

National Theatre

National Theatre to host takeover day in collaboration with community organisations across North Kensington

19 September 2023



For images from takeover groups, click [here](#)

Today the National Theatre announces a takeover day in collaboration with community organisations across North Kensington to take place on **Sunday 8 October**.

The takeover day is part of the National Theatre's continuing collaboration with people and organisations across North Kensington as part of a multi-year creative project which also included the recent critically acclaimed run of the verbatim production *Grenfell: in the words of survivors* in the Dorfman theatre platforming the voices of survivors and bereaved of the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

The takeover day will include free performances, talks, music and workshops for all ages taking place in the front of house spaces of the National Theatre from 12noon – 6pm. Free activities include arts and craft workshops including a collaborative craft workshop with **ACAVA**, individual painting workshops with **Our Power Hub**, willow crafts with artist **Sophie Lodge** who led the **#24Hearts** movement, group dance showcases by **Youth Action Alliance**, poetry and music from the Community Team at **The Playground Theatre** and theatre performances by **Caravan Theatre** in a pop-up caravan in Theatre Square outside the National Theatre. There will also be DJing from **Kids on the Green**, poetry readings from **Kamitan Arts** and a screened theatre performance from **Renegade Theatre**.

An exhibition titled '**The History of Social Activism in North Kensington**' will be held in the Wolfson Gallery at the National Theatre showcasing photographs, paintings and news

clippings exploring campaigns, protests and marches around social injustice and activism in North Kensington. A programme of talks will be hosted alongside the exhibition delving further into the history of North Kensington. Speakers to be announced.

Rufus Norris, Director of the National Theatre, said, *“Through our ongoing collaboration with people and organisations across North Kensington, we have witnessed the huge breadth of talent and creativity from across the area which deserves to be celebrated and showcased. We are greatly excited to platform this takeover day at the National Theatre with our partners and we hope you will take part, be inspired and learn something new from the day”*.

Other activity in the community as part of the National Theatre’s continuing collaboration with people and organisations across North Kensington includes young people from across North Kensington taking part in creative writing course *Writing for Theatre* at Morley College, young people taking on paid long and short-term work placements at the National Theatre, free tickets for National Theatre productions, workshops and learning programmes in local schools.

A full schedule for the day will be released online shortly.

ENDS

For images from takeover groups previous activities, please click [here](#).

For press enquiries and more information, please contact Orla Bentley at obentley@nationaltheatre.org.uk

With thanks:

Our community engagement programme in North Kensington is generously supported by John Lyon’s Charity.

Grenfell: in the words of survivors is supported by the Arete Foundation, who support the National Theatre to make work that is ambitious and socially relevant.

About the National Theatre

The National Theatre makes theatre that entertains and inspires using its creativity, expertise and unique reach. The National Theatre shares unforgettable stories with millions of audience members across the UK and around the world – on its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home.

World-leading artists make their best work at the National Theatre with the widest possible audience and impact. The National Theatre invests in talent and innovation on stage and off, taking seriously its role as the nation’s theatre. Of the new productions developed each year with a wide range of theatre companies, a third of that research and development resource is dedicated to shows staged at theatres outside London.

Through touring our work to local theatres and schools and nationwide education and community programmes, we are active in 71 of the 109 levelling up priority areas in the UK. A registered charity with deeply embedded social purpose, the National Theatre works with

hundreds of schools and communities across the UK to fire imagination and inspire creativity, and to develop skills and pathways for careers in theatre.

For more information, please visit nationaltheatre.org.uk

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