

## **Bloomsbury Festival secures National Lottery Heritage Fund support to mark 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh with local residents**

Supported through a grant of £38,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the Bloomsbury Festival project 'Visible People, Visible Places' will shine a light on the local Bangladeshi residents in Bloomsbury as they mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh.

Participants from the local community will research Bangladeshi history and their centuries old culture and present at events and exhibitions at the Bloomsbury Festival (15-24 October 2021). Young people the community will work with digital partners to create new interpretations and responses.

The project is coordinated by Bloomsbury Festival working alongside local community associations, and with volunteers and curators, to mark the anniversary of Independence, with further exhibitions and the creation of digital content about their for the benefit of Bangladeshi people locally, the whole neighbourhood, and a much wider audience.

“Local young Bangladeshi people in Bloomsbury say they can feel invisible. By sharing the narrative of the local Bangladeshi community, it explores connections that speak to all communities.” Mohammed Ali, Curator Soul City Arts

The project will include an outdoor photographic exhibition, a live event at the British Library, and film and sound recordings.

“This project is the result of an increasingly close partnership between the festival and the local communities. We are delighted to have the opportunities to present a focus on the Bangladeshi community and their heritage”. Rosemary Richards, Director, Bloomsbury Festival.

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## NOTES

### About Bloomsbury Festival

Established in 2006, Bloomsbury Festival is a creative explosion of arts, culture and science. For ten days each October, the streets, parks, museums, galleries, laboratories and public and private buildings of this vibrant cultural quarter play host up to 130 events which attract a significant audience from across London and beyond.

### About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire, lead** and **resource** the UK's heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future. [www.heritagefund.org.uk](http://www.heritagefund.org.uk).

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### Further information

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### Further information

Bloomsbury Festival is working on this project in partnership with British Library, Camden Mela, Holborn Community Association and King's Cross Brunswick Neighbourhood Association.

Core Funder and Major Sponsors of Bloomsbury Festival are

UCL, The Bedford Estates, University of London, Midtown BID and SHM Foundation