

The Mighty Creatives respond to Covid-19 with Sector Support Grants for the cultural sector

The Mighty Creatives have launched emergency funds to support cultural sector organisations and individuals during the Covid-19 pandemic, to ensure they continue delivering services to vulnerable children and young people in the East Midlands

6th July 2020, Leicester, UK – The Mighty Creatives, the leading cultural education charity in the East Midlands, has launched its Digital Development Grant programme as part of its emergency response to the impact of Covid-19 in the region. The Sector Support Grants are designed to enable organisations and individuals in the sector to continue delivering their services to the most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people across the East Midlands, during lockdown and beyond.

The Sector Support Grants that have been awarded will empower cultural sector organisations and individuals to develop innovative new projects with children and young people to support their creativity. Some projects focus on helping families of early years (0-5), others help young people creatively write about their feelings during lockdown. Two other projects focus on children in the care system or in the adoption process. Another project ensures that children and young people in hospital over this time have fun and creative learning opportunities.

Those supported by the Sector Support Grants range from individuals to larger organisations, including Arts Reach, Writing East Midlands, Create You Arts, EggBoxTheatre, Fermynwoods, Contemporary Arts, Kakou CIC, Mansfield Palace and Morgan Stockton. The £5,000 grants made available for each individual or organisation will also be used to deliver ways of reaching more young people and ensuring that, during the challenges of Covid-19, there are ways young people can get creative.

Sian Tower, Education Manager at Writing East Midlands, comments:

“Writing East Midlands is really delighted to have been awarded a Sector Support Grant from TMC. It will enable us to reach out to young writers across the region and invite them to share how they are feeling and how their lives have been changed and challenged by the Covid crisis. We also look forward to sharing their work in an anthology at the end of the year, so watch this space!”

Ann Fomukong-Boden, Co-Founder and Director at Kakou CIC, comments:

“We are delighted to be collaborating with The Mighty Creatives and Chesterfield Cultural Education Partnership to bring together this STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and maths) project portraying the Lockdown Stories of the young people of Chesterfield.

Lockdown has brought about many changes to which we have all had to adapt. The project funding from The Mighty Creatives provides a unique opportunity for young people to

express themselves through the creative arts, and better understand how the environment and social culture is changing around them.”

Nick Owen, CEO at The Mighty Creatives, comments:

“As part of our ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we have developed a range of support packages for both children and young people and the cultural sector.

We’re delighted to have awarded a number of outstanding organisations and individuals with our Sector Support Grants – organisations which are delivering vital work for children and young people across the East Midlands during a time of crisis. This funding will help to support young people to navigate, understand, capture and reflect on the impact of lockdown and Covid-19, through access to creativity.”

The Sector Support Grants are part of the charity’s wider Covid-19 support package, which also offers the Youth Cultural Life Fund for children and young people aged 14-21. These bursaries are designed to support the next generation of young creatives to make a positive change in their communities. Of a request totalling over £180,000, The Mighty Creatives will invest £25,000 into the Youth Cultural Life Fund and over £36,000 into the Sector Support Grants. These programmes have been created as part of a long-term ambition and will be developed in the future to ensure longevity.

The Mighty Creatives have also developed a range of support packages for children and young people, and the cultural sector, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, including our [Mighty Hub of Creativity](#) – a centralised hub of free creative resources and activities to empower young people to celebrate creativity at home.

The Mighty Creatives Covid-19 support package, including the Sector Support Grants, has been made possible through funding by Arts Council England.

Anyone interested in supporting The Mighty Creatives support packages can find out more (including how to donate) on the charity’s [website](#).

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About The Mighty Creatives

Established in 2009, [The Mighty Creatives](#) is a charity which has transformed the lives of children and young people through arts, culture and creativity. Based at the heart of the cultural quarter in Leicester, our beneficiaries are children and young people from birth to 30 years old across the East Midlands.

We work in partnership with children and young people, key funders and sector partners to champion, develop, deliver and grow:

- services that can be scaled up, demonstrate reach and result in significant and measurable cultural and social impacts
- inspiring opportunities for children and young people to engage with arts and culture
- investment in children and young people's own creative skills, knowledge and practice
- capacity in the cultural and education sectors to support the infrastructure of the region
- programmes of cultural and creative education regionally, nationally and internationally
- models of practice which ensure that the creative voices of children and young people are at the heart of all our programmes.

For other press and media enquiries please contact Bethany@themightycreatives.com or call 0116 2616 834