



BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

explore words
discover worlds



Literature Unlocked:
Free Family Events
23 June - 2 July 2023



BLF'S FAMILY PROGRAMME

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
TO SEE OUR FULL
PROGRAMME**

Discounts & concessions
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**FREE
FAMILY
EVENTS**

WHO ARE WE?

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) is an annual festival and year-round cultural outreach programme encompassing the best of literature, music, theatre, cultural discussions and family events. The festival believes in the life-changing power of literature to raise aspirations and confidence in young people, which is why they are at the heart of the festival programme. Whether attending our high-quality events through school or with family, there is something to engage, entertain and enrich children of all ages, from early years to teenagers.

BOOKING INFORMATION



01274 044 140

Pre-festival: Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm
Daily during festival: 9:30am – last show



BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK



BOXOFFICE@BRADFORDLITFEST.CO.UK



IN PERSON

In person from the Festival Hub, City Park up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the event (subject to availability)

Tickets for Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) events are sold on an individual event basis, therefore tickets must be purchased separately for each event that you wish to attend. You can buy tickets online, in person at the event (if available), or via the Box Office.

The price of tickets may vary and will be clearly stated against each individual event listing. All ticket prices are inclusive of VAT and booking fee. Discounts & concession apply.

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

Funded By



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Bradford District and Craven
Health and Care Partnership



Actual Investors



B L O O M S B U R Y

Book Partner



Hotel Partners



Catering Partner



Design Partner



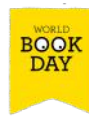
Venue Partners



Bradford College



Cultural Partners



EARLY YEARS



Our early years programme is full of stimulating activities for babies and their grown-ups to enjoy.

BABY RAVE

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Get ready to dance and groove with your little ones at BoomChikkaBoom's exciting baby rave.

A fantastic way to socialise with other young families that's also great for your child's development; stimulate their senses and encourage their growth.

Led by our expert team, our baby rave is an entertaining session that is sure to get little and large feet moving! Join us for a fun and interactive experience that will bring joy and happiness to you and your little ones.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Suitable for children ages 0 to 5 years old.

Friday 23 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour)

13:00 (1 hour)

TODDLER UP & SIGN

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Did you know that babies can learn to sign long before they learn to talk? By associating signs with words and objects, your child can learn to communicate what they want and need before their verbal language has developed, cutting down on tears and tantrums.

Join the Toddler Up and Sign team for this fun and interactive session to boost their language skills, a great way to bond with your baby and learn something new. Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending. Suitable for ages 0 to 3.

Monday 26 June | Free

10:00 (45mins)



RHYTHM TIME

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Get singing with Rhythm Time! A fun-filled music class full of exciting activities that will help your child's development, coordination and confidence, through interactive, music-based play.

Join Rhythm Time as they show you how to make music fun for your child and help you to unlock their potential. Come along and join in the fun. Sing, dance, and spend some quality time with your little one.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Tuesday 27 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour) - 0 to 14 months

11:00 (1 hour) - 14 months +



BABY WEEK BRADFORD
14-20 November 2023

BABIES ARE BEST



SEND CREATIVE PLAY

The Imagination Station, City Park

Join this fun session with singing, stories and play aimed at engaging children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

This playful space will also include lots of opportunities to practice and use Makaton and sign language.

All ages are welcome and this is an informal session so you can stay and play for however long suits you.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Wednesday 28 June | Free

10:00 (1 hour)

ADVENTURE BABIES: SENSORY STORYTELLING SESSIONS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Take your little ones on an amazing adventure with these award-winning sensory storytelling classes that will help your baby fall in love with books and reading.

Every activity in these interactive baby sessions is designed by early years experts and linked to the Early Years Framework for your baby's stage of development.

Friday 30 June | Free

12:30 - Babies (45mins)

13:30 - Toddlers (45mins)

BABY YOGA

The Imagination Station, City Park

Baby yoga is a wonderful way for parents to boost their own health and wellbeing, and bond with their babies with yoga moves adapted specifically for babies.

There are two sessions tailored around the age and ability of your baby. Take the session at your own pace and pick up some simple exercises that you and your little one can both do at home.

We recommend that your baby has bare feet for the class and please bring along a simple shawl or blanket if you can.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

Thursday 29 June | Free

10:00 (45mins) - 12 weeks to pre-crawlers

11:00 (45mins) - crawlers to 2 years

BABY CALM

The Imagination Station, City Park

Join us for an unforgettable experience as our certified infant massage instructor guides you through a series of classes designed to teach you lifelong skills while enjoying quality bonding time with your little one in a relaxed environment.

Learn the art of baby massage and how it can benefit your baby's development, as well as valuable baby first aid techniques.

Focus on developing your understanding of non-verbal communication, which can help you better interpret your baby's needs and strengthen your bond.

Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending. Suitable for ages 12 months and under.

Friday 30 June | 10:00 (1 hour) | **Free**



FREE to attend - Please book separate tickets for yourself and any children attending.

SATURDAY
24 JUNE



**In this anniversary year celebrating Lewis Carroll, creator of the famous *Alice in Wonderland* story, we invite you to step into the magic of City Park and enter a topsy-turvy world where nothing is quite as it seems.
Literature Unlocked: Family Fun Day in City Park.**





**FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS**






RABBIT HOLE

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: GARDEN'S END

City Park Stage

Alice is looking for an adventure but didn't expect to find it at the bottom of her garden. Our hero will need all the help she can get to navigate this wonderland: a world where animals can talk and plants pack a punch!

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30 mins) | **Free**

THE GARDENER'S GUIDE TO GREEN FINGERS WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

The fun doesn't stop on the stage. Stick around between performances and you'll learn how to navigate the magical world at the bottom of the garden, led by a few familiar faces!

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15 mins) | **Free**



FUNKY FLOWERS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Adventure to the end of the garden and you'll find funky flowers like you've never seen before! Join this exciting craft session and dream up your own fabulous blooms to make and take home with you.

10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

FLOUNCING FLAMINGOS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Can you play croquet with a flamingo? Be just like Alice and give it a go. Create your very own bouncing, flouncing flamingo in this fun craft activity perfect for all budding adventurers.

10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

CHESHIRE CAT MASK

The Imagination Station, City Park

10.00-16.00 (walk in) | **Free**

Grin just like the Cheshire Cat with your very own Cheshire Cat mask. Transform your smile and play the mischievous trickster, and see who you can pop-up and surprise!

Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family,
details on the following pages.



Join us on this **FREE EVENT** throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!

SUNDAY
25 JUNE

I need a HERO!

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

Find your inner superhero as we take over City Park and celebrate the best defenders, saviours and role models. We've been inspired by the real-life heroes of our city and we challenge you to find your own secret power and make the world a better place!



WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: I NEED A HERO

City Park

The planet is in serious peril at the hands of the world's most powerful supervillain! With so much devastation, danger and disaster afoot we need to find a hero, and fast (with a little help from the audience of course!). Following Bradford's very own Ms Marvellous, we'll learn that anyone can be the superhero in their own story with the right narrative behind them!

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30mins) | **Free**

SUPERHERO BOOTCAMP WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

Put your creative superpowers to the test during Wrongsemble's post-show workshops. Throw on your mask, adopt a secret identity and join us for a crash course in how to be a caped crusader!

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15mins) | **Free**

SUPERHERO WRIST CUFFS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Superhero wrist cuffs are the perfect accessory for any budding superhero looking to save the day! Join our fun, free craft sessions and learn how to design and make your own versions so you can become the hero you want to be. The sky's the limit!

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

MOTIVATIONAL MAGNETS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Being a superhero or a legend is a demanding job! Remind yourself how fabulous you are by creating your own motivational magnet, or make one for the superhero in your life – maybe a family member or a friend?

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

SUPERHERO BAG PUPPETS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Superheroes can be found in the strangest of places, you just have to be willing to look. Join us to turn a simple paper bag into a superhero to be reckoned with in this hands-on, fun craft session.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family, details on the following pages.



Join us on this **FREE EVENT** throughout the day. No booking required, just drop in!

**SATURDAY
1 JULY**

ADVENTURE OVER THE RAINBOW

We are **BURSTING** with colour as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NHS with loads of fun, feel-good, creative activities to brighten up your weekend.

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: NERVES OF STEELE City Park

Lily Steele dreams of adventure, far-off places, and escaping her everyday life in Yorkshire. But when she discovers an incredible secret hiding in her family tree, Lily realises the mystery of her past might help solve the unknowns of her future. She'll need to face some epic trials, but with a little help from the audience, and some incredible characters from her family tree, she'll soon discover she has 'nerves of steel'.

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00
(30mins) | **Free**

THE RAINBOW RANGERS WORKSHOP City Park Stage

Discover how being an adventurer isn't all about bravery. Together we'll explore how kindness is the most powerful tool for change in this playful post-show session led by our energetic cast.

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30
(15mins) | **Free**

MINDFUL MANDALA SPINNER The Imagination Station, City Park

Chill out with this colourful craft activity and learn to make your own dazzling spinners to help you drift and dream. All our arts and craft activities are free and there's no need to book. Just drop in and start creating!

10.00-16.00 (drop in)
| **Free**

Don't forget all our other amazing children's events for all the family, details on the following pages.

Thank you
NHS

Join us for **FREE EVENTS** throughout the day.
No booking required, just drop in!

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

RAINBOW SNOWSTORM

The Imagination Station, City Park

It might be hard to catch a rainbow but we can help! Trap it in one of our stunning snowstorms so you can take it home and keep it forever. This free, playful craft activity will keep even the busiest hands entertained.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

RAINBOW BIRD

The Imagination Station, City Park

Birds are some of nature's most dazzling animals and our Rainbow Bird is no exception. See how many colours you can add to this beautiful crafty creation and make it the most spectacular creature in the city.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

YORKSHIRE

GUYANA

**SUNDAY
2 JULY**

Arabian Nights

Adventure into an intoxicating world of history, mystery and magical tales as we celebrate the wonders of the Middle East and all it has to offer.

WRONGSEMBLE PRESENTS: THE GENIE, THE PRINCESS AND THE FORTY THIEVES

City Park Stage

Scheherazade is the weaver of 1001 tales, and she's here to transport you on the flying carpet of imagination to the far-flung worlds of wonder that live within her stories. Three tales from the Arabian Nights are brought to life for families in a flurry of music, magic and puppetry.

11.00 | 13.00 | 15.00 (30mins)
| Free

STORY WEAVERS WORKSHOP

City Park Stage

Fancy yourself as a storyteller? Put your skills to the test in Wrongsemble's workshop.

Following the lead of the weaver of 1001 tales, you'll bring your very own magical stories to life.

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30 (15mins)
| Free

ARABIAN DESERT SCENE NIGHTLIGHTS

**The Imagination Station,
City Park**

Be transported to a different world when you join us to make your very own magical nightlight scene.

Cut, craft, colour and share your own unique style with this free, drop-in session for dreamers everywhere.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) **| Free**

FREE
FAMILY
FUN DAYS

ARABIAN NIGHTS: BEJEWELLED CUFFS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Shine like the star that you are with these bedazzling, bejewelled cuffs. Twinkling with all the colours of the rainbow these simple, fun creations will help you transform yourself and stand out from the crowd.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

ARABIAN NIGHTS: CRAZY CAMELS

The Imagination Station, City Park

Create your own crazy camels in this fun, free arts and craft session for all ages. Design and make your own colourful, wacky friend to go on adventures with in the wild world beyond.

10.00-16.00 (drop in) | **Free**

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24 June

The Adventures of Faitma

Jumana Moon

📍 The Imagination Station, City Park

🔊 Storytelling

🕒 10:15 | 12:15 | 14:15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: A Different Kind of Freedom: A Romani Story

Richard O'Neill

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 10:30 (45mins) | **FREE**



Stories Unlocked: Cosima Unfortunate Steals a Star

Laura Noakes

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 11:45 (45mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: War of the Wind

Victoria Williamson

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 13:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: The Magic of Endings

Tom Avery

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 14:00 (45 mins) | **FREE**



Funny Looking Kids Family Comedy Show

Gav Cross

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🔊 Workshop

🕒 14:00 (45 mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: Indiana Bones and the Invisible City

Harry Heape

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 15:30 (45 mins) | **FREE**

25 June

Humble Heroes

Kerima Mohideen



The Imagination Station, City Park



Storytelling



10:15 | 12:15 | 14:15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: To the other Side

Erika Meza



Waterstones



Workshop



10:30 (45mins) | **FREE**

Funny Looking Kids: Family Comedy Show

Gav Cross



Studio, Bradford Theatres



Workshop



11:00 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: Superheroes Always Fight Back...or Do They?

Kate Thompson



Waterstones



Workshop



12:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: My Names is Sunshine Simpson

G.M. Linton



Waterstones



Workshop



14:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Funny Looking Kids: Family Comedy Show

Gav Cross



The Studio, Alhambra Theatre



Workshop



14:30 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: Onyeka and the Rise of the Rebels

Tolá Okogwu



Waterstones



Workshop



15:30 (45mins) | **FREE**



27 June

Wood owl and
The Box of Wonders

Hoglets Theatre

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🔊 Performance

🕒 16:30 (45mins) | £7

1 July

Holding Up The Sky

Cassandra Wye

📍 The Imagination Station, City Park

🔊 Storytelling

🕒 10:15 | 12:15 | 14:15 (30mins) | **FREE**

BLF's Master Storyteller

Gav Cross

📍 The Imagination Station, City Park

🔊 Storytelling

🕒 11:15 | 13:15 | 15:15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked:
Let's Fill This World with
Kindness

Alexandra Stewart

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 11:45 (45mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked:
Lifesize Deadly Animals

Sophy Henn

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 10:30 (45mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked:
Glitter Boy

Ian Eagleton

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 13:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

Adam Kay: Kay's Marvellous
Medicine, A Gross and Gruesome
History of the Human Body

Adam Kay & Henry Parker

📍 The Studio, Alhambra Theatre

🔊 Interactive talk

🕒 13:30 (1 hour) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked:
Glow: The Wild Wonders
of Bioluminescence

Jennifer N.R. Smith

📍 Waterstones

🔊 Workshop

🕒 15:00 (45mins) | **FREE**



2 July

I'm a Storyteller Get Me out of Here

Gav Cross

📍 The Imagination Station, City Park

🗣️ Storytelling

🕒 10:15 | 12.15 | 14.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Hockney Portrait Painting for Kids

Roz Hall

📍 MBA Suite, University of Bradford

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 10:30 (1 hour 30mins) | **£7**

Stories Unlocked: Xanthe and the Ruby Crown

Jasbinder Bilan

📍 Waterstones

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

BLF's Master Storyteller

Gav Cross

📍 The Imagination Station, City Park

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 11.15, 13.15, 15.15 (30mins) | **FREE**

Stories Unlocked: Rosie Raja, Mission to Cairo

Sufiya Ahmed

📍 Waterstones

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 14:00 (45mins) | **FREE**

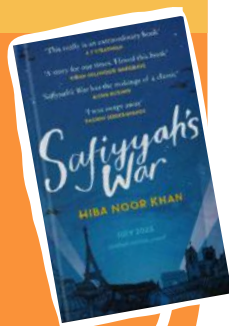
Stories Unlocked: Safiyyah's War

Hiba Noor Khan

📍 Waterstones

🗣️ Workshop

🕒 15:00 (45mins) | **FREE**



All Festival



Bradford Stories Bus
The National Literacy Trust

📍 City Park

🗣️ Drop-in Activities

🕒 ALL FESTIVAL | **FREE**

EDUCATION & HOMESCHOOL



16 – 27 June 2023

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) has developed an expansive, year-round, free Education Programme that invites leading writers, publishers, performance poets, illustrators and journalists, among many others, to share their skills through live shows, performances and interactive workshops. Each day-long event follows a curriculum-targeted theme and is aimed at a particular key stage or age range.

The Education Programme is linked to the national curriculum, covering all key stages and championing an inclusive curriculum that fosters different perspectives on taught topics that are relevant for young people (whether they are educated at school or home). Teachers, course leaders, and parents or carers who home-school children can register and book for events.

The programme is FREE to all non-fee-paying schools, education groups and home-schools in the Yorkshire district.

Book now: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme

B-DISRUPTIVE



Thursday, 22 June 2023 | 9:30-14:15

(KS5, AGES 16-25)

B-Disruptive is an exciting one-day 'festival within a festival' for students aged 16-21 years, or up to 25 for holders of a current Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), where each student will design their own pathway through the day.

The lecture-style and hands-on workshops will cover important issues for today's young adults, from the climate crisis to cancel culture, and freedom of speech to TikTok fame. Each session is designed to inform and empower students to question the issues of our day. The event will run alongside the festival's Creative Economic Conference, which attracts high-level speakers, business leaders, academics and politicians who will also speak at B-Disruptive.

Be there, be part of the conversation.

Book now: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme

DISCOUNTS & CONCESSIONS

Bradford Literature Festival is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible programme, which is why our ticket prices remain low, many of our events are free and we offer concession tickets.

Concession tickets can be booked by paying a £1 refundable deposit. Simply visit the event web page and select the appropriate tickets for your party.

Where a concession applies to a parent it also applies to their children. Please be aware that you may be asked to show proof of concessionary status on arrival. Terms and conditions apply.

Visit our website for more information:
bradfordlitfest.co.uk/concessions

**EXPLORE
OUR FULL
PROGRAMME:**



DISABILITY

Anyone in receipt of a disability benefit or other support.



STUDENT

Anyone over the age of 16 who is in full-time education.



SENIOR CITIZEN

Anyone over the age of 65 – if a state pension is your sole source of income you are eligible to attend for free.



BENEFITS RECIPIENTS

Anyone who is in receipt of a government-issued benefit and/or lives in social housing.



REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Anyone with current UK refugee or asylum-seeker status.



CARERS

If you are accompanying a disabled audience member who requires additional support.



TEACHERS

Tickets may be free or discounted.



SPONSORS

Employees of our current sponsor organisations can also benefit from discounted tickets (20% off).



BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

28 JUNE - 7 JULY
2024

CELEBRATING
10 YEARS





The more that you read, the more things you will
know. The more that you learn, the more places
you'll go.

Dr Seuss

bradfordlitfest.co.uk

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