



CREATIVITY IN THE UK

Press release

Tuesday 23 October 2021

UNBOXED: CREATIVITY IN THE UK - THOUSANDS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO BE INVOLVED IN NEXT YEAR'S UK-WIDE PROGRAMME, INCLUDING BURSARIES, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

People across the UK are being offered thousands of opportunities to be involved in next year's **UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK**, including creative bursaries, paid training and professional development, schools' competitions, and public participation activities.

They are a chance to be part of, and gain skills and experience, as a result of being involved in one of the biggest celebrations of creativity in a generation. Taking place throughout the UK in 2022, UNBOXED has commissioned ten major creative projects, bringing free large-scale events, installations and globally accessible digital experiences.

More details about these opportunities can be found at unboxed2022.uk/get-involved.

- More than 850 paid bursaries of between £100 and £25,000 are available for creatives aged from 18 to 25 years, to help develop and deliver **Tour de Moon**, a festival of nightlife and countercultures inspired by and created in collaboration with the Moon. Tour de Moon will travel in convoy around England with a mission to imagine multiple better futures for, and with, young people. Closing dates run into the New Year

Bursaries are being offered to artists, writers, thinkers, activists, scientists, students, emerging musicians, speakers, directors, filmmakers, live event producers, float designers, costume designers, DJs, performers, digital content creators to create immersive film events, perform live, develop scripts, design floats and costumes, write for the Tour de Moon zine and DJ.

- Children and young people are being invited to enter a UK-wide poetry and computer coding competition for 4 to 18-year-olds by 19 December 2021. Prizes range from talent development opportunities to the chance to be part of **About Us**, an UNBOXED project that sees audiences immersed in 13.8 billion years of history, from the Big Bang to the present day, using innovative projection mapping technology combined with poetry, music and science.
- Members of the public are invited to become one of 20,000 Lumenators who will create dramatic outdoor artworks that use thousands of specially designed lights to sweep across mountains, lakes and moorland at 20 locations throughout the UK's National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty from April to September 2022. Exact locations will be shared with the Lumenators on the day. The project, **Green Space Dark Skies**, uses new technology to create compelling online audience experiences.

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These opportunities follow the professional placements and development opportunities for designers, creative technologists, animators, creative producers and sound designers, particularly from under-represented groups, offered by immersive story-telling project, **StoryTrails**. These include paid placements with nine companies commissioned to produce an R&D Virtual Reality project reinterpreting some of the UK's greatest film and television archives from the BFI and the BBC as well as mentoring and participation in the development of StoryTrails.

Produced by some of the brightest minds in science, technology, engineering, arts and maths, UNBOXED features ten major multi-site and digital creative projects that share new ideas and possibilities for the future. Events and activities take place from 1 March to 2 October 2022 – from the Outer Hebrides to Dover and from Omagh to Swansea, and across traditional and online media.

UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK is funded and supported by the four governments of the UK and is commissioned and delivered in partnership with Belfast City Council, Creative Wales and EventScotland.

UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK

1 March to 2 October 2022 | unboxed2022.uk

Further information, interview requests and images:

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Notes to editors

1. **UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK** is a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of creativity, taking place across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and online from March to October 2022. **UNBOXED** is lifting the lid on 10 awe-inspiring new ideas, shaped across science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics by brilliant minds working in unexpected collaborations. Unmissable events and unforgettable experiences are coming to places and spaces right across the UK: from coastal towns and city centres to breathtaking areas of natural beauty.

Everyone in the UK can experience **UNBOXED**, in person, on TV, on radio and online – entirely for free. And there are countless ways for people to get involved in every part of the **UNBOXED** programme: diving into UK-wide learning programmes, taking part in workshops and special events, even playing a central role in bringing some of these astonishing projects to life.

UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK is the biggest and most ambitious creative programme ever presented on these shores. It's funded and supported by the four governments of the UK, and is co-commissioned with Belfast City Council, EventScotland and Creative Wales. Join millions for this landmark exploration of how creativity – *our* creativity – has the power to change the world.

unboxed2022.uk

2. The **UNBOXED** projects were commissioned following a paid three-month research and development (R&D) programme, from 16 November 2020 to 31 January 2021. The rigorous assessment process involved more than 500 creatives, including more than 100 freelancers from across the UK, drawn from science, technology, engineering, arts and maths. The original open call-out for the R&D resulted in 299 submissions, involving almost 3,000 individuals and organisations.