**The Mighty Creatives launches over £50K of grants through new Creative Communities Fund**

*The Mighty Creatives has launched its new Creative Communities Fund, offering critical support for cultural sector organisations to readdress the needs of children and young people in the East Midlands.*

**2nd November 2021, Leicester, UK** – The Mighty Creatives, the leading cultural education charity in the East Midlands, has today launched its new Creative Communities Fund. Previously known as the charity’s Sector Support Commissions, and delivered via the Arts Alliances programme, the funds were launched in response to the Covid-19 pandemic in July 2020.

The Arts Alliances programme focused on working closely with a range of cultural organisations to help improve access to arts and culture for children and young people. Since then, the programme has widened its offering and is now named Creative Communities to reflect these developments. The Creative Communities Fund has built on the success of the Sector Support Commissions to readdress the needs of children and young people in today’s Covid-impacted world.

In 2020, eight commissions of grants ranging between £3,000-£5,000 were awarded to cultural organisations and individuals. The funds were used to produce projects that supported vulnerable children and young people by delivering creative responses to the challenges posed by Covid-19.

The new Creative Communities Fund now offers seven commissions up to £7,500. These commissions will be used to explore creative and innovative responses to the Covid-19 challenge in the present and post-crisis climate. The Mighty Creatives are specifically looking for projects that can be delivered flexibly and which respond creatively to the current needs of children and young people in the region. Successful projects will need to support the recovery and sustainability of the cultural education sector.

The funds are open to small to medium cultural sector organisations and creative and cultural business leaders aged 21 and over.

**Hannaa Hamdache, Creative Communities Manager at The Mighty Creatives, comments:**

*“Our new Creative Communities Fund will support organisations working with disadvantaged children and young people across the East Midlands - those who may be at risk of being left behind and unsupported culturally, educationally, and emotionally during and after the Covid-19 pandemic. We are confident the fund will create a cohort of grant recipients that share ideas, progress and learning throughout the process.”*

Interested organisations and individuals can view further information, including briefing and FAQ documents, and apply for the funds on the charity’s website: <https://themightycreatives.com/launching-our-new-creative-communities-fund/>

Applicants can access support during the application stage by the Creative Communities Manager via telephone.

Applications for the funds are open until 12 noon on Tuesday 30th November 2021.

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**About The Mighty Creatives**

Established in 2009, [The Mighty Creatives](http://www.themightycreatives.com) 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**