arts@leeds 2021/22 report

The arts@leeds programme provides support for cultural, voluntary and community organisations to create opportunities for residents from across the city to engage in cultural activity as a participant, an attendee, or a creator.

The scheme addresses a range of Council priorities including working with communities, supporting inclusive economic growth, promoting a positive image of the city, & making Leeds a better, richer, and more diverse place to live, work and visit. It is the cornerstone of achieving the Best City outcome that people should "enjoy greater access to green spaces, leisure and the arts". The Culture Strategy frames our approach for how the city can support the arts and culture sector, & the arts@leeds grant scheme is one of the elements of that strategy.

At the beginning of 2021, the country was in lock down, meaning activity continued online, outside & individually at home. Many organisations were not able to open to the public till the summer and then they were operating with socially distanced measures, mask wearing and reduced audiences. This was compounded by the Omicron variant, which affected both artists and audiences which let to postponements or cancellations of tickets.

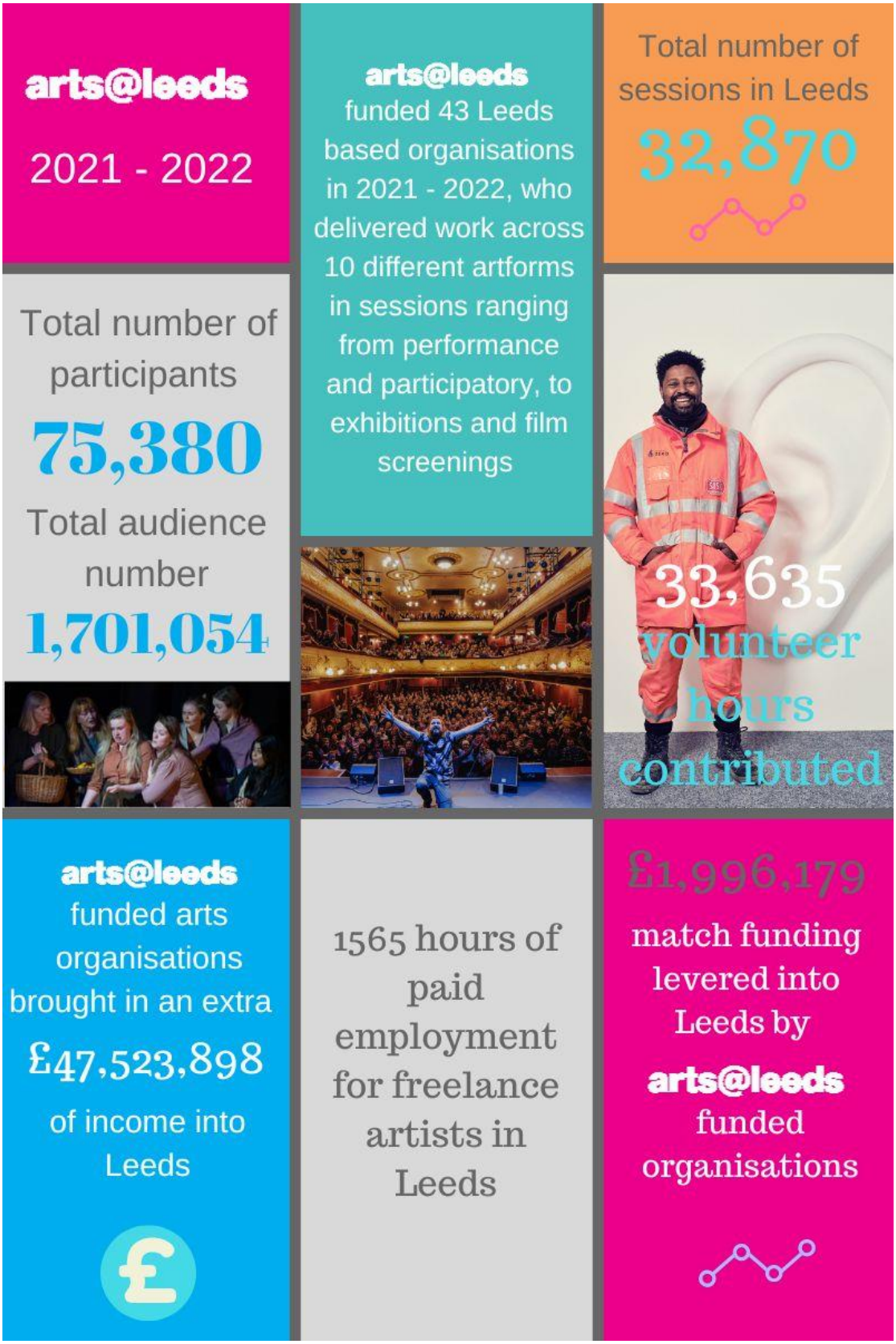
To support the sector, Leeds City Council allocated £323k from the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) programme to arts@leeds organisations to enable them to kickstart their programmes and open their venues safely. The Culture Recovery Fund (CRF), from DCMS administrated by Arts Council England (ACE) additionally supported the sector, with 112 awards given in Leeds, of these 15 arts@leeds recipients were awarded 30 grants to the value of £14.2m.

In 21/22 there was a session increase of 41% but an audience decrease of 20% from the previous year which may in part be due to a drop in online audiences that are not yet returning to venues in person. However it is an increase in audiences of 30% from 19/20. The return on investment for the council was £29.35, an increase of over 18% from 20/21.

3 arts@leeds business programme sessions were delivered including a seminar supporting arts organisations applying for ACE National Portfolio Organisation status. This was delivered in partnership with Leeds Culture Strategy, Leeds Arts, Health & Wellbeing Network (LAWHN), Sustainable Arts in Leeds (SAIL) & Leeds2023. 52 Organisations joined our session run in partnership with LAHWN to learn more about social prescribing. The Improving Digital Inclusion session in partnership with 100% Digital Leeds led to the creation and delivery of the Digital Inclusion Network with 102 members who meet quarterly to improve digital inclusion and participation for the arts and culture sector and audiences, supporting the ambition to make Leeds the most digitally inclusive city for everyone.

Wider engagement with the sector was reached through the monthly **arts@leeds newsletter** with 749 subscribers & our 10k twitter followers. The Arts Development Officer delivered weekly engagement advice surgeries with individuals & organisations resulting in a mix of e-introductions to sector colleagues, signposting to networks, newsletters & websites, with individual next steps action plans.

The arts@leeds grant supports core costs & this has enabled us to keep delivering work throughout this time. This consistent support has enabled GCF to maintain an office &core staff. The grant is part of the foundations for all are projects and on-going support to GCF Creative Associates and new emerging artists. ***Geraldine Connor Foundation***



The arts@leeds grant is a core part of our funding tapestry, and gives confidence to other funders, specifically noted by Arts Council England. ***Music Leeds***

For every £1 invested by **arts@leeds** the funded organisations matched this by over £29

18,396 activities delivered over 12 months

452 new performances

207 publications

16,779 activity packs delivered to homes accross Leeds

Organisations received in-kind support worth

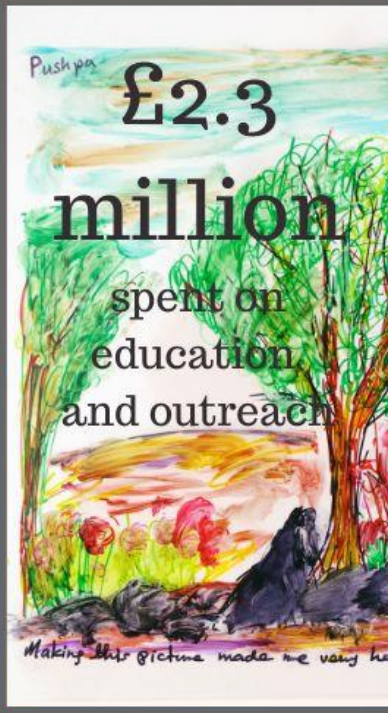
£567,899

Total number of targeted participatory sessions

32,870

238 delivered to people with mental health issues

875 new broadcasts were created



The money brought into the city by **arts@leeds** funded organisations represents equates to a 2890% return on the investment for Leeds

arts@leeds funded organisations were successful in applying for grants from other funders including:

Arts Council England
Children in Need
Comic Relief
Esmee Fairburn
Foyle Foundation
Heritage Lottery Fund
Leeds Inspired

arts@leeds funded organisations brought £15,772,177 into the city through ticket sales and other earned income

arts@leeds funding is critical and invaluable because it supports the basis from which we can lever in new & additional funding to broaden engagement and participation, particularly in working with marginalised people over the longer term. Unrestricted funding like this from arts@leeds is absolutely critical to us being able to develop long term relationships with funders such as NHS, Sport England & Creative Europe enabling us to operate at a national and international level, sharing expertise and networks and bringing learning and innovation back to the city. ***Yorkshire Dance***

arts@leeds development funded organisations

A Quiet Word	Artlink West Yorkshire	Assembly House
CLAY	Cloth Cat	Compass Festival
DAZL	Geraldine Connor Foundation	Heads Together
Interplay Theatre	Irish Arts Foundation	Jazz Leeds
Left Bank	Leeds Community Arts Network	Leeds Lieder
Leeds Big Bookend &	Northern Short Story Festival	Music:Leeds
Morley Arts Festival	Leeds International Piano Competition	Northern Opera Group
Otley Courthouse	Pavilion	Pyramid of Arts
RJC Dance	Skippko	Slung Low
South Asian Arts-uk	Space 2	The Leeds Library
Transform	Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah	Tutti Frutti

This grant is one of the most important investments we receive, as it is a foundation stone in our organisation's long-term partnership with the city ***Leeds International Piano Competition***

arts@leeds investment funded organisations

East Street Arts	Leeds Grand Theatre, Hyde Park Picture House & City Varieties	
Leeds Playhouse	Northern Ballet	Opera North
Phoenix Dance Theatre	PSL: The Tetley	Yorkshire Dance

We were able to use this for core staff costs and register it in other funding applications as a trusted quality mark for the organisation. ***Space2***

arts@leeds city events programme funded organisations

Black Music Festival Leeds Pride *Leeds St Patricks Day Parade Leeds West Indian Carnival

**funded from the Culture Programmes budget*

arts@leeds has allowed us to plan & deliver our events & also provided support in the way of resources and advice, without the grant we would have not been able to function and plan for the future ***LWIC***

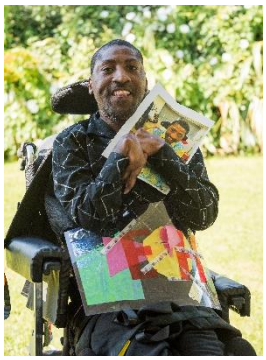
How has the arts@leeds grant supported the organisation?

Images from: Tutti Frutti, Heads Together, Chapel FM, Space2, Leeds International Piano Competition, Northern Opera Group, The Leeds Library, Hyde Park Picture House, Compass, DAZL, Skippko & Word Cloud

arts@leeds 2020/21 report

The arts@leeds programme provides support for cultural, voluntary and community organisations to create opportunities for residents from across the city to engage in cultural activity as a participant, an attendee, or a creator. Alongside our funding programme we offer advice, advocacy and workshops for both our funded organisations and also for grassroots organisations and individual artists, enabling them to benefit from the unique position the arts@leeds team are situated in with an overview of the cultural life of the city.

The scheme addresses a range of Council priorities including working with communities, supporting inclusive economic growth, promoting a positive image of the city, and making Leeds a better, richer, and more diverse place to live, work and visit. It is the cornerstone of achieving the Best City outcome that people should "enjoy greater access to green spaces, leisure and the arts". The Culture Strategy frames our approach for how the city can support the arts and culture sector, and the arts@leeds grant scheme is one of the elements of that strategy.



When the pandemic closed venues completely in March 2020 many organisations supported the relief aid in their wards - Slung Low adapted their venue into a food bank and created an outdoor performance space with socially distanced pods, whilst organisations such as Space 2 and DAZL helped deliver local food parcels. Many organisations including Artlink & Pyramid of Arts created activity packs which were posted, or hand delivered to participants to engage with at home. Morley Arts Festival created an outdoor exhibition and Leeds Playhouse, Opera North & North Ballet streamed their events. DAZL & Opera North were able to deliver ward specific activities by hosting sessions using online platforms. Tutti Frutti streamed stories for age 3+ children and their families, celebrating and promoting writers and artists of colour.

Whilst the majority of venues were closed resulting in a decrease from the previous year of nearly 50% of sessions delivered, with their digital reach (including international reach) there was an audience increase of 63% with only a decrease of 5% participation from last year. With many of their traditional income opportunities were halted the return on investment for the council was £24.78, a decrease of only 14% from last year.

Arts@Leeds grant has been invaluable especially during the pandemic. It has allowed us to support both local artists & creatives with commissions, workshop opportunities, enterprising opportunities including markets & print shop and continue to provide engaging creative activities for people of all ages emerging from the lockdown. Left Bank

18 online engagement advice surgeries were held in 20/21. These sessions were tailored towards the individual or organisation and delivered by the Arts Development Officer, resulting in a mix of e-introductions to sector colleagues, signposting to networks, newsletters & websites, with individual next steps action plans.

For this year we increased the frequency of the arts@leeds newsletters from bi-monthly to monthly to enable us to share news, information, training and grant opportunities targeted towards the culture sector in Leeds, aimed at Leeds based creators rather than audiences.

Arts@Leeds staff have been a vital help and support during the last 18 months, offering reassurance as an art organisation in Leeds during such unprecedented times. They have been on hand with advice and relevant contacts through our change process to a charity and continue to support as our Festival grows.
We are also very grateful for the continuation of funding which has enabled us to commission local artists during lockdown. Morley Arts Festival

arts@leeds

2020 - 2021

arts@leeds funded 43 Leeds based organisations in 2020 - 2021, who delivered work across 10 different artforms in sessions ranging from performance and participatory, to exhibitions and film screenings

Total number of sessions in Leeds

23,242

Total number of participants

88,203

Total audience number

2,142,304

20,442

volunteer hours contributed

arts@leeds funded arts organisations brought in an extra

£46,330,059

of income into Leeds

paid employment for 907 freelance artists in Leeds

£574,071

match funding levered into Leeds by **arts@leeds** funded organisations

The arts@leeds grant has been invaluable in providing is with sustainability and security over the last year. While it makes up a small % of our budget, it has given confidence to other funders, particularly Arts Council, that our project is being supported locally, and been a cornerstone in helping us receive large amounts of match funding.
Music:Leeds

For every £1 invested by **arts@leeds** the funded organisations matched this by £25

1484 activities delivered over 12 months

633 performances delivered

32 exhibitions created

279 new publications

Organisations received in-kind support worth

£855,636

Total number of targeted participatory sessions

11,192

540 online sessions were delivered over multiple platforms for diverse audiences

arts@leeds

Funded activity took place in all 33 wards in Leeds

arts@leeds

funded organisations benefitted from

£752,169

of rate relief from Leeds City Council in 2020 - 2021

arts@leeds

funded organisations brought

£29,271,453

into the city through ticket sales and other earned income

arts@leeds support was vital to the organisation as they were able to fund the majority of their most senior staff member's wages. With the loss of commercial income and the increased pressure on funding pots, arts@leeds enabled them to feel supported and cared for by the arts@leeds team. In addition, it enabled them to retain their producer, who is a local, working class, queer and disabled woman in a job when redundancies where rife in the industry

Assembly House

arts@leeds development funded organisations

A Quiet Word	Artlink West Yorkshire	Assembly House
CLAY	Cloth Cat	Compass Festival
DAZL	Geraldine Connor Foundation	Heads Together
Interplay Theatre	Irish Arts Foundation	Jazz Leeds
Left Bank	Leeds Community Arts Network	Leeds Lieder
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RJC Dance	Skippko	Slung Low
South Asian Arts-uk	Space 2	The Leeds Library
Transform	Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah	Tutti Frutti

The funding from arts@leeds is used for core costs. The kudos of being funded by Leeds City Council gives our funding applications both gravitas and an increased value which contributes to our success. Tutti Frutti

arts@leeds investment funded organisations

East Street Arts	Leeds Grand Theatre, Hyde Park Picture House & City Varieties	
Leeds Playhouse	Northern Ballet	Opera North
Phoenix Dance Theatre	PSL: The Tetley	Yorkshire Dance

arts@leeds enables us to operate at a national & international level, sharing expertise & networks, bringing learning & innovation back to the city. It enables us to innovate through investing in new partnerships & provides us with the time to develop 'test and learn' initiatives that are so critical to staying relevant & provide the very best of cultural leadership. arts@leeds allows us to price certain open access programmes for children & young people at an absolute minimum, making them accessible to a very diverse group of families in the city.
Yorkshire Dance

arts@city events programme funded organisations

Black Music Festival	Leeds St Patricks Day Parade	Leeds West Indian Carnival

The arts@leeds grant has allowed us to deliver a high quality first ever online carnival in Leeds which has also helped to support our artists and some of our usual event support staff whilst also helping to fund the re-organisation of our building to make it covid secure so that we will be able to deliver online training and meetings going forward in the future. Leeds West Indian Carnival

Images from: Artlink West Yorkshire, Compass Live Art, RJC, Skippko, Northern Opera Group, Northern Ballet, Theatre Company Blah, Blah, Blah & Space2

arts@leeds 2019-20 report

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The scheme addresses a range of Council priorities including working with communities, supporting inclusive economic growth, promoting a positive image of the city, and making Leeds a better, richer and more diverse place to live, work and visit. It is the cornerstone of achieving the Best City outcome that people should "enjoy greater access to green spaces, leisure and the arts". The Culture Strategy frames our approach for how the city can support the arts and culture sector, and the arts@leeds grant scheme is one of the elements of that strategy. The arts@leeds is a 4 year scheme (running 2019-2022) and this report covers year 2 of the scheme, 2019-20. The data collected for this report covers the period of 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020, please be aware due to the Covid pandemic in March organisations had to cancel or postpone the last 3 weeks of their planned programme.

arts@leeds engagement programme

22 one to one sessions were held in 19/20, these hour long face to face conversations were tailored towards the individual or organisation. Attendees were given an overview of the Arts Development Team and the Arts Venues and Events Service and from this conversation the actions followed up by the Arts Development Officer were a mix of e introductions to artists and arts organisations, links to informative websites, links to sign up to newsletters (including the arts@leeds newsletter) and suggestions of next steps.

The arts@leeds development programme

Financial investment from £4,000 annually
Overview: Open to all Leeds based cultural organisations, this programme supports small to midscale cultural organisations. It provides an annual package of cash funding and tailored business development from the Council to help them to thrive.

The arts@leeds investment programme

Financial investment from £45,000 annually
Overview: This programme is aimed at larger organisations that are able to deliver on more council priorities, offer a greater contribution to the economy, can develop the city's international cultural offer, support the development of employment & skills for the industry, and reach a wider audience. Due to the level of funding being invested, organisations funded through this scheme are required to deliver additional activity for the council which will include; specific activity in targeted locations; delivering a percentage of their work with an international focus, offer explicit support to emerging organisations, and implement plans to pay a living wage.

arts@leeds business programme

2 arts@leeds business programme sessions were run in this period, a seminar about sustainable organisations in May and a session about Keyfund in July. The sustainable organisations group resulted in many of the organisations reviewing their own current sustainable practice.

arts@leeds

2019 - 2020

arts@leeds funded 44 Leeds based organisations in 2019 - 2020, who delivered work across 10 different artforms in sessions ranging from performance and participatory, to exhibitions and film screenings

Total number of sessions in Leeds

45,026

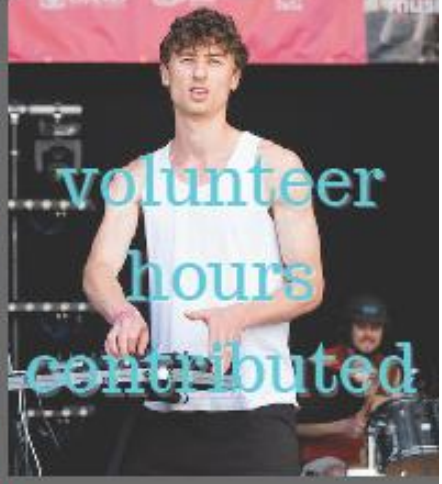
Total number of participants

93,505

Total audience number

1,306,753

57,860



volunteer hours contributed

arts@leeds funded arts organisations brought in an extra

£54,753,455

of income into Leeds

paid employment for 1,584 freelance artists in Leeds

£725,235

match funding levered into Leeds by **arts@leeds** funded organisations

For every £1 invested by **arts@leeds** the funded organisations matched this by £30

2768 activities delivered over 12 months

1,200 performances created

135 exhibitions created

303 new publications

Organisations received in-kind support worth

£542,700

Total number of targeted participatory sessions

24,754

35% delivered to people with challenging lives

1130 broadcasts were created with an audience of over

16 million

£2.5 million spent on education and outreach

arts@leeds

Funded activity took place in all 33 wards in Leeds

arts@leeds funded organisations were successful in applying for grants from other funders including:

Arts Council England
Children in Need
Comic Relief
Esmee Fairburn
Foyle Foundation
Heritage Lottery Fund
Leeds Inspired

arts@leeds funded organisations brought £29,271,453 into the city through ticket sales and other earned income

arts@leeds development funded organisations

A Quiet Word
Artlink West Yorkshire
Assembly House
CLAY
Cloth Cat
Compass Festival
DAZL
Geraldine Connor Foundation
Heads Together
Interplay Theatre
Invisible Flock
Irish Arts Foundation
Jazz Leeds
Left Bank
Leeds Community Arts Network
Leeds Lieder
Leeds Big Bookend & Northern Short Story Festival
Music:Leeds
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Otley Courthouse
Pavilion
Pyramid of Arts
RJC Dance
Skippko
Slung Low
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Transform
Tutti Frutti
Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah

arts@leeds investment funded organisations

East Street Arts
Leeds Grand Theatre, Hyde Park Picture House & City Varieties
Leeds Playhouse
Northern Ballet
Opera North
Phoenix Dance Theatre
PSL – The Tetley
Yorkshire Dance

city events programme funded organisations

Black Music Festival
Leeds St Patricks Day Parade
Leeds West Indian Carnival

arts@leeds newsletter

see our Twitter account @LeedsArts for our most recent edition

Our newsletter is a source of information, opportunities and news targeted towards the culture sector in Leeds, for creators rather than consumers. The newsletter contains regular sections: arts@leeds engagement, training, funding, commissioning opportunities, vacancies and sector news.

Images supplied by: The Assembly House, Northern Opera Group, Invisible Flock, Geraldine Connor Foundation, Black Music Festival, Leeds Grand Theatre, Hyde Park Picture House & City Varieties, Music:Leeds, Compass Festival, RJC, Heads Together, Morley Arts Festival, Left Bank, Leeds Playhouse