

For immediate release

Contact: Scott O'Hara

Phone: 07484820672

Email: scott@seedsedgemoor.com

CREATIVE LIVES UNDER LOCKDOWN

Seed commissions artists to create activities for local people

Thursday 7 April: Seed, the Arts Council England funded Creative People and Places project for Sedgemoor, has commissioned seven local artists and groups to develop creative activities that will engage, support and creatively connect people in Sedgemoor during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Seed Director Scott O'Hara said "We were thrilled to receive 18 expressions of interest and chose seven projects to undertake a research and development phase. There are projects that will take place across Sedgemoor, with teams and participant communities in Cheddar, Bridgewater, Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge and elsewhere. These artists will work on their ideas and the best proposals will be funded for delivery later in the month."

The full list of projects undertaking a research and development commission are:

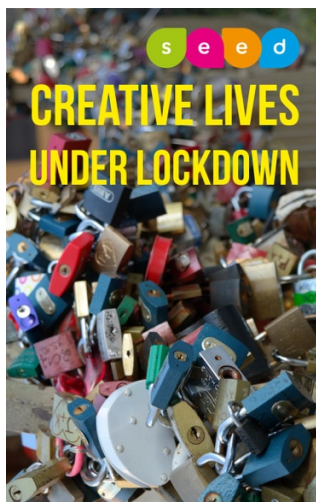
Proponent	Project Title	Description
Sally Mann	Lets Dance Sedgemoor	Online dance participation
Tor Theatre	Radio Drama	Community created & performed
House of F	Inside Out	Community created artwork
Tim Hill & Hannah Earl	Joyful Noises	Building on 'clap for carers'
Arts Quarter Cheddar	Lockdown Challenge	Creating and exhibiting artworks
Nadja McDevitt & Leila Browning	One Minute of Stillness	Exploring short film
Bev G Star	Creative Packs & Workshops	Online tutorials& delivered packs

Consortium chairperson Claire Tough from Homes in Sedgemoor explains the reasons for the programme. "Social isolation and lack of community connection are significant issues for some in the Sedgemoor district at the best of times. With the community being locked in for the duration, this is being exacerbated. These wonderful creative arts projects will enable people to make new connections in the community and stimulate their creativity during lockdown."

The campaign is part of a larger effort to consult with the community about the kinds of creative arts activities they would like to see developed through the Creative People and Places programme. Anyone living or working in Sedgemoor is invited to join the conversation at www.seedsedgemoor.com where you can complete an online survey which is also available at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QZLMR3Q>.

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IMAGES



Full size Images to accompany this release can be downloaded via:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1WfUoCn43t35L7oDNqglS8_xV92ZnbDDu

Seed Sedgemoor

The Engine Room | 52 High St. Bridgwater Somerset TA6 3BL info@seedsedgemoor.com | 01278 433187

Seed is a Consortium of local organisations comprising:

Homes in Sedgemoor,
Community Council for Somerset,
Bridgwater Senior Citizens Forum,
Somerset Film; and
Bridgwater Town Council.

We believe that arts, culture and creativity are not elite activities, but should be an ordinary part of everyday life, created by, with and for the people. This can be achieved in partnerships with artists in all forms of the creative arts, working in response to the collective imagination and reflecting the things that are important to the communities of Sedgemoor. We seek to make creative arts, culture and heritage part of everyday life in Sedgemoor by growing new opportunities for its people to participate, create and celebrate.

Seed is part of the **Creative People and Places** programme, initiated and funded by Arts Council England through the National Lottery. Creative People and Places is about more people taking the lead in choosing, creating and taking part in art experiences in the places where they live. There are 30 independent projects, each located in an area where people have traditionally had fewer opportunities to get involved with the arts. Between 2013-2018 Creative People and Places projects have reached over 3 million people, 89% of who do not regularly engage in the arts.

If you would like further information about Seed, this announcement or to arrange an interview please contact Scott O'Hara via scott@seedsedgemoor.com or on ph. 07484 820672

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