



POSITIVE IMAGES FESTIVAL calling...

Welcome to your October 2021 update

Our news:

*On 26th September, Emilie Lauren Jones, Coventry's Poet Laureate 2021-2023, held her first **live poetry workshop** since the pandemic began. Here is feedback from one of the participants: "Thanks for running the workshops as well as you do. Workshops are an excellent opportunity to write quickly about subjects that we hadn't thought of ourselves. It's also interesting to hear how other poets respond to the challenges."

***Mary Courtney**, our Artist in Residence, addressed a packed meeting of Coventry Society on Monday 11th October. She has also submitted an image and a draft audio for the speaking bench for the Million Reads Project.

*Our free **Arts & Crafts Workshops** for women only started on 13th October. Dates of the next 2 sessions are 10th November and 8th December. For further information, please contact Kate Hills on 07886 689416 or visit www.positiveimagesfestival.co.uk

*A free **poetry evening** will be held on Saturday 23rd October, from 7.00pm to 9.30pm at The Central Methodist Hall Further information will appear on our website www.positiveimagesfestival.co.uk

*The closing date for entries for **Positive Images Festival's Peace Poetry Competition** on the theme of faith, hope and love can be sent is 31st October. The Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday 20th November at the Central Methodist Hall.

*Our **next festival planning meeting** will be held on Thursday 18th November from 12.30pm to 2.00pm at the Central Library. This will be a hybrid meeting, with up to 10 people attending in person and the rest attending through Zoom.

As we will continue our celebrations right up to May 2022, please continue to send us information about your events, using the attached Event Pro Forma.

And here is news from our partner organisations...

*The **Albany Theatre** is pleased to announce a brand-new season with events for all the family.

***Arty-Folks** arranged free online “Pick me up” lunch and learn workshops from 4th to 8th October to mark World Mental Health Day.

***Chat Central’s** meetings for people aged 16-25 are held at www.ziferblat.co.uk/coventry

***Cook and Eat Well’s** September newsletter highlights: Tips for eating well on a budget; soup recipes and dates of two 6-week cooking courses

***Coventry Action for Neighbourhoods’** newsletters highlight: the cultural and creative skills exchange between young people in Coventry and Bogota, as part of the Youthful Cities Programme; a candlelight vigil held in Broadgate in memory of Sabina Nessa; Drapers’ Hall; World Homelessness Day; Global Assembly; Black History Month; new DIY Audio Walks, produced by Talking Birds; a list of exhibitions, events, festivals and workshops promoted by Coventry City of Culture Trust to highlight Climate Change COP26.

***Coventry Libraries** continue to inform people about a host of opportunities, Coventry’s Adult Education Service is arranging a Maths course for people who want to improve their job prospects or are seeking a place at a university in September 2022. To register for the course, which begins in November, visit

www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted Also free English Conversation Cafes are held at: Tile Hill Library on Mondays 10.00am-11.00am; Foleshill Library on Tuesdays 11.00am-12.00 noon; and Stoke Library on Tuesdays 1.30pm-2.30pm. To book a place, email libraries247@coventry.gov.uk or contact the library directly:

www.coventry.gov.uk/aboutcovlibraries

***Cov Peace News** October newsletter highlights: Coventry Peace Festival; Coventry Peace Award to Cardinal Newman School and to teacher Rhys Davies; Rising Global Peace Forum 2021 ...

***Coventry Transport Museum** continues to highlight one of its star vehicles every month.

***Ekta-Unity** arranged a highly successful *Welcome Back* event on 11th October to mark the resumption of their full day-to-day activities. For details about activities, please visit www.ekta-unity.org/our-sessions/

***Singing for the Brain** Group celebrated National Poetry Day by listening to thought-provoking poems written by Rabindranath Tagore, Mirza Ghalib and other famous writers from South Asia. They also enjoyed a YouTube video of the Bengali song “Ekta Chalo Re”, sung by the legendary singer, Shreya Ghoshal, and translated into Hindi/Urdu and English. Though physically separated, members had an enjoyable Zoom meeting.

*A free 6-week “*Skills for volunteering*” course for women will be delivered by **Voluntary Action Coventry** at **FWT**, starting on 3rd November. For further information, ring Ruth Burdett or Viktoria Sesi on 024 7622 0381 or email integratecoventry@vacoventry.org.uk

*An exhibition showcasing the work of the 5 nominees for The Turner Prize 2021 has opened at the **Herbert Art Gallery & Museum**. Free tickets. Booking essential.

*Black History Month got off to a flying start with the amazing Living Culture exhibition at **The Highlife Centre**.

***UNA Cov's** October newsletter covers forthcoming events; International Young People's Peace Essay Competition; University of Warwick's year-long Resonate Festival on the theme of Sanctuary...

Culture Noticeboard...

*Coventry City of Culture Trust continues has issued its October update, which is packed with information about events.

*In preparation for the **Carnival of Lights** in November, Foleshill Creates has been running free workshops. For further information and to sign up for updates, please visit www.foleshillcreates.co.uk

***The Abundance Carnival of Lights** event will be held on 7th November from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Centred around Foleshill, the carnival will start and finish in the gated car park of the Indian Community Centre, Cross Road. For further information, email Navkiran.mann@coventry2021.co.uk or visit www.coventry2021.co.uk/what-s-on/abundance/

*Coventry City of Culture Trust is producing **Haus of Kraft**, an ambitious fashion and environmentally conscious programme. Initial workshops will be held from September to November 2021. For further information, please email nnniaki@gmail.com

For your information and action...

***The Billion Seeds Challenge** project takes place in October. The challenge is to plant one billion seeds to highlight the importance of COP 26. Homebase will provide 50% of seeds in all their UK stores. Planting can be done throughout October.

***Black in the day: Children of the Windrush Generation** exhibition can be viewed at Coventry Caribbean Association, 151 Spon Street up to 31st October. Opening times: Monday to Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm, Saturday and Sunday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

*Coventry and Dresden are hosting a Friendship Festival in November 2021. For further information, please visit www.coventrydresdenfriendshipfestival.co.uk

***Walk with Amal** arrives in Coventry on 27th October. Amal, a puppet, will walk across European countries to shed light on the stories of millions of young refugees. For further information, please visit www.walkwithamal.org/the-journey/

*6 **“Coping with the new normal” workshops** will be held via Microsoft Teams between November 2021 and March 2022. To book: email ohsw@coventry.gov.uk or telephone 024 7683 3285.

*The national **Inter Faith Week** will be held from 14th to 21st November 2021.

*Refugee Week 2022 will be held from 20th to 26th June.



Positive Images Festival congratulates:

Chat Central and **CRASAC** on their success in obtaining funding from the National Lottery.

Colin Scott
Chair



Mehru Fitter
Secretary

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