



PRESS RELEASE
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14 UK ORGANISATIONS SHARE £99,669 IN THE FIFTH ROUND OF GRANTS FOR THE CLORE POETRY AND LITERATURE AWARDS PROGRAMME

14 organisations across the UK have been announced as recipients of £99,669 in grants from the fifth round of the Clore Poetry and Literature Awards funded by the Clore Duffield Foundation.

The Clore Poetry and Literature Awards, founded in 2011, specifically target the development of imaginative new ways to engage children and young people in the experience of poetry and literature, both in and out of school. They represent a £1 million strategic investment in poetry and literature for young people in the UK.

The recipients are:

LONDON:

Barnet Libraries for *Little Listeners: Big Readers*

Award: £9,761

This project focuses on children aged 3-4 and targets 36 families where there is no regular reading habit. As well as library-led workshops in schools, volunteers will support targeted families to involve them in regular reading and library visits. There is a well-thought-out approach to evaluation and this is intended as a pilot which could be extended to other schools in Barnet.

Brixton Learning Collaborative for *Eliot Now*

Award: £6,435

This ambitious project will enable young people from two secondary schools and eight primary schools in Brixton to explore and celebrate T S Eliot's poetry. This will include study in school of *The Waste Land* in Year 8 and *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* in Year 5, followed by photography out of school to connect the poems with the modern local environment. The resulting work will be exhibited locally and the young people will read aloud to groups in Brixton Library. This serious attention to classic literature, combined with a creative approach to its interpretation, chimes with the impulse behind the Clore Awards.

Poetry Society for *Goodbye Page Fright*

Award: £10,000

The Poetry Society is seeking to capitalise on proven enthusiasm engendered in schools by visiting spoken word artists. They will work with leading performance poets and spoken word artists to create a digital resource for Year 8 and 9 students (age 13/15) and teachers. Each artist will record two short films. In the first one they will read their own work and in the second they will discuss a literary heritage poem from the GCSE curriculum. Approximately 22 teachers and 330 students in a number

of schools will be involved in piloting, commenting on, and refining the resource. This will be done through established partnerships with the Buckinghamshire County School Improvement Service and with the Tower Hamlets Library Service, who recruit the schools, deploy the poets and organise CPD (Continuing Professional Development) for the teachers involved.

NORTH EAST:

Newcastle University for *Young Voices: Using Digital Resources to Develop Reading and Writing*

Award: £7,000

Newcastle University will introduce 120 young people from three secondary schools to the writers in the Newcastle Centre for Literary Arts' digital archive. The pupils will be selected by the schools following collaborative planning with the Centre. Pupils will respond to poetry and prose from the archive, work with local writers and perform their work. The film of this occasion will be included in the Archive. This initiative to open the Archive to young people shows awareness of its potential to widen interest and participation, particularly for disadvantaged young people.

NORTH WEST:

Action Transport Theatre for *Stories Alive*

Award: £7,725

Action Transport Theatre is a professional theatre company in Ellesmere Port. 'Stories Alive' aims to develop primary school children's appreciation of creative reading and writing through an exploration of traditional European fairy tales, using the power of live theatre performance. There is a good variety of activity including writers' residencies in schools and library visits. All six participating schools are contributing to the costs. The project is linked to ongoing reading initiatives, so has a multiplier effect.

SOUTH EAST

Bayguide CIC for *Picture This!*

Award: £9,390

This organisation plans a weekly poetry and creative writing group for 16-18 year olds at Beach Creative in Herne Bay. The project is part of new initiatives in this area and offers an important opportunity to engage disadvantaged young people. It will begin with the new Duchamp Festival and continue throughout the year, culminating in an anthology and celebrations in summer 2014. Herne Bay – like many south coast seaside towns – experiences social and economic deprivation, and this is an entrepreneurial approach for a vulnerable age group.

SOUTH WEST

Hardenhuish School for *Around the World in Eight Books*

Award: £1,730

The project intends to take creative approaches to eight texts from different cultures and to explore them with 20 young people aged 13-14 who are able, gifted and talented. Chippenham is a predominantly white, British town and this is a serious approach to raising young people's cultural awareness. The project will work with Pageturners, a small local arts group.

Shallal for *Moving words*

Award: £8,184

Shallal Dance Theatre, an inclusive arts charity, will work with young people drawn from four different contexts outside school, including those who are home educated, leavers from special schools and a group for young people who are deaf. The project will explore poetry created from written and signed language. It aims to highlight the rich culture of British Sign Language (BSL). The young people involved who aren't deaf are currently studying BSL. Each group will attend four workshops with a writer and a cross-arts artist, and the work they produce will be filmed. These films will be shared across the groups and with parents. This project will be a positive contribution to the cultural experience of young people who are deaf or studying BSL: poetry has been identified as a perfect medium for this creative exchange. One outcome will be the development of an inclusive writing/performance poetry group.

WEST MIDLANDS:

Birmingham City Council for *Young Readers*

Award: £7,500

The high profile, brand new Library of Birmingham wants to investigate new ways for children and young people to engage with literature and the library. This will include a Children's Book Show with Michael Rosen, an Early Years Show and Young Readers Digital, an online reader-based activity. The projects will enable new kinds of partnerships, including with the Repertory Theatre, and have the potential to influence future programming by the Library.

YORKSHIRE:

Purple Patch Arts for *Poets without Words ...*

Award: £9,749

In this project 30-40 young people in special schools in Bradford and Calderdale will participate in multi-sensory poetry workshops. A celebrated British poet will then create an original piece based on their experiences. The partner organisation, Purple Patch, will document these processes and share the experience across its wide networks. Purple Patch is an established Yorkshire charity working with adults and young people with disabilities.

Ryedale Book Festival for *WW1 Centenary Literary Project*

Award: £2,450

Ryedale Book Festival is extending its partnerships with 20 local primary schools and a secondary school. This funding contributes to a project which will involve working with a local war poet, exploring classic and contemporary war poetry and also interviewing local war veterans. They will attend workshops with Michael Morpurgo and produce their own wartime story which will be exhibited in Malton. The schools are contributing to the costs.

York Literature Festival for *Pens and Tongues*

Award: £7,745

As part of the York Literature Festival, this poetry slam will involve 10 secondary schools and aims to reach 600 pupils. Local poets will work in the schools and each school will submit work to the project. There will be a series of heats and the final will be in the Theatre Royal, York, with a well-known poet as a judge.

SCOTLAND:

Lossiemouth High School for *Sharing Poetry with our Communities*

Award: £8,000

This project involves seven secondary schools and their feeder schools in exploring a selection of classic and modern Scottish poetry. In each school, workshops with local writers will result in a selection of poems, both published and written by young people. The secondary school pupils will then work with primary school pupils. A large-scale exhibition of the work produced will be held at the Elgin Academy. This ambitious project will enable a large number of primary and secondary young people to engage with Scottish literature.

WALES

Dylan Thomas Centre for *Dylan Thomas Notebooks Engagement Project*

Award: £4,000

The centenary of Dylan Thomas's birth will be used by the Dylan Thomas Centre to extend its reach and work with teenagers from 'Communities First' areas. The young people will engage with Thomas's notebooks (on loan from the USA to the Centre in 2014), his poems, visit relevant sites, and respond with their own writing. The Centre hopes to extend its reach and work with more young people in the Swansea area.

Sally Bacon, Director of the Clore Duffield Foundation, said: *"Yet again we've had a tough task in assessing a really impressive array of projects. The list includes a new city library seeking to attract and engage young readers; work with children and parents to develop a regular family reading habit; work with gifted and talented students; a focus on the work of Dylan Thomas for teenagers in Swansea; a university seeking to open up its poetry archive to young people; poetry as a medium for creative work with young deaf people; and young people developing teaching resources working with leading poets. There are so many great projects out there, demonstrating such ambition for children and young people in terms of their reading and creative writing."*

The Clore Duffield Foundation is a grant-making charity which concentrates its support on cultural learning, creating learning spaces within arts and heritage organisations, leadership training for the cultural and social sectors, social care, and enhancing Jewish life. The Foundation is chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE.

The closing date for entries to Round 6 of the Clore Poetry and Literature Awards is **7 March 2014**. For full details go to www.cloreduffield.org.uk

The Clore Duffield Foundation is a supporter of the Cultural Learning Alliance, a collective voice working to ensure that all children and young people have access to culture. Sign up to the Alliance at www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk

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