

Press Release

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creating  
change  
together



## ANNOUNCING A UNIQUE NEW PARTNERSHIP PROJECT FUND OF £40,000 FOR CREATIVE WORK WITH GLOUCESTER COMMUNITIES

**New partnership initiative Take Note and Gloucester-based charity GUST will collaborate with and support Gloucester organisations to deliver bold artistic work together and catalyse social change.**

Up to £40,000 of funding, made available by one of the UK's largest grant makers Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, will be awarded by Take Note and GUST to arts partnership projects working with Gloucester communities. In the wake of the coronavirus crisis, this opportunity will support organisations to innovate and reach out to communities across the city to create new art together that responds to these new times.

Building on Gloucester's track record of collaboration and the transformational partnership projects delivered by Gloucester organisations over the last few years, the Take Note programme is designed to collaborate with partners across the city to enable more partnership working and achieve even greater collective impact.

Alongside the funding, Take Note will deliver its bespoke package of strategic partnership support to harness the potential of collaboration for organisations and artists in the city. Using a new methodology of partnership tools and a newly-devised collaborative application process, Take Note will promote and support partnership working every step of the way.

This opportunity would not be possible without the infrastructure and strategic foundations created by Gloucester Culture Trust. Take Note and GUST will work closely with Gloucester Culture Trust, who will connect and support organisations and individuals interested in the opportunity, bring together potential partners across the city and advise applicants on submissions for this substantial pot of funding. Take Note and GUST will make the final decision on which proposal(s) receive the funding and Take Note programme of support. The Take Note opportunity represents another milestone in the delivery of the 10-year Gloucester Cultural Strategy 2016-2026, which is founded on the principle of partnership and has community at its heart.

Take Note and GUST will **officially launch the fund on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm with an open-invite Zoom launch.** All organisations or individual artists working in Gloucester or who are keen to work in Gloucester are welcome and encouraged to join, to

find out more and meet potential partners, and to express interest in applying. The lead partner will need to be based in Gloucester.

The deadline for applications for Take Note funding and support is **Monday 23rd November 2020 at 5pm.**

Take Note-funded partnership projects will run in Gloucester from spring to summer 2021, culminating in ambitious, public artistic events involving people from across communities – while recognising and responding to the likely ongoing challenges of social distancing.

Creative collaboration builds strong foundations for real, long-lasting connection between communities. The funding and strategic support provided by Take Note are an opportunity to build on the new sense of community that has been emerging during the coronavirus crisis, and to find new ways to develop and sustain these connections in Gloucester for the long term alongside GUST, Gloucester Culture Trust and a host of other partners.

[www.wetakenote.org/connectgloucester](http://www.wetakenote.org/connectgloucester)

### **Take Note Launch Details:**

Date: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Time: 3pm

Location: On Zoom

Find out more & register for Zoom link [here](#)

### **QUOTES:**

“As someone born and raised in Gloucester, I am delighted to be working in my home city to collaborate with organisations and artists here through the Take Note programme. The cultural landscape of Gloucester has transformed over the last decade and collaboration is so clearly at the heart of this. It’s hugely exciting to be part of that continued momentum, using the power of art to bring people together through creativity and self-expression – especially as there has been such a sense of isolation over the past months. This is a real opportunity to reconnect, to spark new connections, and to make great art together, while also developing Take Note’s new partnership methodology in collaboration with so many brilliant organisations in the city.”

**Emily Carr, Co-Director, Take Note**

“We are delighted that Take Note has chosen to develop their innovative new partnership model with Gloucester organisations and to bring £40,000 of project funding into the city. It is testament to the work that has been done in Gloucester over the past five years with local communities, since the Gloucester Culture Trust first started to take shape, and we are delighted to be working with Emily and Marianna to ensure this opportunity reaches the very widest range of applicants and results in a fantastic public event next summer.”

**Kate Danielson, Director, GUST & Donna Renney, Chair, GUST**

“We’re delighted that Take Note have chosen to bring this project to Gloucester and are looking forward to working with Emily, GUST and the city’s creative communities to make it a success. There is a wealth of talent here, which Gloucester Culture Trust is proud to support and champion. We have seen over the past five years a growing sense that things are changing for the better and a recognition that working collaboratively is the most effective way to achieve our city’s goals. Take Note is a great opportunity and a welcome next step on this journey.”

**Hollie Smith-Charles, Chief Executive, Gloucester Culture Trust**

## **NOTES TO THE EDITORS:**

### **Take Note**

Take Note is a new methodology for collaboration, working with organisations to achieve greater collective impact in communities through the arts.

Take Note supports organisations with social missions to deliver extraordinary artistic work together and provides them with full funding for arts partnership projects through the Take Note: Connect programme. It hosts an innovative online strategic package of support for organisations to build resilience in the wake of the coronavirus crisis - the Take Note: Take Away package. And through partnerships and evidence-building, it catalyses and shares new ideas and ways of working together, now and in the future.

More so than ever in these times of uncertainty, disconnection and financial instability, we need to forge and sustain strong connections between each other and across communities and sectors. Alongside our partners, Take Note is working towards a better connected, more sustainable ecosystem for social change.

[www.wetakenote.org](http://www.wetakenote.org)

### **GUST**

GUST is a Gloucester-based charity that connects and supports organisations across Gloucester and its surrounds, founded to support the delivery of Gloucester’s 10-year cultural strategy.

GUST breathes energy into early-stage initiatives through strategic and hands-on support, empowering them to be sustained for the long term by local organisations on the ground. GUST have supported the development of the Gloucester History Festival into a city-wide flagship festival and ‘Never Better’, a pioneering collaborative mental health project bringing together arts and non-arts organisations across the city.

### **Esmée Fairbairn Foundation**

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation is the funder of the grant available through the Take Note and GUST partnership. The Foundation aims to improve our natural world, secure a fairer future and strengthen the bonds in communities in the UK. They unlock change by contributing everything they can alongside people and organisations with brilliant ideas who share our goals.

The Foundation is one of the largest independent grant-makers in the UK. In 2019 they made grants of £36 million towards a wide range of work within the arts, children and young people, the environment and social change. The Foundation also has a £45 million allocation to social investments for organisations with the aim of creating social impact.

[www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk](http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk)

### **ft'work Trust**

Take Note is an initiative made possible by the generous support of their founding funders, ft'work Trust.

ft'work Trust is a not-for-profit company with a strong ambition – to create thriving communities and to ensure that clear social principles underpin all new development. The organisation was founded by architect Clare Richards. It has been a Patron of the London Festival of Architecture for the past 3 years and is a regular contributor to New London Architecture's ideas and research initiatives.

<https://ftwork.co.uk/>

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