



BRADFORD
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

FREE FAMILY EVENTS

27 June - 6 July 2025

CRAFTS PERFORMANCES FILMS FACE PAINTING STORYTELLING

FESTIVAL PARTNERS

Funded By



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BLF'S FAMILY PROGRAMME

Education Programme 3

Free Family Fun Days:

Saturday 28 June 4 - 5

Sunday 29 June 6 - 7

Saturday 5 July 8 - 9

Sunday 6 July 10 - 11

Discounts and Concessions 12

Please note some event details may change.
Visit the website for the latest listings and details.

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

Free tickets are available
through discounts and
concessions – see page 12



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–Friday, 09.30–16.30
During Festival: Daily, 09.30–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 Box Office or over the phone.

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 and concessions apply.

15 Jul – 7 Sep

The Railway Children

E. Nesbit's

Keighley & Worth
Valley Railway

Adapted by Mike Kenny
Conceived and Directed
by Damian Cruden

Presented with:

Y
YORK
THEATRE
ROYAL

In partnership with:

WORTH VALLEY

Travel by steam train
to see the much-loved
classic story – live



Tickets £15-£55
Children half price*

*Under-16s half-price with price bands A and B.



BRADFORD 2025
UK City of Culture

bradford2025.co.uk

Photo by Guy Farrow

EDUCATION PROGRAMME



**Thursday 26 June –
Friday 4 July 2025**

Bradford Literature Festival (BLF) has developed an expansive, free education programme that invites leading writers, performance poets, illustrators, scientists, historians, journalists, among many others, to share their skills through live shows, performances and interactive workshops.

Each day features exciting events, following a curriculum-targeted theme, aimed at Key Stages 2, 3, and 4, championing an inclusive curriculum that fosters different perspectives on taught topics.

The programme is free to all non-fee-paying schools, education groups, and home educators across the North.



Free Lesson Plan Library

As part of BLF's Digital Education Programme, an online library of free lesson plans and resources is now available.

Visit our website to access videos, lesson plans, and worksheets:
bradfordlitfest.co.uk/education-programme

BLF's resources cover Key Stages 2, 3, and 4, scaffolding and building on curriculum learnings.

Each lesson has been designed for a specific year group but can easily be adapted for younger or older learners.

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

SATURDAY 28 JUNE

Get ready for a super-powered Family Fun Day at City Park. Join us for a heroic adventure packed with free activities, from face painting and walkabout characters to thrilling live performances. It's a day designed to spark imaginations, delight all ages, and celebrate the superhero in every member of the family!

FILM SCREENING

Pictureville,
National Science &
Media Museum

Join us for a fun-filled screening of **The Lego Batman Movie**. A hilarious, action-packed adventure that redefines the Dark Knight in colourful, brick-built brilliance. Perfect for all ages.

11:00 | FREE | Book Online

Age Restriction: PG

ARTS & CRAFTS

Imagination Station,
City Park
& Broadway
Shopping Centre

Calling all superheroes – come along and let's get making! With three brilliant craft activities to make – all inspired by your favourite heroes. Zoom over to our City Park Imagination Station and Broadway shopping centre to get involved.

10:00-16:00 | FREE | Drop in

STORYTELLING

Imagination Station,
City Park

Join us for epic superhero storytelling. Tales of bravery, powers, and daring adventures to spark every young hero's imagination!

Gav Cross 10:00 | 11:30 | 13:00 | 14:30

Beth Guiver 10:30 | 12:00 | 13:30 | 15:00

Sophia Hatfield 11:00 | 12:30 | 14:00 | 15:30

FREE | Book Online

PERFORMANCES

City Park

Be part of the experience as our vibrant performances take over City Park throughout the day. Featuring an energetic brass band, lively bhangra dancing, and the rhythmic beats of dhol drums - celebrating culture, music, and community in full swing!

10:30 | 12:00 | 13:45 | 15:15 | FREE

MEET THE AUTHOR

Waterstones

Join **Noor Yusuf** for a super-special reading of *Adventures with the Awliya* featuring Jem, Mikael, and Munira's magical adventures. Explore friendship and courage tales in a warm, family-friendly setting.

15:30 | FREE | [Book Online](#)

SHADOW PUPPET MAGIC

1st Floor, City Library, City Park

Experience the magic of traditional shadow puppetry with Karagöz and Hacivat! This captivating performance brings ancient Turkish folk tales to life through enchanting storytelling and mesmerising shadows.

14:30 | FREE | [Book Online](#)

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

Fall down the rabbit hole into a whimsical Alice in Wonderland Family Fun Day at City Park. Enjoy a fantastical world of free activities, from curious face painting and walkabout characters to enchanting performances. It's a magical day of adventure and imagination for the whole family. Don't be late for this very important date!



FILM SCREENING

Pictureville,
National Science &
Media Museum

Join us for a whimsical screening of Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland* (2010) for a fantastical journey down the rabbit hole filled with magic, adventure, and unforgettable characters. Perfect for all ages.

11:00 | FREE | [Book Online](#)



ARTS & CRAFTS

Imagination Station,
City Park

Step into another realm with our wonderland-themed arts and crafts! Create curious keepsakes inspired by the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat, and more in a colourful, imaginative workshop for all ages.

10:00-16:00 | FREE | [Drop in](#)



STORYTELLING

Imagination Station,
City Park

Dive down the rabbit-hole into enchanting *Alice in Wonderland* storytelling where curious tales and whimsical adventures spark the imagination and bring the weird and wonderful to life for all ages.

Gav Cross 10:00 | 11:30 | 13:00 | 14:30
Ilaria Passeri 10:30 | 12:00 | 13:30 | 15:00
Ursula Holden Gill 11:00 | 12:30 | 14:00 | 15:30
FREE | [Book Online](#)





MEET THE AUTHOR

Waterstones

Join author Catherine Barr for a heartwarming reading of her new book *A Bear Belongs: A Rescue Story* for an inspiring, compassionate story perfect for children, families, and animal lovers.

14:00 | FREE | Book Online

PERFORMANCES

City Park

Soak up the sounds and rhythms of the day with joyful street percussion, vibrant bhangra dancing, and powerful dhol beats - celebrating community, culture, and music in unforgettable style! Be part of the experience as our vibrant performances take over City Park throughout the day.

10:30 | 12:00 | 13:45 | 15:15 | FREE



SATURDAY 5 JULY

Blast off into adventure at our space-themed Family Fun Day at City Park. Enjoy a galaxy of free activities, from cosmic face painting and interstellar walkabout characters to out-of-this-world performances. It's a day of discovery and imagination that's fun for the whole family - get ready to explore the universe together!

FILM SCREENING

Pictureville,
National Science &
Media Museum

Join us for *Treasure Planet* - a thrilling Disney adventure where classic pirate tales meet outer space! Epic journeys, daring heroes, and stunning animation make this a must-see for all ages.

11:00 | FREE | [Book Online](#)

Age Restriction: PG

ARTS & CRAFTS

Imagination Station,
City Park
& Broadway
Shopping Centre

Blast off into creativity with our space-themed arts and crafts! Create cosmic keepsakes inspired by stars, planets, and galaxies in a colourful, imaginative workshop that's fun for all ages.

10:00-16:00 | FREE | [Drop in](#)

STORYTELLING

Imagination
Station, City Park

Embark on an interstellar adventure with space-themed storytelling! Journey through stars, planets, and galaxies in imaginative tales that spark curiosity and transport young explorers to worlds beyond.

Gav Cross 10:00 | 11:30 | 13:00 | 14:30

Kanika Simpson-Davis 10:30 | 12:00 | 13:30 | 15:00

Jumana Moon 11:00 | 12:30 | 14:00 | 15:30

FREE | Book Online

MEET THE AUTHOR

Waterstones

Join author Pauline Brown for a heartwarming reading of *Diego's Team* - a joyful tale of kindness, courage, and friendship, perfect for children aged 4+ and families who love alpacas!

14:00 | FREE | Book Online

PERFORMANCES

City Park

Joyful performances will take over City Park throughout the day, with lively bhangra dancing and the bold, brassy sounds of a street band - celebrating rhythm, movement, and community spirit in vibrant style! Don't miss the excitement!

10:30 | 12:00 | 13:45 | 15:15 | FREE

SUNDAY 6 JULY

Step into a world of wonder at our magical Family Fun Day at City Park. Enjoy a spellbinding lineup of free activities, from enchanting face painting and mystical walkabout characters to dazzling performances that will amaze and delight. It's a day of magic and imagination for the whole family to enjoy – wands at the ready!

FILM SCREENING

Pictureville,
National Science &
Media Museum

Join us for a magical screening of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*! Follow Harry's first journey into the wizarding world - full of wonder, friendship, and unforgettable adventures for all ages.

11:00 | FREE | Book Online
Age Restriction: PG

ARTS & CRAFTS

Imagination Station,
City Park
& Broadway
Shopping Centre

Step into the wizarding world with our magic-themed activities! Enjoy enchanting crafts, spellbinding stories, and mystical fun. Perfect for young wizards, witches, and imaginative minds of all ages.

10:00-16:00 | FREE | Drop in

MEET THE AUTHOR

Waterstones

Meet author Salma Damirji for a special reading of *Moon in the Room*, a beautifully illustrated children's book that brings the magic of Ramadan to life. Perfect for children and families, Salma's reading offers a heartfelt celebration of this cherished time.

12:00 | FREE | Book Online

Meet author Mario Ambrosi for an exclusive reading of *Scarlett Buckling and the Case of the Missing Pictures*, a heartfelt middle-grade mystery exploring family, memory, and courage for ages 9–12.

14:00 | FREE | Book Online

STORYTELLING

**Imagination
Station, City Park**

Embark on a spellbinding adventure with magic-themed storytelling! Dive into enchanting tales of wizards, potions, and mystical lands that spark imagination and transport young minds to worlds of wonder.

Gav Cross 10:00 | 11:30 | 13:00 | 14:30

Eden Ballantyne 10:30 | 12:00 | 13:30 | 15:00

Maddie 11:00 | 12:30 | 14:00 | 15:30

FREE | Book Online

PERFORMANCES

City Park

Enjoy magical and mesmerising performances as the vibrant rhythms of a samba band take over City Park throughout the day - celebrating joy, movement, and community spirit in a colourful, energetic celebration for all ages!

10:30 | 12:00 | 13:45 | 15:15 | FREE

DISCOUNTS AND CONCESSIONS

Bradford Literature Festival is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible programme, which is why our ticket prices remain low and why many of our events are free, ensuring that as many people as possible can access the festival.

Concession tickets can be booked for free. Simply visit the event web page and select the appropriate concession tickets for your party. Where free tickets are available, this will be clearly displayed on the ticket-purchasing page alongside the standard pricing options.



DISABILITIES

Anyone in receipt of a disability benefit or other support.



STUDENTS

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



SENIOR CITIZENS

Anyone over the age of 65 – if a state pension is your sole source of income.



TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

Tickets may be free or discounted.



BENEFIT RECIPIENTS

Anyone in receipt of a government-issued benefit or living 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.



SPONSORS

Employees of sponsor organisations can benefit from discounted tickets.

Community codes are available to groups and service providers in West Yorkshire that support marginalised and underrepresented communities, from community centres to local grassroots groups, community faith organisations to networking groups. Eligible community groups receive a unique booking code which may be shared with members so they can book free tickets for events.

To register for a code or find out more information about our Discounts and Concessions visit our website: bradfordlitfest.co.uk/concessions. Alternatively, you can call Box Office on **01274 044140** (Monday–Friday, 09:30–16:30 excluding bank holidays) or email BoxOffice@bradfordlitfest.co.uk.

ART · LITERATURE · HISTORY · FILM · MUSIC · DEBATE · POETRY · COMEDY



BRADFORD LITERATURE FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE

26 JUNE - 5 JULY 2026



ART · LITERATURE · HISTORY · FILM · MUSIC · DEBATE · POETRY · COMEDY

“You can find magic wherever you look.
Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.”

Dr. Seuss

bradfordlitfest.co.uk

     @BradfordLitFest