

# A Cultural Inclusion and Diversity Manifesto for Milton Keynes



Our Manifesto invites our cultural sector, diverse communities and stakeholders to commit to a vision for Milton Keynes as one of the most culturally inclusive and diverse cities in the UK where:

- our arts and heritage sector is enriched by the diversity of the Milton Keynes community and our community is enriched by the art and heritage organisations;
- everyone has opportunities to engage with arts, heritage and creativity whether through participation, employment or volunteering;
- diverse creative voices are welcomed and celebrated for their contribution to our cultural offer, placemaking and the identity of our growing city;
- our cultural sector is representative of our community.

## We believe that:

- inclusion and participation are essential to human dignity and to the exercise and enjoyment of human rights;
- ‘...artistic and creative expression is critical to the human spirit, the development of vibrant cultures, and the functioning of democratic societies. Artistic expression connects us all, transcending borders and barriers’. (United Nations Article 19);
- every member of the Milton Keynes community should be able to explore and experience the highest quality of culture.

## On our journey towards cultural inclusion and diversity, our values are to:

- be supportive of each other to integrate inclusion and diversity into the thinking, governance, strategy and delivery of all our organisations;
- embrace a Milton Keynes spirit of openness and welcome;
- empower the voices of all generations across our diverse communities to help shape our creative and cultural offer;
- share new and diverse ideas, be open to challenge and welcome regular consultation to shape our creative and cultural plans and our city’s future;
- welcome opportunities to engage with and listen to each other - as diverse communities and arts and heritage organisations;
- be open to opportunities to work together;
- work collaboratively and strategically to deliver a more inclusive cultural sector, making Milton Keynes an outstanding and inspiring place to live, work and visit;
- be mindful of the wellbeing and participation of young people for the future of cultural inclusion and diversity.

