked: Programme Details

(More events to be announced soon)

Another World

By the Brontë Parsonage Museum & NEON Studio

21st August - 18th September 2021 | Wednesday – Sunday, 11am to 4pm

Visit the Brontë Parsonage Museum and step into *Another World*.

Creativity, curiosity and landscape come together in this playful installation in Parson’s Field, the meadow behind Haworth’s Brontë Parsonage Museum. We’ve worked with NEON Studio to create an unexpected immersive experience that moves and shifts with the wind. Come and play, picnic, read, reflect, explore or simply lose yourself in an imaginary world on the edge of the moors where the Brontës, Bradford’s most famous literary family, ran wild.

The Rite of Spring Re-imagined

By Seeta Patel Dance Company

Saturday 28th - Sunday 29th August | 1pm & 4pm

2021 marks 50 years since the death of Igor Stravinsky, a commemoration marked by thousands around the world. In this very special celebration, the award-winning Seeta Patel Dance Company reimagines Stravinsky’s iconic ballet, *The Rite of Spring*, in the powerful classical Indian dance style, Bharatanatyam. Performed in the City Park Mirror Pool and showcasing some of the finest dance talent from across the globe, this unique re-telling of a pagan folk story celebrates the reopening of our city by bridging two cultures, and two technical, powerful and evocative art forms: Western classical music and Indian classical dance.

Expect expressive prowess, intricate rhythmic footwork and dynamic movements, creating one of the most exciting flirtations between East and West and a truly not-to-be-missed event for Bradford.

The Peace Artistes: Pop-up in the Park

Saturday 3rd July | Peel Park, Bolton/ Undercliffe

Saturday 10th July | Bowling Park, Bowling

Saturday 31st July | Foster Park, Denholme

Saturday 14th August | Harold Park, Low Moor
Saturday 11th September | Holden Park, Oakworth
Saturday 25th September | Wibsey Park, Wibsey

Performance times: 13:45 - 14:15 | 14:30 - 15:00 | 15:30 - 16:00

The Peace Artistes are a riotous and raucous explosion of brass, woodwind and percussion, playing tunes from around the world and entertaining audiences with their toe-tapping music, eccentric costumes and haphazard choreography. This Summer, don't miss the chance to catch a live open-air performance as the Peace Artistes pop-up at a park near you.

Breakin For Love

By Tech Styles International

Parkside Park - Friday 16th July, 6 - 8pm | Saturday 17th July, 2 - 4pm
Roberts Park - Monday 2nd August, 2 - 4pm | Tuesday 3rd August, 2 - 4pm

Join Tech Styles International and The Clean North Crew for a Breakin performance and interactive workshop that invites you to express yourself through hip hop and urban dance. Breakin For Love is a celebration of joining together during the summer in parks and public spaces, the performance aims to spark creativity and fill audiences of all ages with joy and inspiration. Breakin For Love is for everyone, regardless of age, background or ability - come along and watch or get involved and show us your moves.

Titanic Relunched

By South Square

Friday 30th July - Saturday 18th September | Wed-Sat 10.30-3.00pm

This summer, visit South Square and step back in time with 'Titanic Relunched'. When the historic arts space first opened in 1982, the launch was marked by an elaborate Titanic-themed fancy dress party. To celebrate the completion of a large-scale renovation and refurbishment, South Square will recreate the joy of the Titanic event in a Covid-safe way, filling their community courtyard and garden with colourful backdrops to capture party-style photos and unique moments. Backdrops will mimic those seen at the original party and include an iceberg, light house, seagulls and ships wheel.

Visit the centre to enjoy the courtyard, gallery and cafe and capture your own Titanic photo to help South Square recreate archive shots from the 1980's event.

ENDS

Notes to the Editor

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The project is receiving up to £20,000 of funding from the England European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for ERDF. Established by the European Union ERDF funds help local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>

Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture Bid

Twitter: @Bradford2025

Facebook: [/bradford2025](#)

Website: www.bradford2025.co.uk

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 Lancashire, Medway, Gloucester and Southampton also having announced their intentions to bid. <https://bradford2025.co.uk/>