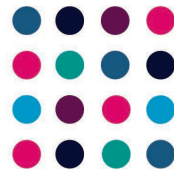


BLOOMSBURY FESTIVAL



17 - 19 OCTOBER 2025

01 - 31 OCTOBER 2026

Celebrating Creativity in Bloomsbury - 20 Years in 2026

Masterclass Drawing Workshops leading to Outdoor Exhibition

Bloomsbury Festival is inviting emerging artists with a special interest in drawing and illustration to take part in a series of 4 free workshops to create a contemporary response to historic illustrations related to the local area. Please note there is no charge for these workshops and that they are voluntary activities.

The 4 workshops will run on Friday afternoons from 27 June to 18 July inclusive (2pm to 5pm). The workshops will be hosted at City Lit art department in their art workshop spaces, but may also include visits to local archives such as the British Museum.

2 of the masterclasses will be led by artist [Dryden Goodwin](#), Professor of Fine Art, Slade School of Fine Art, UCL, and 2 will be led by a specialist tutor from [City Lit](#).

The workshops will lead to the group contributing to an outdoor exhibition as part of Bloomsbury Festival 2025 to take place in October alongside other music and talks related to the heritage project Strange Doings in London: The Songs and Ballads of St Giles.

This project is a professionally led supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and involves volunteers in learning about the music history of street song in the local area in past centuries, and inviting aspiring professional artists to take part in responding to research relating to the illustrations of the area and to descriptions by writers and artists of past centuries such as Charles Dickens and his lead illustrator and Samuel Pepys. See an article here <https://www.london.ac.uk/news-events/blogs/dickens-his-illustrators>

You can find out more about our heritage project here <https://bloomsburyfestival.org.uk/heritage-project-strange-doings/>

Preference will be given to attendees who can come to all 4 workshops and will be able to complete work selected for exhibition over the summer months. However if you are interested but may not be available for all sessions, please do still apply.

This is offered on a first come, first served to those with suitable experience, but is not a competition.

Apply for a place: [Complete this google form](#) by 6pm on Thursday 8 May 2025.

Please note that we will confirm whether you will be offered a place in mid-May.

Bloomsbury Festival

For hundreds of years Bloomsbury has been a catalyst for ideas that have impacted across the world. The Festival celebrates contemporary Bloomsbury; a hotbed of creativity and pioneering development with one of the youngest and most diverse populations in the country. Bloomsbury's strength lies in its vibrant diversity. Famous for its globally renowned academic and cultural institutions, it also includes areas of multiple deprivation, and it is home to 11,000 residents. The Festival is uniquely placed in relationship to residential communities, local institutions and businesses, and the UK arts infrastructure, and works across all three, uniting specialists with residents from all backgrounds and of all ages in an equal exchange of skills and experience

Bloomsbury Festival is aimed at a mixed-age audience from across London. A large proportion of the programme is aimed at adults, but there is also an important strand of family focused events and activities. Artworks submitted should be suitable for viewing by a general festival/gallery audience.

www.bloomsburyfestival.org.uk