



creating  
change  
together



**Dynamic Gloucester partnership projects awarded  
£40,000 Take Note funding pot to create new artistic work with  
communities most affected by COVID-19 pandemic.**

Two partnership projects have been awarded Take Note funding to create bold new art with communities most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Hip-hop, beatboxing, film, drama and photography are set to animate the streets and homes of Gloucester this summer. Young people and families affected by food poverty, NHS patients, carers, refugees and asylum seekers and people from the wider Gloucester community will create powerful artworks, to be celebrated publicly as the country opens up after lockdown.

Following a highly competitive funding application process, Take Note and its Gloucester-based partner charity GUST are pleased to announce two awards of £20,000 for two innovative, cross-sector collaborations:

**Konnect, Kollaborate and Kreate** brings together youth dance charity Your Next Move with The Music Works, Barton Street Neighbourhood Policing Team, Prospects Youth Support Team, The Venture Playground and Friendship Cafe. Together, they'll create a boundary-pushing hip-hop project that explores and shines a light on food poverty and the impact of the COVID crisis. They'll be working with young people, their families and the wider community to create collaborative hip hop, beatboxing, MCing, DJing and graffiti and a film that captures the power of this work.

**Creative Communities, New Perspectives** sees Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, GARAS, Inclusion Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire Carers Hub and Look Again collaborate to boost mental health and wellbeing through mindful photography and drama. The project brings together carers, NHS patients, adults facing disabling barriers, adults living with or in recovery from mental ill health, people seeking or who have been granted asylum and people from ethnic minorities who are struggling with their wellbeing. Their work will be exhibited and celebrated around the city including at the Cathedral and Gloucester Royal Hospital.

A total of 44 organisations via 10 partnership projects applied for Take Note funding. These projects represented an incredibly strong pool of arts organisations, artists, freelancers and cross-sector collaborators, demonstrating the dynamism and innovation of Gloucester's creative commitment to arts for social change.

The two successful partnership projects represent an exciting fusion of arts and non-arts organisations working together to make change. In addition to the funding, the successful projects will also be part of the Take Note: Connect Gloucester programme of strategic collaborative support, designed to promote and enable effective partnership working every step of the way.

Take Note: Connect Gloucester is supported by national funder Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. Take Note is delighted to have collaborated with Gloucester Culture Trust and GUST to launch the programme in Gloucester.

### **QUOTES:**

“Your Next Move are looking forward to developing a new partnership that brings together Hip Hop arts and community food services to support Gloucester's young people and their families. Hip Hop came from the community and it has the power to bring people together, we can't wait to explore the possibilities with our partners who already do an amazing job to support young people in our communities. We see this as a start of a new ambitious way of working together, which will hopefully bring attention to wider issues that need addressing to better our society, too.”

**Tyler Attwood, Founder/Director, Your Next Move**

“We are proud to be working alongside incredible partners to deliver this project. The funding Take Note has awarded us will make such a difference to those who have been negatively impacted during the Covid 19 pandemic, especially those who have experienced increased isolation, mental or physical ill health. We hope the culmination exhibition at the Cathedral will also inspire and empower the wider community to get involved in art and arts activity to promote their own wellbeing. This project will demonstrate how working collaboratively in close and equal partnership using the arts can bring together the public health, voluntary and community sectors to have a long lasting legacy and impact”.

**Helen Jeffrey, Community Engagement and Social Responsibility Manager, Gloucester Cathedral**

“We are hugely excited to be supporting two projects that are harnessing the power of creativity to bring people together in these times of isolation and to create space to explore and imagine a brighter future. Take Note exists to champion collaboration in its many forms, and the strength of these partnerships across the whole spectrum of the social change sector is hugely exciting. It showcases Gloucester as a leading force for collective action, and we're proud to be part of building that momentum in the city.”

**Emily Carr and Marianna Hay, Take Note Co-Founders**

“Breathing energy into new projects and catalysing new ways of working was what GUST was set up to do in Gloucester; delivering this pilot programme with Take Note allows us to achieve exactly that. We are delighted to be working with the two successful groups of partners and trialling new ways of partnership working which we are sure will benefit Gloucester communities in the short and longer term.”

**Kate Danielson, Executive Director, GUST**

“Gloucester Culture Trust are delighted to hear of the breadth of partners receiving funding via the Take Note programme. Partnerships, community and creative ambition are fundamental to the city's Cultural Strategy so we are really excited to continue to support the programme and to see these projects come into fruition over the next six months.”

**Josie Bamford, Strategic Producer, Gloucester Culture Trust**

### **TAKE NOTE SUPPORTED PARTNERS:**

#### **Konnect, Kollaborate and Kreate:**

**Barton Street Neighbourhood Policing Team** aims to build relationships and trust with local young people and find ways in which to bring young people and their families together in spaces that are safe and supportive

**Friendship Cafe** provides youth & community based activities, focusing mainly but not exclusively on young people, children and families in the inner city and surrounding areas of Gloucester.

**Prospects Youth Support Team** speaks up for young people in Gloucestershire, advise, and support them. They aim to offer quick, responsive and effective intervention to vulnerable young people, working with the young people and their families to identify the best support for them within their own communities.

**The Music Works** aims to transform lives through music. They're specialists in working with young people in challenging circumstances to help them reach their full potential in music, in learning, and in life.

**The Venture** is based in White City, Gloucester and offers space for indoor and outdoor play for local children and families as well as lots of arts, crafts, creative play, sports and games.

**Your Next Move** aims to raise the aspirations of young people in Gloucester, through hip-hop culture and related activity. Through courses, workshops and events, it enables young people to expand their vision and express their limitless originality.

### **Creative Communities, New Perspectives:**

**GARAS** (Gloucestershire Action for Refugee and Asylum Seekers) offers support to those seeking asylum in Gloucestershire, welcoming them when they arrive, advocating for them in their daily struggles, supporting them if they face being sent back as well as helping them adjust to their long term future if they are recognised as refugees.

**Gloucester Cathedral** aims to 'be in tune with heaven and in touch with daily life' through a combination of worship, visitor experience and an ambitious programme of community activity that works directly with individuals. The Cathedral's programming aims to utilise the arts to make a positive difference to the lives of local people.

**Gloucestershire Carers Hub** aim to identify, raise awareness, and champion the needs of carers across Gloucestershire. With the carer's voice at the heart of our service, we support, engage and co-produce services to best meet carers needs.

**Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** is an NHS trust of around 8,000 people, providing care for the population of Gloucestershire and beyond. The Trust places great value on the power of the arts for health and well-being and has recently appointed an Arts Manager to coordinate and lead developing this area of work.

**Inclusion Gloucestershire** is a registered charity and a growing, dynamic user-led organisation (ULO), run by disabled people for disabled people. They are passionate, person-centred and inclusive and have a track record of high-quality delivery, aiming to capture voices, create opportunities and show what is possible.

**Look Again** uses mindful photography and nature to help people slow down, look again and see their lives from a different perspective, helping them to improve their mental health, wellbeing and resilience. The work with communities and organisations.

## **NOTES TO THE EDITORS:**

### **Take Note**

Take Note is a catalyst for collaboration, working with arts and non-arts partners to achieve greater collective impact. Take Note supports organisations with social missions to deliver extraordinary artistic work together and provides them with funding for arts partnership projects through the Take Note: Connect programme. Through partnerships and evidence-building, it catalyses and shares new ideas and ways of working together, now and in the future.

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

### **GUST**

GUST is a Gloucester-based charity that provides strategic and hands-on support, to empower early-stage initiatives to be sustained for the long term by local organisations on the ground. GUST has 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. [www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk](http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk)

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