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**For immediate release: Tuesday 27 September 2022**

**Huddersfield Literature Festival announces**

**funding, theme and dates for 2023**

The award-winning Huddersfield Literature Festival has secured Arts Council funding to present a diverse programme of venue-based, online and hybrid events in spring 2023. The festival will run from 23 March to 2 April 2023, with a theme of ‘Music’ to tie in with the [Kirklees Year of Music 2023](https://www.musicinkirklees.co.uk/) initiative.

A finalist in the 2022 Kirklees Diversity, Equality and Innovation Awards, the Festival will offer a wide representation of authors and performers in a comprehensive programme of talks, workshops, performance poetry, family events, wellbeing activities, multi-arts performances and partnership projects. The theme of ‘Music’ will run through the Festival programme and there will be an expanded Schools Programme of workshops and activities.

Established in 2006, the Festival will also work closely with KLTV (Kirklees Local TV) to increase its hybrid offer, as part of a commitment to accessibility.

Festival Director Michelle Hodgson said: “We are delighted have secured inward investment for Huddersfield from the Arts Council, which recognises Kirklees as a Priority Place for arts and culture. We are also grateful for ongoing support from our sponsors and the University of Huddersfield, and we are looking forward to working closely with various local partners, including the Kirklees Year of Music 2023. We’re well aware of the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and will continue to offer many free or low-cost events for the local community to enjoy, from free family events to creative and wellbeing workshops.”

Events will be available to view and book on the Festival website later this autumn and further information can be found at: <https://www.huddlitfest.org.uk/>

**Notes for Editors:**

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Hi-res mages are available upon request.

**About** [**Huddersfield Literature Festival**](https://www.huddlitfest.org.uk/)

Huddersfield Literature Festival (HLF) is an award-winning 10-day Festival held annually in the spring. A blended Festival of 50+ digital, outdoor and venue-based events, HLF champions accessibility, diversity and under-represented groups. Showcasing emerging writers and artists alongside major names, the Festival offers a diverse programme of author talks, workshops, discussion topics, performance poetry, multi-arts performances, wellbeing projects and family friendly events.

Innovative special projects and commissions, often inspired by local community partnerships, are designed to promote community cohesion, improve wellbeing and proactively engage with under-represented artists, performers and audiences. With many free and low-cost events, including some with live subtitling, and Access Guides to key venues, HLF promotes accessibility with a view to offering more opportunities for a wider range of people to enjoy arts and culture.

Established in 2006, HLF is a major fixture on the town’s cultural calendar. The Festival has been selected as a finalist in the prestigious Welcome to Yorkshire White Rose Awards on three occasions (2016, 2017 & 2020), and in 2017 won the Examiner Community Award for Arts. The Festival was also a finalist in the Inclusive Third Sector Organisation category at the Kirklees Diversity, Equality and Innovation Awards 2022.

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