



Manchester
Children's
Book Festival



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

Manchester Children's Book Festival 2017

A festival to grow up with, inspiring future generations of writers and artists.

Featuring: Claire Barker, Guy Bass, Nick Butterworth, Cathy Cassidy, Mandy Coe, Ross Collins, Chrissie Gittins, Jane Kerr, Testament and more!



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FREE
Family Fun Day
Saturday
24th June!

Creative Director: Carol Ann Duffy
Tickets available via www.mcbf.org.uk

Welcome

to the 2017 Manchester Children's Book Festival



A Festival to Grow Up With...

When I became Poet Laureate in 2009, I asked my colleagues at Manchester

Metropolitan University to help me create a festival for the city that would celebrate children's books. We were soon joined by partner organisations from across Manchester, including most of the museums, galleries, libraries, theatres and other festivals. Working together, we are pleased to present our sixth programme of activity: the 2017 Manchester Children's Book Festival.

Our biggest event each year is our Family Fun Day, which brings all of our cultural partners to Manchester Met for a Saturday of celebration and fun. There will be lots of things to do, with readings, performances, workshops, arts and crafts, music, sports, food and, of course, poetry. And there will also be plenty for teens and young adults to do in the Generation Manchester and Science Zone.

Our Fun Day had 3,500 visitors last year. It's free to attend and everyone is welcome. With the support of publishers and our city partners, we work all year round in schools, libraries and local communities providing inspiring projects and opportunities for creative expression.

More than 40,000 people have taken part in our activities – and for many this has been their first time attending a literary event. Our competitions and digital projects have also allowed people from across the wider world to participate and have their say. We want as many people as possible to be able to access our festival and so most of our events are free to attend. So much has come from our MCBF partnership with the city, not least the development of the Manchester Creative Learning Network, which helps to communicate the city's cultural offer to schools. 2017 is the year of Read Manchester, a collaboration between the National Literacy Trust and Manchester City Council – we are delighted to be part of this initiative.

I am proud of what the Manchester Children's Book Festival has achieved and that we are able to provide the children of our city with these ongoing opportunities to develop a love of literature and express themselves creatively. I hope you enjoy this year's Manchester Children's Book Festival and that you will continue to grow with us for years to come.

Carol Ann Duffy DBE

Creative Director
Manchester Children's Book Festival
Manchester Metropolitan University

Get involved in 2017

Reading, writing, drawing, making, dressing up...



If you can't be there for our festival, or if you simply can't wait, there are a number of ways that you can get involved and prepared ahead of our events.

Go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click on 'Get Involved' to see links to projects and activities that you can do at home or in school.

There are also links to the websites of some of our headline authors, including Knitbone

Pepper duo Claire Barker and Ross Collins, Cathy Cassidy, Nick Butterworth and Guy Bass. Even if you can't get to see them at the Book Festival, check out their websites. One of the reasons we love them is because they're so creative and generous with their ideas. They'll keep you occupied all summer!

Sign-up to our mailing list and find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @MCBFestival



Get involved

Do you love reading? Do you have a passion for writing? Do you have opinions that you want to share about the books you've read, or about your favourite author, or about your library? Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @MCBFestival and tag us using #MCBF2017.

Would you like to see your work published on the official Manchester Children's Book Festival blog? Go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Blog'. We would love to hear from you. Send us your reviews, opinion pieces, short fiction or even poems to mcbf@mmu.ac.uk. The best pieces will be published on the MCBF blog throughout the year.



Let in the Stars of Children's Poetry Campaign

With the Poet Laureate as our Creative Director, poetry has always been at the heart of MCBF. We want you to join us in honouring the poetry that inspired you to read and write as a child, and help us to 'let in the stars' of children's poetry. There are all sorts of ways to get involved with our campaign to celebrate and champion new poetry written for children.

There are downloadable posters and other inspiring resources available on our website (go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved', 'Let in the Stars'). You will see lots of ideas for sharing, adopting and creating new poetry and links to competitions and projects.

Read out loud together, adopt your favourite class poem or create and celebrate new poetry. Whether you're a school, an organisation or a family, or even if you just love reading poetry alone, send us your pictures,



blogs and films and we will share them. We know that lots of organisations and individuals are doing fantastic work to support and promote poetry for and by children. Our campaign is about helping to provide a platform to celebrate this.

Read for Good books and storytelling for children in hospital

MCBF supports many charities but our official adopted charity is Read for Good. With your help, we will continue to replenish two bookcases at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital with brand new books every six weeks in addition to providing regular visits from a professional storyteller to help the children explore into their own imagination.



Here's how you can help:

1. Get your local school to run a Read for Good sponsored read – they will be in with a chance of winning £200 worth of books for their library!

Last year in Manchester 52 schools pledged to run Read for Good's sponsored read during MCBF and those running it raised a whopping £10,806 – enough to take books and stories to children at Manchester Children's Hospital school for a whole year! In the year of Read Manchester, we'd like to try to double the number of schools signing up and reading whatever they fancy, from comics to classics and audio books to blogs.

For more information and to order your free kit now, go to www.readforgood.org selecting 'MCBF17' when ordering, for a chance of winning this wonderful prize. For more information please contact Read for Good at reading@readforgood.org.

2. Make a donation.

If you are not a school but would like to support Read for Good's wonderful work in hospitals, you can donate directly to their hospital programme. Visit www.readforgood.org/donate or text 'STORY' to 70500 to donate £5 instantly.



Whatever you do, we'd love to hear about it! Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @MCBFestival and use our hashtag #MCBF2017

MCBF Trailblazers

The Manchester Children's Book Festival doesn't just happen over two weeks in the summer. We're out and about at events and venues across the city all year round with our TRAILBLAZER! Programme. We've been busy all year and we're not finished yet...

Tent on Tour

Our MCBF Storytelling Tent makes regular appearances at Manchester Central Library's Saturday Spectaculars and Sunday Fundays. We saw lots of you at the Whitworth Frost Fair and the *Let in the Stars* event at Longsight Library in December and can't wait to meet you at our forthcoming events!



Authors in schools and communities

This year MCBF took CBBC presenter Katie Thistleton out to eight schools to help research her new book with hundreds of pupils writing letters that will be included.

North Korean activist and children's author Sung-Ju-Lee appeared at the Manchester Literature Festival in October and shared his inspiring story with pupils.

We also organised a Book Trust visit with Children's Laureate Chris Riddell and joined forces with Stanley Grove Primary Academy to deliver family events in Longsight including their annual summer Book Bash and the *Winter Let in The Stars* poetry in the community event.



Public author events

April saw debut author Angie Thomas at Waterstones with her book *The Hate U Give*, which was inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement.



Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

MCBF is keen to support the development of writers, illustrators and also those teaching the new generation of creative thinkers and practitioners. We promote CPD activity that helps develop professional skills. We have supported two academic conferences: a symposium on Travel, Translation and Children's Books, hosted by colleagues at the University of Manchester, and Picture Hooks, hosted by the Manchester School of Art at Manchester Met and the Association of Illustrators.

mmu.ac.uk/hlss/courses/undergraduate-postgraduate-and-short-courses

It's all about collaboration

MCBF is a festival for the city and we are proud that it is a truly collaborative programme, benefitting not just people in Greater Manchester but reaching far beyond. We work with our partners all year round to provide activities that will generate a love of literature and illustration.



To make sure you don't miss anything, check www.mcbf.org.uk or find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @MCBFestival

Read Manchester

Manchester Children's Book Festival is proud to support the Read Manchester campaign. Read Manchester is a collaboration between Manchester City Council and the National Literacy Trust, which promotes reading and aims to boost literacy levels across the city.

Read Manchester Ambassadors include poet Dominic Berry, TV presenter Katie Thistleton, author/illustrator Nick Sharratt and radio presenter Becky Want.

MCBF has been out at Manchester schools over the past few months with Katie, researching her forthcoming book *Dear Katie*, which we will tour schools with in September.

Book Benches

Over the summer a collection of Book Benches will be displayed in cultural hubs, leisure and shopping centres across Manchester. The Book Benches have been decorated by various schools and community groups and have been inspired by novels, comics and poems. Many of the venues involved will host activities and events, families will also be able to discover the Book Benches by following a trail.



For Schools

Manchester schools have been provided with National Literacy Trust Network memberships. The network offers a huge range of resources to help improve literacy provision, including evaluation tools, lesson plans, case studies and reading lists.



Read Manchester Zone

Visitors to the MCBF Fun Day on Saturday 24th June will be able to find out more in the Read Manchester Zone. Come along to sign-up for the Summer Reading Challenge and to find out more about Reading Ahead, a reading challenge for adults.

For more information about Read Manchester, including links to the Reading Toolkit and information for teachers, parents and carers and businesses wanting to get involved, please visit www.readmanchester.org.uk.



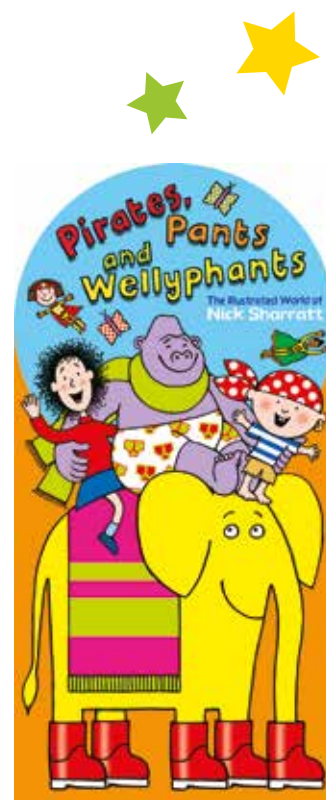
Pre-Festival Programme

Events to whet your appetite in May and June.

Pirates, Pants and Wellyphants

Nick Sharratt's touring exhibition will be at Manchester Central Library from 6th May until 1st July. The bright and colourful exhibition is all about Nick and his work. There'll be loads to look at, from drawings Nick did as a boy and a student, to original picture book artwork. There are also sections on how picture books are made and lots of activities to take part in.

School children can meet Nick when he returns in June to help the Read Manchester team at Manchester Libraries celebrate National Bookstart Week. If you teach in a Manchester school, please contact Jodie on j.osborne@manchester.gov.uk for more information, to book a session with Nick, or to book a class visit to the exhibition.



All ages

6th May – 1st July
(Library opening times)

Manchester Central Library

Suitable for all ages

Tickets: free, no need to book.

Suitable for under 5s
 25th May - 4th June
 10am-5pm every day
 People's History Museum
 Tickets: Free, no need to book. In order to keep our events programme affordable to everyone, please make a suggested donation of £3.

The Little People's History Museum – Superhero Puppet Craft Table

Inspired by the museum's changing exhibition, Never Going Underground, create your own superhero puppet. What would your super hero look like? One who stands up for others, fights for equality or celebrates what makes us all different? Bring your puppet along to the exhibition's story space and show off their super hero powers.



Suitable for under 5s
 Tuesday 13th June
 11am
 People's History Museum
 Tickets: Free, booking advised.
 Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

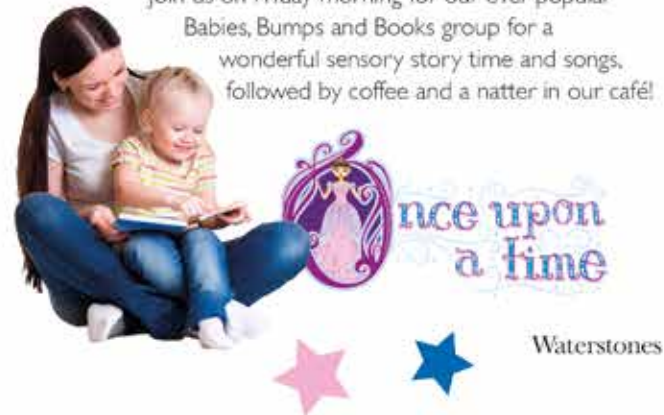
The Little People's History Museum – Beeing Special

Meet Little Bee, the bee who wants to be different. Join in the busy bee dance, search for flowers in the museum and follow Little Bee's adventure to find out how he becomes the hero of Victorian Manchester. Fun interactive story session with puppets, song, dance and a craft activity. Why not tweet a photo of your finished creation to the museum at @PHMLearn?



Babies, Bumps & Books at Waterstones Deansgate

Join us on Friday morning for our ever-popular Babies, Bumps and Books group for a wonderful sensory story time and songs, followed by coffee and a natter in our café!



Suitable for under 5s
 23rd June
 10.30am
 Waterstones, Deansgate, Manchester
 Tickets: Free, no need to book.

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Whole School Open Morning

Saturday 14 October, 9.30am-1.00pm

Contact us to arrange a private tour during term-time

Contact: 01204 840201 info@boltonschool.org
www.boltonschool.org

Festival Programme

Ages: 3+

Friday 23rd June – Sunday 25th June

The Lowry Theatre

To book: see thelowry.com/family or telephone 0843 208 6010

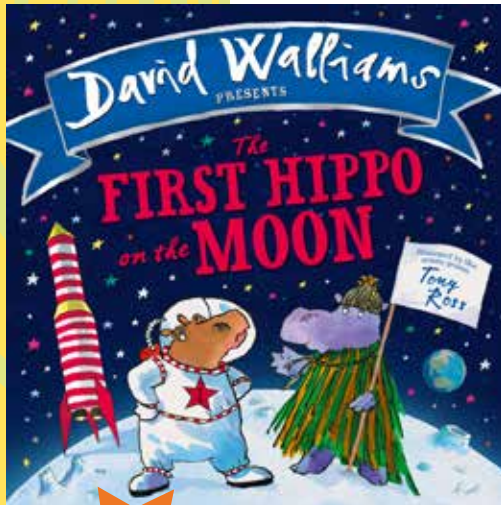
Tickets: see Lowry website for individual ticket prices

First Hippo on the Moon

From number one bestselling children's author David Walliams comes an explosively funny space adventure for children aged three and up. Two big hippos. One ENORMOUS dream. Who can make it to the moon first?

3... 2... 1... BLAST OFF!

David Walliams has taken the literary world by storm and his brilliantly funny stories are adored by children the world over! He has achieved unprecedented critical acclaim and quickly developed a reputation as a natural successor to Roald Dahl. His books have been translated into over 45 languages and sold over 9.5 million copies in the UK alone.



Adapted for the stage by award-winning Theatre Company Les Petits and hot off the heels of their hugely successful *Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs* tour and immersive hit *Adventures in Wonderland*, comes a fantastical adventure featuring puppetry, music, mayhem and a giant space race to the moon!

The creative team have worked on such hit shows as Dr Seuss' *The Lorax*, *The Nationals' Elaphantom*, *Warhorse* and Raymond Briggs' *The Bear*.

Les Petits was set up as the sister company to 'razor sharp theatre group' Les Enfants Terribles, whose work includes *The Trench*, *The Vaudevillains* and *Alice's Adventures Underground*.



Family Fun Day

Saturday 24th June

A full Saturday of free activities at Manchester Metropolitan University's All Saints Campus. Come along and join the fun – there'll be something for everyone, from pre-readers and nursery age-children to teens, young adults and families.

Planning your day

This year's Family Fun Day is organised into three zones, connected on Lower and Higher Ormond Street by GRUB Food Markets.

- **Family Arts Network Zone** – in the Geoffrey Manton Building
- **Read Manchester Zone** – in Grosvenor Square (All Saints Park)
- **Generation Manchester & Science Zone** – in the Manchester Met Business School

The zones are all close together, in two of the main university buildings and the park between, but do give yourself plenty of time to move between them if you'd like to attend events in the different zones.

An at-a-glance plan, featuring a map of the Family Fun Day zones and a full schedule of all bookable activities, can be downloaded from www.mcbf.org.uk.

Booking information

General admission to the Family Fun Day is free of charge and booking is not required – just come along and join in! Some of the individual events and workshops within the Fun Day have limited spaces – booking for these, and prompt arrival, will be required to guarantee entry. Please see the individual listings here or on the website for details and to book your tickets. If you book for an event, please arrive ten minutes before the advertised start time to take your seats – any unused seats may be given away to drop-ins on the day.

FREE Bus Service from Longsight

Our partners at Stanley Grove Primary Academy have organised a shuttle bus to bring people from the Longsight and Gorton areas into Manchester for our Family Fun Day. The bus will pick up from the bus stop outside Stanley Grove (Stanley Grove, Longsight, M12 4NL) on the half hour from 9.30am until 2.30pm. Return journeys will leave from the MCBF stop outside the Royal Northern College of Music on the hour, every hour from 10am until 4pm. This service is free but limited to the number of seats on the mini-bus.

Most events taking place during the Family Fun Day are free. To enable us to continue to do this, we ask those who can afford it to make a donation. You can do this when booking your tickets or at donation points on the day. Your generosity will help us make MCBF accessible for everyone. Thank you for your support!

Family Arts Network Zone

Manchester Family Arts Network venues and other friends offer a host of free, interactive, table-based activities and workshops in Manchester Met's Geoffrey Manton building.

Look out for CBeebies' Q Pootle 5, who will be appearing at intervals throughout the day. Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @MCBFestival and send us your selfies using our hashtag #MCBF2017 #MCRFamilyFun.

Most activities are drop-in and there is no need to book; however, some have limited spaces. There's so much to do that you might want to book places on particular events before you come. Details are on the following pages.

All ages

15 minute sessions running at 10am, 10.15am, 11.15am, 11.30am 1pm, 1.15pm, 2.15pm and 2.30pm

Family Arts Network Zone - Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Slug Needs a Hug

How can YOU help this little slug get a hug? Join the MCBF team in an interactive and multi-sensory storytelling experience. Copy the cat with her fluffy fur, be like the bird with his big pointy beak, and help dress the slug in this delightful story, where we learn all about love and acceptance.

Slug Needs a Hug is written by Jeanne Willis and illustrated by Tony Ross.



Nick Butterworth

Interactive Storytelling for Under 5s

Award-winning children's author and creator of hit CBeebies series *Q Pootle 5*, Nick Butterworth, presents this interactive storytelling session for under 5s, delighting little ones with fun space tales and live illustrations.



Going on a Bear Hunt

Will you brave the wilderness to come on a bear hunt with us? The MCBF team bring you a multi-sensory adventure. Journey through wild woods, freezing snowstorms and grassy meadows to help us try and find a bear. Our interactive version of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* will bring to life Michael Rosen's much-loved classic in a way that is inclusive and accessible for a range of abilities – not to mention a lot of fun!



Knitbone Pepper

with Claire Barker and Ross Collins

Join author Claire Barker and illustrator Ross Collins for a wonderful session jam-packed with fun, mayhem and lots of laughs. Claire and Ross will talk about their own pets, and introduce *Knitbone Pepper* and his gaggle of ghostly animal friends. Watch as Ross live-draws the characters, and Claire whips out her hat collection!



Masha and the Bear

An invitation from the Kalina Balalaika Ensemble: meet our friends from Russia – the balalaika, the domra, and Little Masha, who forgot her grandparents' warning about the dangers lurking in the deep, dark forest... Join us all and our magical music to find out what happened next.



Age: under 10s

30 minute sessions running at 10.30am and 1.30pm

Family Arts Network Zone - Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Age: over 6s

11-11.45am (followed by book-signing)

Family Arts Network Zone - Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: 3-9

11-11.45am, 1-1.45pm

Family Arts Network Zone - Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Family Arts Network Zone

Ages: over 8s
 12-12.30pm, 3-3.30pm
 Family Arts Network Zone
 - Geoffrey Manton Building
 Tickets: Free but booking
 advised. Limited to 12 per
 workshop
 Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Masha and the Bear Balalaika Workshop – we need more players in our balalaika band!

Masha and the Bear is performed by the Kalinka Balalaika Orchestra who are looking for more players. If you think you might be interested in having a go at playing a tune on the balalaika and would like to find out more, then book onto this workshop. Come and play a little tune with us on the balalaika – amaze your friends and parents!



Further group lessons available with certified teachers at the children's Kalinka Balalaika Orchestra practices. Please ask the orchestra for details.



Ages: over 8s
 12.15-1.15pm (followed by
 book-signing)
 Family Arts Network Zone
 - Geoffrey Manton Building
 Tickets: Free but booking
 advised
 Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Cathy Cassidy – Love from Lexie

Cathy Cassidy, best-selling author of *The Chocolate Box Girls* series and winner of the prestigious *Queen of Teen Award*, is excited to share her latest book, *Love from Lexie* – a roller-coaster ride of a novel about friendship, falling in love and saving the world is the first novel in her new series.

Cathy will introduce her books, share stories about how she writes and where she finds her inspiration and there will be plenty of time to ask your questions.



Nick Butterworth on the Magic of Storytelling and Imagination

Join Nick Butterworth, award-winning children's author and creator of hit CBeebies series *Q Pootle 5*, for an amazing interactive show about the magic of storytelling and imagination. In this session Nick will bring alive the adventures of some of his favourite creations, including *Q Pootle 5* and *Percy the Park Keeper*, and offer a behind-the-scenes peek at how *Q Pootle 5* jumped from page to screen.



Nick will also be bringing *Q Pootle 5* with him to meet new friends. Be sure to bring your camera for a chance to snap a picture of your little one with the friendly little alien.



Q Pootle 5

Guy Bass: Spynosaur

Guy Bass' high-octane performance explores his childhood aspirations and inspirations and includes animated readings from his books. Join him for an interactive (and active!) combination of stand-up, reading, pictures and props. *Spynosaur* is a secret agency Department 6's not-so-secret weapon. Created by mysterious science rays, *Spynosaur* has the mind of a super spy and the body of a dinosaur; dedicated to protecting the world from criminal masterminds.



Ages: over 5s
 1-2 pm
 Family Arts Network Zone
 - Geoffrey Manton Building
 Tickets: Free but booking
 advised
 Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: 7-10
 1.45-2.45pm (followed by
 book-singing)
 Family Arts Network Zone
 - Geoffrey Manton Building
 Tickets: Free but booking
 advised
 Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Family Fun Day

Ages: over 5s

2.30-3.30pm (followed by book-signing)

Family Arts Network Zone
- Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

All ages

Drop in sessions from 10am-4pm. See schedule on the door on the day for specific story times

Family Arts Network Zone
- Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free, drop-in. No need to book but please note that space is limited

All ages

11am-11.40am and 2pm-2.40pm

Family Arts Network Zone
- Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free, drop-in. No need to book but please note that space is limited

Family Arts Network Zone

Ross Collins: There's a Bear On My Chair

Take a huge bear. Take a tiny mouse. Take ONE chair. Put them together and what have you got? A big problem AND a hilarious, award-winning picture book from author and illustrator Ross Collins. Come along for a fun filled event with storytelling, drawing and lots of things that rhyme with 'bear'. You'll laugh so much you might just fall off YOUR chair!



Other activities taking place in the Family Arts Network Zone are also timed and, though booking isn't necessary, you might want to add them to your plan for the day.

Drop-in Storytelling Room

Interactive and accessible storytelling sessions taking place all day.

The room is designed to be a welcoming and relaxing space for everyone. There is no need to book for most of these sessions, just pop along during the day and check the schedule.



Designer Balls with the National Football Museum

Drop in to this fun and interactive arts and crafts session, where children can create their own designer footballs. All materials provided.



Royal Exchange Theatre Young Company Drama Workshop

The Royal Exchange Theatre's Young Company explores the stars, the planets and the moon in this interactive show. Join Young Company actors for this dramaworkshop.



Green Screen Experience with Archives+

Drop into the Green Screen Room and picture yourself in your favourite storybook scene.



Archives+



Grub Street Food Markets

GRUB is a Manchester street food event company set up by husband and wife team Jason & Jules Bailey (ex street chefs themselves) who strive to create inclusive, family friendly, festival atmospheres where visitors can enjoy the best street food and craft beer around. They are currently in residence with their bi-weekly event Grub Food Fair at the historic Mayfield site which is opening to the public this year for the first time in 30 years.



All ages

1.30pm-2.30pm

Family Arts Network Zone
- Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free, drop-in. No need to book but please note that space is limited

All ages

11am-12pm and 1pm-2pm

Family Arts Network Zone
- Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Free, drop-in. No need to book but please note that space is limited

Read Manchester Zone



There's loads more to do on the Family Fun Day in the Read Manchester Zone, situated outside in the marquee and Grosvenor Square (All Saints Park).

Manchester Children's Book Festival is proud to support Read Manchester and there will be readings and performances in the marquee all day. Manchester Libraries will be there to tell you all about the Summer Reading Challenge and Reading Ahead, a reading challenge for adults. You can also find out more about the forthcoming Read Manchester Book Bench trail.

Peppa Pig will be appearing at intervals throughout the day.

Read for Good, the official MCBF charity who put books into Manchester Children's Hospital School will also be there with information about how schools and individuals can help support them.

With inflatables, lots of outdoor activities provided by Manchester Met Sport and Sugden Sports, and fantastic food and drink on offer from GRUB Food Markets, you're guaranteed a great day.



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Jennie McAlpine: My Favourite Stories

Our newest Festival patron, Coronation Street actor and Read Manchester Ambassador Jennie McAlpine, is passionate about getting little ones reading.

She joins us in the Read Manchester Marquee to share some of her favourite stories.



Peoplescape Theatre Presents: The Three Little Pigs

If a pig needs to build a house from straw then it really should talk to the experts: the field mice. To learn about stick homes, watch the birds with their twiggy nests... But who can teach a little pig about building with stones?

Supported by Arts Council England, Peoplescape Theatre are an internationally acclaimed specialist theatre company who create accessible, beautiful, challenging and entertaining performances with live music, puppetry and participation.



Ages: under 5s

10.15am and 12pm
(15 minute sessions)

Read Manchester Zone - in the marquee

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: 3-7

10.30 - 11.30am

Read Manchester Zone - in the marquee

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Read Manchester Zone

We're Going on an Elephant Hunt with The Elephant Thief

Join author Jane Kerr as she tells the story of how she was inspired by a picture of Maharaja and a visit to Manchester Museum to write the story of *The Elephant Thief*. Starting in the Read Manchester Marquee, and joined by characters from the book, Jane will take you on a hunt to find our giant elephant puppet. (The puppet has been created and is being cared for by our Bigger Book Bash partners Stanley Grove Primary Academy and will also make an appearance at the Manchester Day Parade.)



Mandy Coe: If You Could See Laughter

Mandy Coe's poems have been broadcast on CBeebies, Woman's Hour, Poetry Please and BBC School's Radio. Her children's collection *If You Could See Laughter* received the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education Poetry Highly Commended Award and, as editor of our own *Let in the Stars: New Poetry for Children*, Mandy was shortlisted for the 2015 CLIPPA Award. Pie Corbett describes Mandy as "One of our most exciting poets writing for children," and Matt Simpson says, "Mandy writes poems you immediately want to read aloud to other people." Mandy is also a Visiting Teaching Fellow of the Manchester Writing School at Manchester Met.



Join Mandy in the Read Manchester Marquee for what will be an enchanting half hour of poetry, love and laughter.



Chrissie Gittins: Adder, Bluebell, Lobster

Chrissie Gittins' poems have been animated for CBeebies TV and are widely anthologised. Helen Brown in *The Telegraph* says "Little people should sit cross-legged on the carpet with a copy of Chrissie Gittins's latest poetry collection" – and this is your opportunity to do exactly that!

Join Chrissie in the Read Manchester Marquee and hear performances from her book *Ackler, Bluebell, Lobster* – recently longlisted for North Somerset Teachers Book Award – and others including *Stars in Jars*, *The Humpback's Wail* and *Now You See Me, Now You...*



Drop by the Read Manchester Marquee throughout the day, enjoy music provided by Jelly Sours and find out more about Read Manchester and Read for Good projects, browse what's on offer with the GRUB street food stalls and enjoy the fun activities on offer in the park.

Ages: over 5s
2.30 - 3pm (followed by book-signing)
Read Manchester Zone - in the marquee
Tickets: Free but booking advised
Book via www.mcbf.org.uk



Ages: over 5s
11.30am - 12.15pm,
1.30 - 2.15pm
Read Manchester Zone - in the marquee
Tickets: Free but booking advised
Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: over 5s
12.30 - 1pm (followed by book-signing)
Read Manchester Zone - in the marquee
Tickets: Free but booking advised
Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

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OPEN 10AM - 6:30PM ALL WEEK!
T: 0844 824 6030 E: info@playfactors.com
Play Factors, Trafford Quays Leisure Village, Trafford Way, Manchester, M41 7JA

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

There's something for everyone at this year's Family Fun Day, with activities for slightly older children, teens and young adults in our Generation Manchester & Science Zone. With drop-in activities and stalls offering hands-on science, art, augmented and virtual Reality – there is lots to do.

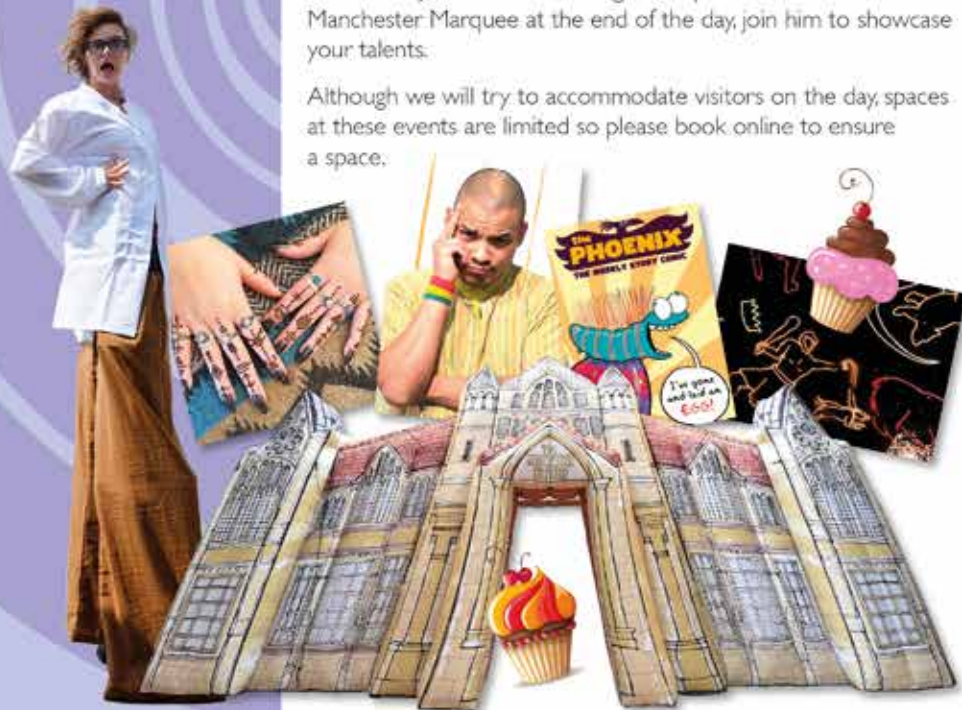
Visit our augmented reality poetry showcase, our inflatable planetarium and inflatable Manchester Museum. There will also be henna workshops and a festival make-up stand to get Instagram ready! Get hands-on with our Manchester School of Art Saturday Club run by GCSE students from local schools.

We will also be joined by beatboxing legend and Guinness world-record holder Testament, who will be offering free beatboxing, rap and grime workshops.

Phoenix Comics return to MCBF with comic artist Robert Deas, find out more about his work on the Trailblazer series and create your own comic book characters. Fans of Cathy Cassidy can join her at the end of the afternoon for a session spent decorating cup-cakes and talking books.

For anyone interested in performance poetry or spoken word, Poet Chris Jam will lead a Young Identity takeover of the Read Manchester Marquee at the end of the day, join him to showcase your talents.

Although we will try to accommodate visitors on the day, spaces at these events are limited so please book online to ensure a space.



Beatbox Workshop with Testament

Legendary MC and beatboxing Guinness World Record holder Testament brings his acclaimed Hip Hop Clinic workshops to MCBF.



Testament is a pioneer in his field. He began beatboxing at the age of 11 and has been facilitating workshops for over 15 years. His work as a rapper, beatboxer, spoken word artist, and theatre-maker has led him to work with MTV, BBC, iXtra, The Roundhouse and Sky Arts. He will show you how to explore sounds and use your voices to make beats. His workshop is open to all abilities – expect noise, expect performance... Expect beats!



Is Stormzy the new Shakespeare?

Rap and Grime Workshop with Testament

Love grime? Got a story to tell? Join Testament for this incredible rap and poetry workshop where he explores the worlds of grime, hip-hop and poetry. In this session, Testament will be showing us how to rap, giving top tips and providing demonstrations.



Ages: teens and young adults

11.15am-12.15pm

Generation Manchester & Science Zone - in the marquee

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: teens and young adults

12.45 - 1.45pm

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

All ages

12 - 12.45pm

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Tickets: Free but booking essential

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Robert Deas: Troy Trailblazer

(The Phoenix Comic)

Join award-winning comic artist and the creator of Phoenix Sci-Fi series *Troy Trailblazer*, Robert Deas for an entertaining insight into his work. Robert's first graphic novel, *Troy Trailblazer and the Horde Queen* was the winner of the 2016 Stan Lee Excelsior Award Junior, voted for by young readers from over 200 schools across the UK.

Watch as Robert demonstrates his all digital way of working, showing you how he creates his comic pages from the first inking of an idea to script, to roughs, to finished coloured page. Then get stuck in yourself as you draw along with Robert as he does some live drawing up on the big screen.



All ages

1.30- 2.30pm

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Tickets: Free, drop-in, limited spaces

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Create a comic strip with Phoenix artist Robert Deas

Work with comic artist Robert Deas in this rare opportunity to collaborate with a professional to generate a brand new comic strip. Share your ideas and contribute to a unique, brand new comic strip. There is no need to book for this drop-in workshop, though places are limited and those attending the ticketed event will be given priority.

Suitable for budding comic creators of all ages. Followed by book signing.



Liz Flanagan in conversation with Danielle Jawando and Pete Kalu

Join debut and recently shortlisted YA author Liz Flanagan at this exciting event where Liz will be in conversation with Man Met lecturer and fellow YA author Danielle Jawando and Pete Kalu. Danielle will be discussing Liz's debut book, *Eden Summer*. *Eden Summer* has been shortlisted for the Leeds Book Awards 2017 and nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2017. Special guest Pete Kalu, artistic director of Commonword and fellow writer and YA author, will join them for a discussion about the genre.

Liz Flanagan writes for children and young adults. She is currently studying for a PhD in Creative Writing at Leeds Trinity University. Until recently, she was Centre Director at Lumb Bank, the Ted Hughes Arvon Centre, hosting creative writing courses all year round. Before that, she lived in London and Brighton, and worked in children's book publishing. You can find out more at lizflanagan.co.uk, or by following Liz on Twitter @lizziebooks.

Pete Kalu's Young Adult novels, *Silent Striker*, *Being Me* and *Zombie XI*, have been published by HopeRoad. His short story, *Getting Home (The Proofreader's Sigh)* can be found in the 2015 Peepal Tree short story collection, *Closure*. Among his other publications are the romantic comedy *Diary of a Househusband* and the science fiction novel *Black Star Rising* (both X Press). More at www.peterkalu.com and @peterkalu.



Cupcakes with Cathy Cassidy

MCBF favourite Cathy Cassidy, author of numerous fabulous books and lover of cupcakes will be with us for a creative afternoon chatting books and decorating cupcakes. One for superfans of Cathy... and cupcakes! The ticket price includes a signed copy of Cathy's latest book *Love from Lexie* and cupcakes. While you're busy decorating your cake, Cathy will come and chat, giving everyone the chance to speak to their favourite author and get a selfie.



Ages: Young adults and teens

2 - 2.45pm, followed by book signings

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Ages: over 8s

3 - 4pm

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Tickets: £10, including a copy of 'Love from Lexie' and cupcakes

£5 without book

Accompanying adults go free but won't receive a book

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Family Fun Day

Ages: over 10s

3 - 4pm

Read Manchester Marquee

Tickets: free, drop in

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Generation Manchester & Science Zone

Poetry Open Mic, hosted by Chris Jam

Chris Jam will be joined by Young Identity and Wordsmith poets for this unmissable open mic poetry performance in the Read Manchester Marquee. Come along to listen.

Chris and his team will be in the Read Manchester Zone all day. If you fancy taking the mic, drop by to talk to them and find out more about the opportunities to get involved in writing and performing poetry in Manchester.



There are some other activities taking place in the Generation Manchester & Science Zone which you don't need to book for, but which you might want to add to your plan for the day...

STARLAB - Inflatable Planetarium

Explore the stars, the planets of our solar system and our moon in this interactive show.



Sunday 25th June



YA OK Bookclub at Waterstones Deansgate

Our YA bookclub meets on the last Sunday of the month, and for June's meeting will be discussing any YA books with a yellow cover!



Waterstones

Sunday Storytime at Waterstones Deansgate

Join bookseller Jenny for our fabulous weekly story time session. We'll be reading *Peppa Goes to London* before enjoying some songs and craft activities.



Waterstones

Lyngo Theatre presents *Puss in Boots*

Would you trust a talking cat? You never know, he might turn you from a pauper to a prince just like the hero of this story, brought to vivid life on our incredible sloping stage by Patrick Lynch from Cbeebies. Using smoke and mirrors and hidden trapdoors he'll show you how this sure-footed feline fools both the King and the Ogre to put his master at the top. With a host of puppets, a working windmill and an avalanche of fruit and nuts come and see this classic furry tale, it's the cat's whiskers! Free Art Cart before and after both performances.

"Puss in Boots is such a strong story, beautifully told... this show ticks all the boxes for fine children's theatre."

—The Stage



2 - 2.30pm

Waterstones, Deansgate, Manchester

Tickets: Free, no need to book

3pm

Waterstones, Deansgate, Manchester

Tickets: Free, no need to book

Ages: 4+

11 - 11.50am,
2.30pm - 3.20pm

Z-Arts, 335 Stretford Road, Manchester M15 5ZA

Tickets: £6 child,
£8 adult, £25 family

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

All ages

10am-3.30pm, 45 minute sessions

Generation Manchester & Science Zone - in the planetarium

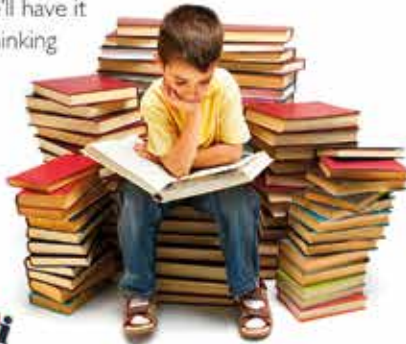
Tickets: Free, drop-in, booking not required but space is limited

Saturday 1st July

SCWBI British Isles Panel Event:

The Author/Illustrator as a Brand

In association with MCBF, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) British Isles is delighted to host the panel event *The Author/Illustrator as a Brand*. Bringing together a wealth of knowledge from all aspects of the publishing industry, including literary agents Penny Holroyde and Sinead Heneghan, editor Tilda Johnson and author and Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at Manchester Met Livi Michael. If you want to any aspects of publishing, we'll have it covered. And if you're thinking about your art as a product, and yourself as a brand, this is the panel event for you.



Bigger Book Bash

Stanley Grove Primary Academy invite everyone to Longsight for their second exciting collaboration with the Manchester Children's Book Festival and Melland High School, Rushbrook Primary Academy and Cedar Mount Academy.

Starting at noon with a parade, our theme is *The Elephant Thief*, a new book by Jane Kerr, inspired by Maharajah, the elephant who walked from Scotland to Manchester's Belle Vue in 1872. Led by a bigger than lifesize elephant puppet, join us in a riot of colour and a cacophony of sound as we celebrate Maharaja's epic journey.

At 1pm, the Bigger Book Bash will be opened by Jane Kerr, after which you can explore seven book-themed zones, and take part in a variety of games, activities and storytelling.



11am - 12.30pm

Manchester Metropolitan University, Business School

Tickets: £7 for SCBWI members; £10.50 for non-members

From 1pm onwards, 1-2-1 manuscript/portfolio reviews will be available with the panel guests for SCBWI members for an additional £25

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk or britishisles.scbwi.org/events

All ages

1- 4pm

Stanley Grove Primary Academy, M12 4NL

Tickets: Free, no need to book

Assemble for the parade at 11.30, parade begins at 12 noon

The United Church of God, M12 4QG

Learn to tightrope walk, build a boat with physicists, try archery, meet creepy-crawlies, have a go at mask and puppet making, explore the inflatable Manchester Museum in the dark. Join in a wild-rumpus, take a photo opportunity with the replica 1966 World Cup, learn Bangra dancing and even bring your bike to be repaired for free by our resident Bike Doctor.

The MCBF tent will be there, hosting *The Wonders of Poetry Zone* with poets Mandy Coe, Matt Goodfellow and other guests and there'll be a pop-up Whitworth Gallery to enjoy and help you get creative.

Contributors on the day also include: poets, authors, artists, Circus House, Strange Theatre Company, Z-Arts, Manchester Library Service and the National Football Museum.

All activities are free and refreshments are available.



Stanley Grove Primary Academy



Sunday 2nd July

Ordsall Hall Family Book Day

Join us for a celebration of all things bookish at Ordsall Hall! Dress as your favourite character from a book, learn how to draw Oddie the Mouse, hear some ghastly stories and take part in book-related crafts.



All ages

1- 3pm

Ordsall Hall

Tickets: £1 per child

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Monday 3rd July

Ages: adults and young people, children welcome

6.30 – 8.30pm

The Lowry

Tickets: Free but booking advised

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Sophie Willan

Stories of Care Book Launch at The Lowry

Stories of Care is a dynamic writing project that supports Care Leavers to tell their own stories and become high achieving creative leaders, founded by award-winning Comedian and Care Leaver, Sophie Willan.

Sophie has spent the last twelve months working with Care Leavers across Greater Manchester to develop their creative writing skills, offer a wide range of professional development opportunities and create a dynamic children's anthology in collaboration with Care Leavers and the Stories Of Care team.



The team have worked in different ways individually with Care Leavers to develop a book for 7-11 years olds that shares magical, funny and moving stories of children and adults who've lived outside of the 'normal' family set-up.

At this culmination event you will have chance to meet the participants, celebrate the project and see the launch of the vibrant children's book created by Care Leavers. Louise Wallwein, Sophie Willan and Manchester Children's Book Festival patron Alex Wheatle are among the guests coming together to meet the participants, celebrate the project and see the launch of the vibrant children's book created by Care Leavers.



The Stories of Care project has been supported by: Arts Council England, Barbican Press, Bolton Octagon, Bolton Council, Bolton At Home, Bolton Young Person's Housing Scheme, Greater Manchester Higher, The Lowry, Manchester Children's Book Festival, Swiss Foster Care, The Big Lottery Fund and Z Arts.

If you are interested in finding out more about the project or wish to get involved please see www.storiesofcare.co.uk.



Mother Tongue, Other Tongue Regional and National Final

The Mother Tongue, Other Tongue competition celebrates cultural diversity and the languages that children speak at home as well as the ones they learn in school. It is supported by the British Council and has been endorsed by Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner, and well-known education activist. It is a National Laureate Education project, led by the Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy and was launched by British Boxer Amir Khan. The competition is co-ordinated by Routes into Languages.

At the celebration event there will be exciting cultural activities such as Arabic dancing and Asian drumming some tasty food, and all the winners will be invited to perform their poems. We will also have some special guests to present the winners with their prizes!

There are two separate parts to the poetry competition. Children from Year 4 to Year 13 can enter one or both parts of the competition. Mother Tongue requires children who do not have English as a first language, or who speak a different language at home, to share a lullaby, poem or song from their mother tongue. They then write a short piece in English to explain the poem's significance to them. Other Tongue, encourages children learning another language in school to use that language creatively to write a poem.

The closing date for this year in the North West is 24th May 2017. For further details see www.mmu.ac.uk/mothertongueothertongue.



12 - 4pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building

Tickets: Invitation only



Wednesday 5th July

For teachers

12.00 - 3pm

Manchester Met Geoffrey
Manton Building

Tickets: Free but booking
essential

Book via www.mcbf.org.uk

Teacher Networking Event:

Manchester Creative Learning Network Showcase

Are you a teacher about to start your planning for the next academic year?

Do you want to make sure your lesson plans are creative and fun?



Manchester's cultural organisations come together in this event for teachers of all age groups, from primary through to post-16 to showcase creative learning opportunities on offer that can support teaching in schools.

Browse the cultural marketplace, hear from Education Officers from most of the city's cultural organisations, including libraries, museums, galleries and community arts organisations and find out how they can support you.



With free Continuing Professional Development (CPD) taster sessions and drop-in marketplace stalls, you will leave with inspiration and practical ideas to support learning and teaching across many curriculum areas over the coming year.

Find out about competitions, projects, events, training.. the city's cultural organisations are here to help and want to meet you.

With guest speakers to be confirmed at the time of going to print and liquid refreshments, the evening promises to be relaxed, informative, useful and, most importantly, fun. Drop in and join us.



This event is supported by Manchester City Council and Greater Manchester Higher:



Save the date!

We're moving our festival to earlier in the year!

2018 Manchester Children's Book Festival
Free Family Fun Day
Saturday 24th March, 2018

To book your tickets, visit www.mcbf.org.uk
Like our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter for a chance to win VIP tickets for Nick Sharratt's 2018 event and a hamper of books by previous Festival authors.

@MCBFestival #MCBF2018 #MCRFamilyFun

General information

Booking Tickets

Details of how to book tickets for individual events are given under each listing in the main programme (pages 7 to 32). Updated information and live links to online booking can be found on the Festival website: www.mcbf.org.uk/whats-on/events.

Accommodation

Accommodation at our official partner hotel, the Macdonald Manchester and Spa at Piccadilly, is available at special rates for anyone attending Manchester Children's Book Festival events, subject to availability. Quote promo code 'CBF' for 15% discount from best available rates at www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk or email reservations.manchester@macdonald-hotels.co.uk, quoting 'Manchester Children's Book Festival'.

Programming

To the best of our knowledge, all information given in this brochure was correct at the time of going to press but all details may be subject to change. Please visit www.mcbf.org.uk for up-to-date information.

Mailing List

To join the Manchester Children's Book Festival mailing list and be kept up-to-date with all the latest developments and announcements, please go to www.mcbf.org.uk and complete the online form or contact: **0161 247 2424**; mcbf@mmu.ac.uk.

Social Media

You can follow us and join the conversation Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram **@MCBFestival** or search for our hashtag **#MCBF2017**.

Festival Volunteers

A number of paid and voluntary positions are available during the Festival, but these are reserved exclusively for students and alumni of Manchester Metropolitan University as part of our Student Engagement and Employability agendas. However, if you are not a student or alumni but have the passion or the right skills to contribute to the event, we may still consider your application. Please apply via our Get Involved page at www.mcbf.org.uk.

Book Signings

Where possible, a selection of books by participating authors will be available to purchase at relevant events, and many of the authors will be happy to sign copies afterwards.

Access

The Manchester Children's Book Festival welcomes disabled visitors and we aim to make our events accessible to the broadest possible audience. All our buildings are wheelchair accessible and have accessible ramps. All lecture theatres and seminar rooms contain space at the front for wheelchair users and can be reserved as accessible seating per event. Many of our venues are equipped with hearing aid induction loops, have 'speaking lifts' with controls at wheelchair level and in Braille, and disabled toilets.

There are limited accessible seats available to book for events. Companions attending are entitled to book tickets at the concessionary rate where applicable – but will need a ticket to attend. Please contact us on **0161 247 2424** or mcbf@mmu.ac.uk to discuss your individual access needs.

Age Restrictions

Children aged under 16 attending any aspect of the Manchester Children's Book Festival must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Babies in arms aged two years and under are permitted to attend for free provided that they remain on an adult's knee through the performance. Manchester Metropolitan University adheres to Health and Safety

regulations, but cannot be held responsible for any child left alone on its premises or at Festival events held at outside (non-Manchester Met) venues.

Photographers and film-makers will be present at the Festival and images captured may be used in print or online by Manchester Metropolitan University and other outside organisations (including partner institutions and regional and national media). If you would prefer not to be photographed and/or would prefer a child accompanying you not to be photographed, please inform the photographer.

Organisation and Charitable Status

The Manchester Children's Book Festival is a biennial event coordinated and directed by the Manchester Writing School based in the Department of English in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Manchester Metropolitan University. The University enjoys charitable status as an exempt charity under Schedule 2 to the Charities Act 1993 (amended by the Charities Act 2006). It is therefore subject to charity legislation but is not required to register with the Charity Commission and is not regulated by it. As an exempt charity, the University does not have a registered charity number.



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For full details go to www.mmu.ac.uk/english/courses/short or contact postgradenglish@mmu.ac.uk +44 (0)161 247 6969



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At the heart of the School is our internationally-recognised **Masters in Creative Writing** – available to study on campus in Manchester and also from anywhere in the world via online distance learning. Our Master of Fine Arts (MFA) and Master of Arts (MA) programmes offer specialist routes in Novel, Poetry, **Writing for Children & Young Adults** and Place Writing.

Tutors include Susan Barker, Andrew Biswell, Carol Ann Duffy, Nikolai Duffy, Paul Evans, Catherine Fox, Rachel Genn, Andrew Michael Hurley, Anjum Malik, Andrew McMillan, Livi Michael, Helen Mort, Gregory Norminton, Adam O'Riordan, Michael Symmons Roberts, Monique Roffery, Nicholas Royle, Jean Sprackland and Joe Stretch.

For full details, go to: www.manchesterwritingschool.co.uk or contact postgradenglish@mmu.ac.uk; +44 (0)161 247 6969.

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www.thegarsdaleretreat.co.uk
tel: 01539 - 234184

Manchester Writing Competition 2017

£10,000 prizes* for the best portfolio of three to five poems and the best short story of up to 2,500 words. Open internationally to new and established writers aged 16 or over.

Deadline: Friday 29 September 2017

Entry fee: £17.50

For further details and to enter online, or to download a form for postal entry, go to: www.manchesterwritingcompetition.co.uk
or contact: writingschool@mmu.ac.uk; +44 (0)161 247 1787

The Manchester Writing School at Manchester Met Masters programmes in Creative Writing (MFA and MA)
The UK's biggest postgraduate literary community and most successful writing programme with 80+ published graduates and routes in Novel, Poetry, Writing for Children/Young Adults and Place Writing. Taught by practising writers and critics under the direction of Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy.
www.manchesterwritingschool.co.uk



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Presented in partnership with **Manchester Literature Festival**: www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk
*Terms and Conditions apply. See: www.manchesterwritingcompetition.co.uk



Support the Festival



Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities that Make a Difference

The Manchester Children's Book Festival's fun-packed, inspirational events and interactive activities fuel its remarkable reach and offer our supporters a great way of connecting with a captive audience in the Northwest and across the globe – children, parents and school groups from 99 different countries joined in the fun last year!

Sponsoring MCBF means helping to inspire children from the most disadvantaged areas of Manchester, making interaction with their literary heroes a reality while extending your profile with a new audience internationally.

Whether you want to strengthen existing ties with this demographic or to build new links, we have developed a range of opportunities that will work to meet your objectives, sharing your business values and principles with MCBF's following - as well as your products and services too!

Join us in creating a lasting, inspirational legacy for the children of Manchester and beyond.

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities to suit all budgets are available. To discuss the opportunity that best suits your business please contact:

Lisa Vincent, MCBF External Partnerships Manager
Email: l.vincent@mmu.ac.uk
Tel: 07800 507 771

Friends of the Festival

Become an official Friend of the Manchester Children's Book Festival and receive a range of exclusive offers, including priority booking for event tickets at future Festivals and invitations to a special reception with the Festival's Creative Director, Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy DBE.

For further details contact
mcbf@mmu.ac.uk

Thanks to all of our wonderful Sponsors and Partners



Thanks also to GRUB for providing catering at our Family Fun Day this year. GRUB is a Manchester street food event company set up by husband and wife team Jason and Jules Bailey (ex-street-chefs themselves) who strive to create inclusive, family friendly, festival atmospheres where visitors can enjoy the best street food and drink around. They are currently in residence with their bi-weekly event Grub Food Fair at the historical Mayfield site, which is opening to the public this year for the first time in 20 years.

MCBF Mission Statement

Manchester Children's Book Festival (MCBF) is a year-round programme of activities, including events and performances, author and illustrator school visits, projects and competitions. The Festival is organised and delivered by Manchester Metropolitan University, in partnership with organisations across the city.

The programme culminates in two weeks of activities in June and July each year, showcasing the city's cultural offer for families and schools.

MCBF champions books for children and young adults through events and projects that celebrate reading, writing and illustration. We aim to provide a platform for new and established writers and to find ways to bring books to the next generation of readers and writers.

In order to make our festival accessible to the widest possible audience, we offer most of our events free of charge. To help us continue to do this, we ask those who can afford to do so to make a donation when booking or at donation points at our events. Your generosity will help continue make MCBF accessible for everyone.

www.mcbf.org.uk
#MCBF2017
#ReadMCR

Festival Team

Creative Director: Poet Laureate Professor Carol Ann Duffy DBE
Festival Director: Kaye Tew
Festival projects, student engagement and events: Lisa Bach
Press, marketing & PR: Natalie Carragher (n.carragher@mmu.ac.uk; 0161 247 1951)
Social media and publicity: Jack Holmes
Schools liaison: Claudia Conerney
Festival assistants: Rebecca Mae Lam and Emma Pruce
Sponsorship and fundraising: Lisa Vincent (l.vincent@mmu.ac.uk; 07800 507 771)
Brochure design: Anne Tudor
Website design: Patrick Kelembeck at Kelembeck Design
Website development: Stephen Ireland at Ilyparkmedia

Organised by Manchester Metropolitan University

Festival Patrons: Curtis Jobling, Jennie McAlpine, Michael Morpurgo and Alex Wheatle


With special thanks to Jake Hope and Liz Scott for their help in curating the 2017 programme.

For our Suzy Boardman, with thanks always for the inspiration.




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