



PRESS RELEASE

Watermans to receive £100,000 from third round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund

- Watermans among 925 recipients to benefit from the latest round of awards from the Culture Recovery Fund
- This award will ensure Watermans can continue to deliver its inclusive programme of arts and culture for residents across Hounslow and West London.

More than £100 million has been awarded to hundreds of cultural organisations across the country including **Watermans** in the latest round of support from the Culture Recovery Fund, the Culture Secretary announced today.

Watermans in Brentford has been awarded a grant of **£100,000** by **Arts Council England**.

Watermans is West London's arts centre. It exists to inspire communities through creativity and the arts, and presents a year-round programme of performance, exhibitions, cinema, workshops and family events. It also offers an extensive outreach programme across the borough of Hounslow, including the popular outdoor arts events at Bell Square. Both Watermans and Bell Square are spaces for the community to come together and their inclusive and friendly welcome is highly valued by the local community.

Over the past year these venues have been closed for long periods due to national and local lockdowns. During these times, Watermans was unable to run its popular cinema and theatre and the normal income from these was not there to support our education and outreach programmes as it would normally do.

Thanks to the funding we received from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Culture Recovery Fund, we've been able to continue to work for and in our local community and this additional funding will help us to rebuild our audiences through the delivery of a vibrant programme of events, workshops and outreach programmes providing access to the arts for everyone.

The third round of funding will support organisations from all corners of the sector as they deal with ongoing reopening challenges, ensuring they can thrive in better times ahead.

Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries said:



“Culture is for everyone and should therefore be accessible to everyone, no matter who they are and where they’re from.

“Through unprecedented government financial support, the Culture Recovery Fund is supporting arts and cultural organisations so they can continue to bring culture to communities the length and breadth of the country, supporting jobs, boosting local economies and inspiring people.”

Over £1.2 billion has already been awarded from the unprecedented Culture Recovery Fund, supporting around 5000 individual organisations and sites across the country ranging from local museums to West End theatres, grassroots music venues to festivals, and organisations in the cultural and heritage supply-chains.

Jan Lennox, Director, Watermans, said:

“It’s brilliant that Watermans has received this money so we can continue working with so many of our local communities and developing new programmes that local people tell us they want. This grant is further recognition of Watermans’ high quality and ambitious programmes at the venue, out in the community and online”.

Darren Henley, Chief Executive, Arts Council England, said:

“This continued investment from the Government on an unprecedented scale means our theatres, galleries, music venues, museums and arts centres can carry on playing their part in bringing visitors back to our high streets, helping to drive economic growth, boosting community pride and promoting good health. It’s a massive vote of confidence in the role our cultural organisations play in helping us all to lead happier lives”.

Notes to Editors

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in *Let’s Create* that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk.

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government’s unprecedented Culture Recovery Funds. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19.