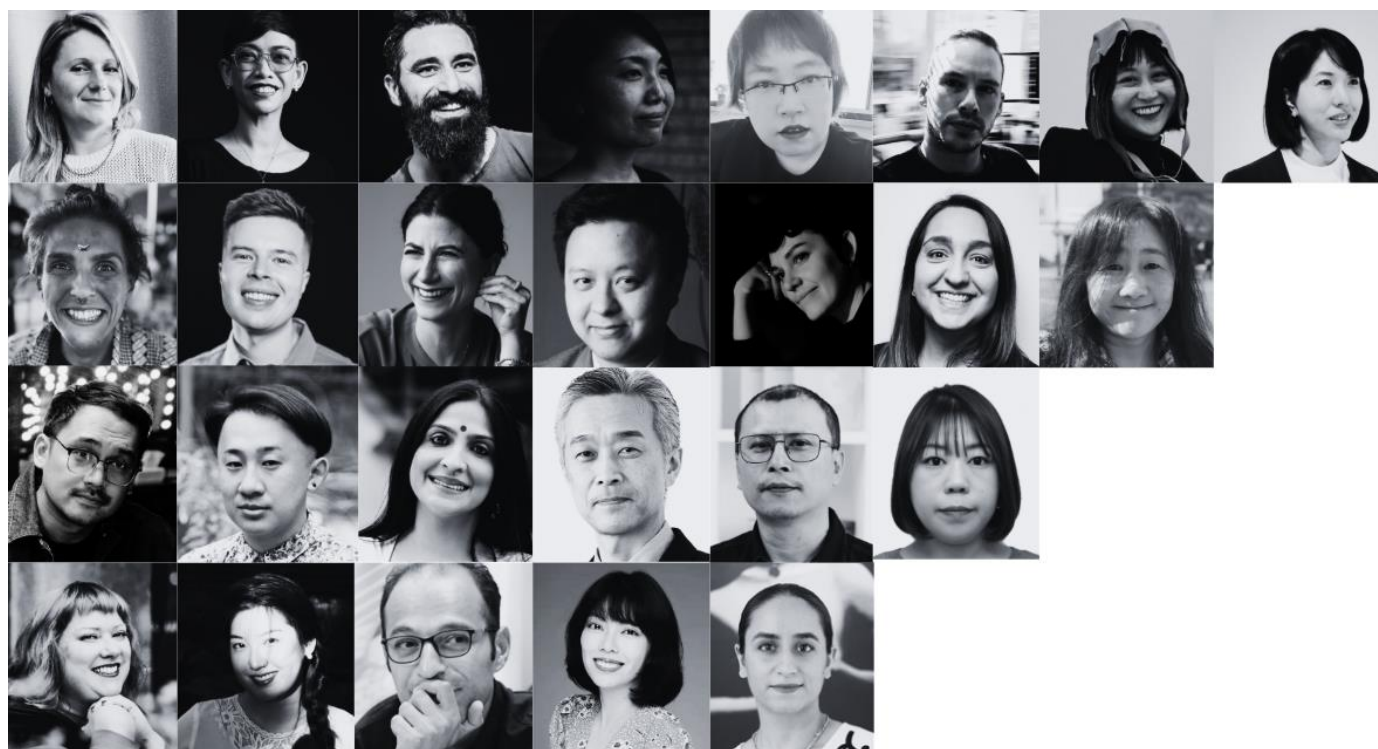


Edinburgh IPAD (International Performing Arts Delegation)

Welcome Pack

19-26 August 2026



From left to right and top to bottom: Anastasiia Haishenets (Ukraine), Anj Heruela (Philippines), Bassam Abou Diab (Lebanon), Chizuru Matsumoto (Japan), Coco Xu (China), Daniel Vorassi (Australia), Miyuki Tanaka (Japan), Kate Dzvonik (Kazakhstan), Kyrylo Beskorovainyi (Ukraine), Leticia Martín (Spain), Li Ren (China), Liuba Ilnytska (Ukraine), Marianery Amin Arias (Venezuela), Seugmee Kim (South Korea), Marco Viaña (Philippines), Takuya Tsutsumi (Japan), Miti Desai (India), Masayoshi Yahagi (Japan), Surjit Nongmeikapam (India), Naomi Ushiyama (Japan), Róise Goan (Republic of Ireland), Qinghe Zhang (China), Mohamed Elshafei (Egypt), Sabrina Chen (China), Shristi Sainani (India).

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Welcome!



UK Nations Spotlight 2025, photo by Mihaela Bodlovic

We are pleased to welcome you to this year's edition of Edinburgh IPAD programme! We hope this will be an enriching experience and we cannot wait to show you what UK Theatre and Dance artists have on offer this summer.

This welcome pack provides you with essential information related to:

1. Edinburgh Festivals in August
2. British Council Theatre and Dance team and our areas of work
3. The Edinburgh IPAD Delegation programme: primary objectives & key events
4. Edinburgh IPAD 2026 cohort delegate bios
5. Recommended shows and ticketing
6. Your accommodation
7. Getting around the city: transportation & restaurants
8. What to do in an emergency & how access to medical facilities
9. Key contacts during your stay

If you have any questions/concerns prior or after your arrival, please contact:

Ondine Oberlin, Edinburgh IPAD Producer, ondine.oberlin@britishcouncil.org,
+44 743 743 1685 OR **Isabel Moura Mendes**, Senior Relationship Manager
isabel.mouramendes@britishcouncil.org, **+44 7958 040476**.

We will be very happy to assist! 😊

About British Council Theatre and Dance



UK Nations Spotlight 2025, Photo by Mihaela Bodlovic

We help the theatre and dance sector connect and collaborate, building relationships between the UK and other countries. We work across a wide range of performance genres including live art, circus and outdoor arts.

Our work in theatre and dance creates new international opportunities for the UK performance sector, through collaboration and exchange. We help UK creatives and their international counterparts share ideas and learn from each other.

Our work promotes deeper understanding of ourselves, our world and each other through theatre and dance. It addresses today's global challenges, exploring the social and cultural value of a wide range of performance disciplines.

We work with partners around the world, designing arts programmes to meet priorities that are specific to each country and context. Our partners include arts companies, venues, festivals, support organisations, NGOs, artists and practitioners. We might work with them on collaborations, tours, visits, skill-sharing and long-term development programmes.

Our team is a group of performing arts professionals with specialist knowledge about international opportunities for theatre and dance and experience of collaborating with a diverse range of people and organisations around the world.

We work with others to explore artistic innovation and create meaningful change. For instance, between 2012-21, we partnered over 180 disability arts projects

with lasting legacies - such as new inclusive performing arts companies being established in Armenia, Bangladesh and Indonesia.

Due to the nature of our funding, a significant portion of our resources are currently directed to low- to middle-income countries and territories that have been defined by the OECD as eligible to receive [Official Development Assistance](#) (ODA). We have programmes and operations in many ODA locations, although we are not active in all of them.

Most opportunities to work with us are shared through open calls. This is so that we can offer them as widely as possible. Many of our open calls focus on collaboration, exploring creative ways of working together and building equitable relationships.

Theatre and Dance Team contacts

- **Neil Webb**, Director, Theatre & Dance, Arts, *EU*, Neil.Webb@britishcouncil.org
- **Rebecca Gould**, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre and Dance, Arts, *Americas & Wider Europe*, Rebecca.Gould@britishcouncil.org
- **Cathy Gomez**, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre and Dance, Arts, *South & East Asia* Cathy.Gomez@britishcouncil.org
- **Isabel Moura Mendes**, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre and Dance, Arts, *Middle East North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa*, Phone: +44 7958 040 476 | e-mail: Isabel.MouraMendes1@britishcouncil.org
- **Ondine Oberlin**, Edinburgh IPAD Producer: For any practical help before and during the programme. Phone: +44 743 743 1685 | e-mail: ondine.oberlin@britishcouncil.org.uk

Theatre and Dance Team biographies



Neil Webb, Director, Theatre and Dance, Arts EU

Neil is Director of Theatre and Dance at the British Council where he is responsible for leading a performing arts programme across the British Council's 110 country operation. He returned to the UK in 2012 after 15 years working in Asia, where he led the British Council's arts & creative economy programme across 14 countries and territories. Neil is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley (Politics & Japanese) and City University in London (Arts & Cultural Management). He also trained in ballet and contemporary dance and is a 2006/7 Fellow of the Clore Leadership Programme.



Rebecca Gould, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre & Dance, Arts, Americas, Wider Europe

Rebecca has recently taken up the post of Senior Producer in the British Council's Theatre and Dance Team in London, for the previous 7 years she was Head of Arts for British Council Wales during which time she spent 18 months on secondment at the Barbican Arts Centre, London, leading a new department, Barbican Futures. Previous roles have included Creative Producer at Soho Theatre, London, Associate Director, Theatre Royal, Plymouth and Made in Wales Stage Company, Education Projects Director at the National Theatre and the English Shakespeare Company.



Cathy Gomez, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre & Dance, Arts, East Asia, South Asia

Cathy has worked in the British Council's Theatre and Dance team for over 20 years. She has also worked in contemporary performance in the UK, USA and Canada and has an MA in Culture Industry/Performance and Culture. Cathy has lots of experience helping international arts professionals to connect. She's designed strategic theatre and dance programmes, managed UK-international tours and collaborations, written and edited publications and websites,

and organised and assessed grants programmes. She has worked with South Asia for many years, and more recently began working with East Asia.



Isabel Moura Mendes, Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre & Dance, Arts, Middle East North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa

Isabel is a multilingual creative & cultural manager with specialisms across performing arts and film. She is based in Edinburgh and her practice has been centred around international cultural relations & the promotion of artistic exchange as well as film curation, with a focus on African cinema & documentary. She is on the board of Take Me Somewhere Festival, and on the Advisory Board of Project X platform. Isabel is currently Senior Relationship Manager, Theatre & Dance, at British Council overseeing performing arts connections between the UK and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), as well as Middle East & North Africa (MENA) regions. She is the project lead for the Edinburgh International Performing Arts Delegation (IPAD).



Ondine Oberlin, Edinburgh IPAD Producer

Originally from France, **Ondine** came to live and work in Scotland because of the country's outstanding live arts scene. She worked for cultural institutions such as Festivals Edinburgh, Imagine and Dance Base. She also worked on a freelance basis for smaller arts organisations with strong visions and values such as Take One Action Film Festival and Tricky Hat Productions. Prior to this, Ondine has been involved in arts projects internationally in France, Palestine and New Zealand. She can speak English, French and Spanish. Ondine is currently Edinburgh IPAD Producer, looking after all logistical aspects of the programme alongside Isabel.

Edinburgh Festivals



Photo credit: Edinburgh castle and Princess Street by Getty

Edinburgh is renowned as the world's leading festival city with a packed programme of events, Edinburgh's festivals continue to be a unique showcase of British and international creative talent for everyone.

The Edinburgh International Festival was established in 1947 as a world class cultural event to bring together audiences and artists from around the world. The inspired idea of Rudolf Bing, General Manager of Glyndebourne Opera, Henry Harvey Wood, the Head of the British Council in Scotland, and leaders from the City of Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe story also dates back to 1947, when eight theatre groups turned up uninvited to perform at the Edinburgh International Festival. Year on year more performers followed their example until in 1958 the Fringe Society was set up to help development but play no part in vetting the festival's programme - a policy which remains at the core of the festival to this day.

Over 75 years later, Edinburgh Festivals have gone from strength to strength. August is one of the most exciting times to be in Edinburgh as multiple festivals run alongside each other.

For three weeks in August, Scotland's capital becomes an unparalleled celebration of the performing arts and an annual meeting point for people of all nations.

There are five festivals that take place during August: [Edinburgh International Festival](#), [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#), [Edinburgh Art Festival](#), [Edinburgh International Book Festival](#), [The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo](#).

About the delegation



Photo credit: UK Nations Spotlight 2025. Photo credit: Mihaela Bodlovic

The British Council Theatre & Dance team invited 26 international programmers or producers of contemporary performing arts to travel to Edinburgh this August during the [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#) and [Edinburgh International Festival](#) (EIF).

While you are in Edinburgh – the world’s biggest festival city – you will get a snapshot of contemporary UK theatre, dance and live art through a carefully designed programme of performances, networking and industry events. After the event, we’ll work with you to offer follow-up grants, supporting the booking of tours, workshops and collaborations with UK artists.

This opportunity builds on the success our team has had in the past with the Edinburgh Showcase, a high-profile platform that we ran from 1999–2019, brokering 100's of international partnerships, collaborations and tours, and opening new markets for the performing arts.

The primary objectives of this delegation are:

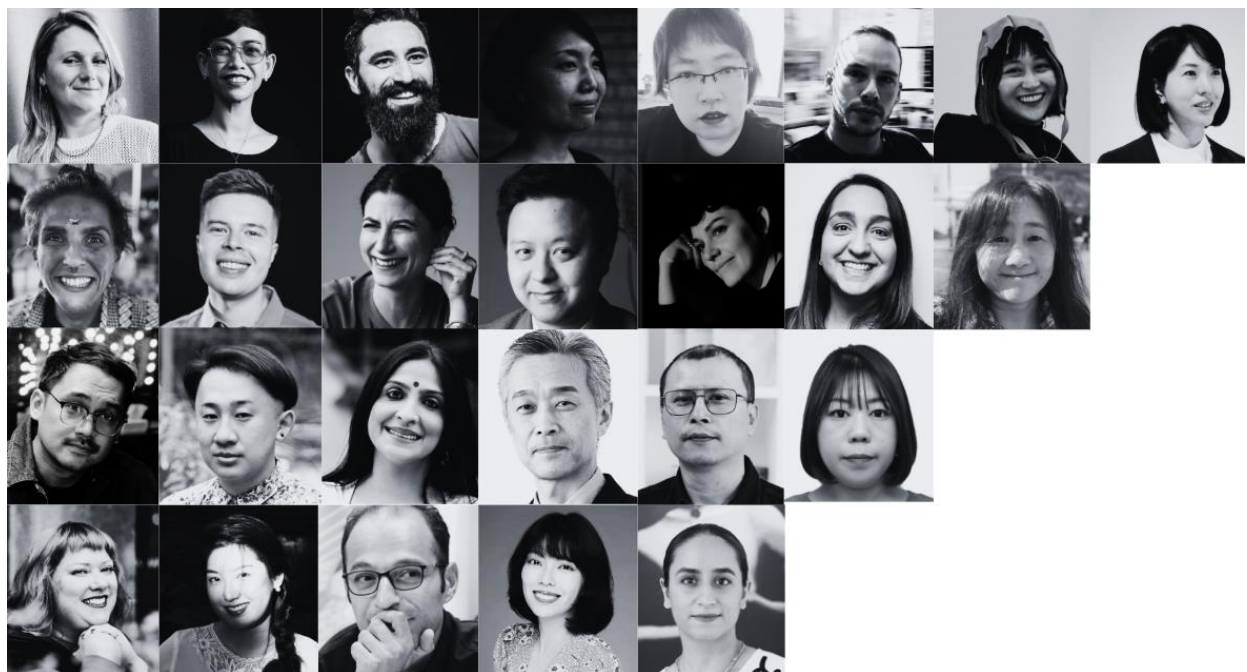
- to provide opportunities for delegates to see and purchase high quality innovative UK productions for international presentation
- to provide opportunities for networking between participating artists, delegates and stakeholders
- to support delegates looking to present UK work in a large, variable and highly competitive international market
- to help develop new markets overseas and generate opportunities for UK artists and performers

The visit includes an **induction session**, a **UK Nations Spotlight** event highlighting the range of relevant curated work, artists and companies showcasing

across the Edinburgh Festivals. Over the course of the week there will be an opportunity to see **Edinburgh Festival Fringe** and an **EIF** show and meet the companies during networking events. We'll have **social events**, helping the group to bond with each other and make professional connections across different countries and regions, and we'll get **official industry passes**. We will close the week with a networking session attended by UK artists and producers and a **delegate debrief**.

As a British Council grant funded programme, the Edinburgh IPAD aims to meet Gender Marker 1 (GEM1) and help make a significant contribution to gender equality in 2025. To deliver on this ambition, we are committed to enable women and gender diverse creative professionals to benefit from international opportunities that widen their networks and improve their skills and practice.

Meet the Edinburgh IPAD Delegates



This year, we are delighted to welcome 26 delegates from 13 different countries: Venezuela, Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, The Philippines, Ireland, Spain, Egypt, Lebanon, India, Kazakhstan and Ukraine.

You can find their biographies and artform interests [here](#).

If you wish to post about your participation to Edinburgh IPAD on social media, we encourage you to tag @BritishArts.

Delegate Programme: Core Events

Wednesday 19 August

Grassmarket Community Project

[86](#)
[Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh EH1 2QA](#)

Coffee Morning | 9.30-10.30

An opportunity to meet the rest of the Edinburgh IPAD delegation and British Council Theatre and Dance team. There will be tea, coffee, morning pastries and fruits.



Greyfriars Hall [2 Cowgate, Edinburgh EH1 1JR](#)

ISPA: Resilience in Action | 10.30-13.00

One year after ISPA convened international networks at the Edinburgh Fringe to confront growing barriers to international collaboration, this session turns toward practice — spotlighting how artists, producers, presenters, and organizations are responding in real time.

Building upon ISPA's 2026 Congress theme, Resilience: A Global Dialogue, this interactive forum highlights creative strategies emerging across regions, from new partnership models and touring approaches to resource-sharing frameworks and artist-led initiatives.



Grassmarket Community Project

[86](#)
[Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh EH1 2QA](#)

Networking lunch | 13.00-14.00

A networking lunch with the Edinburgh IPAD delegation and the Theatre and Dance team. An opportunity to know each other better in an informal setting.



**Grassmarket
Community
Project**

[86
Candlemaker
Row,
Edinburgh EH1
2QA](#)

Delegation Briefing | 14.00-16.00

An introduction to Edinburgh Festivals business models and a snapshot of the UK contemporary Theatre and Dance scene with a panel of experts, facilitated by Isabel Moura Mendes

Indicative running order:

- 14.00-14.30: Seminar by James McVeigh, Head of Innovation at Festivals Edinburgh followed by Q&A
- 14.45-15.30: Panel discussion with Theatre critic Lyn Gardner and Artistic Director of Dance Base Tony Mills followed by Q&A



Tuesday 20 August

**Festival
Theatre**

[13-29
Nicolson St,
Edinburgh
EH8 9FT](#)

**International Producers Breakfast
9.00-11.00**

Connect with fellow producers, programmers, and creators who are passionate about international and intercultural exchange for networking and collaboration during the Edinburgh Festivals. This year's breakfast takes place against the backdrop of Edinburgh International Festival's 2026 theme, All Rise, an invitation and rallying cry for collaboration, resilience, and ascendance.



**Fringe
Central**

[6 Infirmary
Street, EH1
1LT](#)

**Made in Scotland Reception
11.00-12.30**

An opportunity to connect with artists and producers from the made in Scotland showcase.



Saturday 22 August

Ghillie Dhu

[2-6 Rutland Place, Edinburgh EH1 2AD](#)

Delegate Social | Dinner | 19.30-21.00

Join us for dinner in a relaxed setting in Edinburgh's iconic pub Ghillie Dhu. There will be Edinburgh IPAD delegation and the British Council Theatre and Dance Team.



Ghillie Dhu

[2-6 Rutland Place, Edinburgh EH1 2AD](#)

Delegate Social | Ceilidh | 21.00-00.00

A two-hour ceilidh with live band, piper and Scottish bites plus a dram of whisky.

Please note that the running time is indicative and you can stay for as long or as little as you want. There will be a few chairs in the auditorium to catch your breath.



Sunday 23 August

King's Theatre

[2 Leven St, Edinburgh EH3 9LQ](#)

EXXY by Dan Daw | 19.30-20.45

EIF Show: Dan Daw returns to the Festival with his bold and triumphant dance-theatre work How do you continue to value yourself when society doesn't value you? EXXY (Australian slang for, 'that's expensive, mate') takes us back to where queer, disabled artist Dan Daw began – working class, with very little. Dan returns to the Festival after last year's The Dan Daw Show, this time joined by three extraordinary performers who move like him. Together, they conjure up the tantalising possibility of blending in after a lifetime of standing out. With raw honesty and scorching stagecraft, they ask what it costs to stay at the top of your game when you've always been made to feel on the outside.



Monday 24 August

Greyfriars Hall

[2 Cowgate, Edinburgh
EH1 1JR](#)

UK Nations Spotlight

11.00-13.00

It will be an opportunity for you to hear from guest speakers about each of the UK nations' showcases including work created by disabled artists and companies at Edinburgh Festivals this summer.

UK Arts Council representatives will also offer insights into international funding and support available for artists working abroad.

It will also be BSL interpreted and captioned.



Greyfriars Hall

[2 Cowgate, Edinburgh
EH1 1JR](#)

Networking Lunch

13.00-14.00

After the event, there will be time to connect with colleagues and some of the showcase producers / presenters over a networking lunch.



The Scottish Cafe & Restaurant

[National Galleries of
Scotland, The
Mound, Edinburgh, EH2
2EL](#)

British Council CEO Reception 18.45-21.00

British Council CEO Scott McDonald invites you to celebrate British Council's contribution to the August 2026 Edinburgh International Festivals.



Tuesday 25 August

Dance Base

14-16

[Grassmarket,
Edinburgh
EH1 2JU](#)

Cymru Wales in Edinburgh networking event | 10.30-11.30 (exact timing TBC)

An opportunity to hear from and connect with artists and producers' part of the Cymru Wales in Edinburgh Showcase.



Frogs in Bogs by Familia

Wednesday 26 August

Grassmarket Community Project

86

[Candlemaker
Row,
Edinburgh EH1
2QA](#)

Meet The Talent | 10.30-12.30

An opportunity to meet artists and producers from Made in Scotland, Cymru Wales in Edinburgh and Theatre & Dance Northern Ireland showcases as well as other UK artists and producers outside these programmes you are interested in programming.

There will be tea, coffee and biscuits.

**Meet The
Talent**

Grassmarket Community Project,

86

[Candlemaker
Row,
Edinburgh EH1
2QA](#)

Networking Lunch | 12.30-13.30

We will have lunch with Edinburgh IPAD delegates and the Theatre and Dance Team.



Grassmarket Community Project,

86

[Candlemaker
Row,
Edinburgh EH1
2QA](#)

Delegation Debrief | 13.30-15.00

A final opportunity to meet with British Council Theatre and Dance team and share feedback about your Edinburgh IPAD experience, as well as your initial ambitions for touring and collaborative projects involving UK artists you saw in Edinburgh.



Please note:

- You are **already signed up** to all these events so there is no action needed to register.
- **We expect you to attend all these events.** If you are unable to attend, please let Ondine know at your earliest convenience ondine.oberlin@britishcouncil.org, or whatsapp: +44 743 743 1685.

Live Calendar

You can access a [Live Calendar](#) which includes the **core events** as well as **optional events** you might be interested to sign up to. We will keep adding suggestions as we go along.

You can save this link on your phone and/or laptop home screen/desktop.

Edinburgh IPAD Live Calendar

Filter Sort ...



Spotlight on Theatre and Dan...

Event Date
18/08/2026

Event start
12.30

Event end
14.00

Location
Library Gallery, SummerhallEdinburgh, ...

Event description
An invitation-only networking event during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

This is an invitation-only industry even...

Organiser of the event
Theatre and Dance Northern Ireland

Core Event or Optional
Optional

How to sign up
You can reserve a spot here: <https://w...>



Made in Scotland Pitch & Net...

Event Date
18/08/2026

Event start
15.30

Event end
17.00

Location
Fringe Central, 6 Infirmary Street

Event description
If you arrive earlier in the programme, here is an opportunity to connect with Made in Scotland artists and producers.

Organiser of the event
Edinburgh Fringe Society

Core Event or Optional
Optional

How to sign up
You can sign up using the following lin...



Coffee Morning

Event Date
19/08/26

Event start
9.30

Event end
10.30

Location
Grassmarket Community Project, 86 Ca...

Event description
An opportunity to meet the rest of the Edinburgh IPAD delegation and British Council Theatre and Dance team. There will be tea, coffee, morning pastries an...

Organiser of the event
British Council

Core Event or Optional
Core Event

How to sign up
No need to sign up



ISPA Event

Event Date
19/08/26

Event start
10.30

Event end
13.00

Location
Greyfriars Hall, 2 Cowgate, Edinburgh ...

Event description
One year after ISPA convened international networks at the Edinburgh Fringe to confront growing barriers to international collaboration, this session...

Organiser of the event
International Society for Performin...

Core Event or Optional
Core Event

How to sign up
No need to sign up

Ticketing



Made in Scotland Showcase 2026: From left to right, from top to bottom: Tongue Twisters by Greg Sinclair, Float by Starcatchers, Brrr by Haylay Earlam, Arcana by Fay Guffio, Boys Don't Dance by Mark Brew, 40/40 by Two Destination Language, Through the Shortbread Tin by National Theatre of Scotland, Shotgunned by Kangaroo Court and Serpentine Production.

General information

- As part of the programme, you have access to a £350 ticketing budget to see UK shows during your time in Edinburgh.
- Please ensure the shows don't clash with the programme core events.
- This budget is ringfenced to yourself so please don't book on behalf of other people.

What to book

- You can see a live list of recommended shows by the Theatre and Dance Team here: [Airtable - 2026 UK Showcases](#). We will keep adding new shows as we go along.
- Here is a video of [Made in Scotland panellists interview](#) where they explain why they believe each show is suitable for international touring.
- Here is a video of [Theatre and Dance from Northern Ireland at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#) where artists and panellists give a snapshot of the shows selected.
- You can find out more information about [Cymru Wales in Edinburgh](#).

For more advice on programming needs, please contact the member of the Theatre and Dance Team for your region:

- Isabel Moura Mendes, Middle East North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa: Isabel.MouraMendes@britishcouncil.org
- Cathy Gomez, East Asia, South Asia: Cathy.Gomez@britishcouncil.org
- Rebecca Gould, Americas, Wider Europe: Rebecca.Gould@britishcouncil.org
- Neil Webb, European Union: Neil.Webb@britishcouncil.org



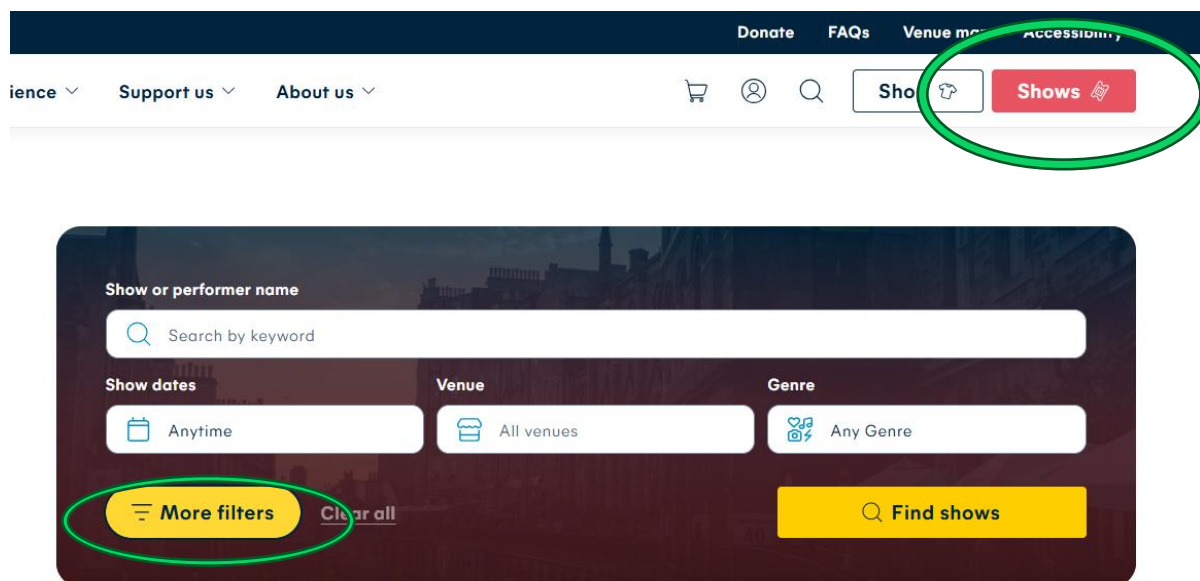
Cymru Wales Edinburgh Showcase including from left to right: Frogs in Bogs by Familia, Cicle of Fifths by Gavin Porter, Songs from Across the Sueniverse by Daf James and Ben Lewis, Owl at Home by Theatr Iolo

Disabled-led and/or inclusive shows

If you are particularly interested in **disabled-led** and **inclusive** shows, please check [Boys Don't Dance](#) by Marc Brew and [Brrr](#) by Hayley Earlam and [EXXY](#) by Dan Daw. **For EXXY, we have booked a ticket for you Sunday 23 August.**

Please see below how to **filter disabled-led shows** on Edinburgh Festival Fringe website:

1. Go on [Edinburgh Festival Fringe](#) website: click on “Shows” and “More Filters”



2. Scroll down and click on “Show all subgenre”, then “Apply filters”

Advanced filters

Select your preferred filters Clear

Special pricing

☐ Preview

☐ Friends 2 for 1

☐ Group Discounts

☐ 2 for 1

☐ Free

Subgenre

☐ A Cappella

☐ Acoustic

☐ Adaptation

☐ Artist(S) of Colour

☐ Absurdist

☐ Acrobatics

☐ Alternative Comedy

☐ Ballet

[Show all subgenres](#)

[Apply filters](#)

3. Scroll down and tick “D/Deaf-Led” and “Disabled-led”, then “Apply 2 filters”

Advanced filters

Select your preferred filters

☐ Cabaret	☐ Character Comedy
☐ Children's Show	☐ Choral
☐ Circus	☐ Classical
☐ Clown	☐ Comedy
☐ Compilation	☐ Contemporary
☐ Craft	☒ D/Deaf-Led
☐ Dance	☐ Dark Comedy
☐ Devised	☒ Disabled-Led
☐ Drag	☐ Drama
☐ Event	☐ Exhibition
☐ Experimental	☐ Family-Friendly
☐ Fantasy	☐ Farce
☐ ...	☐ ...

Apply 2 filters

You can follow the same steps and apply other filters that might suit your programming needs such as “Children’s Show” or Artist(s) of Colour for example.

How to book

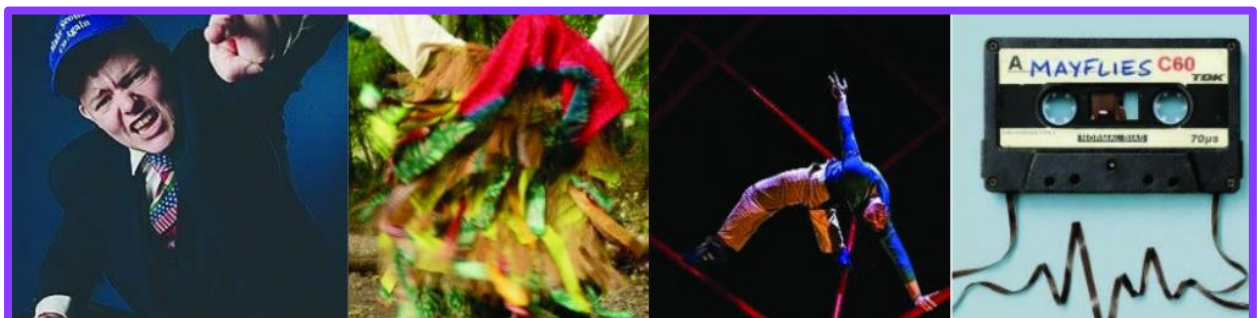


Spotlight on Theatre & Dance NI, from left to right: ALIENS by Alessandra Celesia and Dumbworld, The Pitch by Philip Catherwood and Good with Faces by Oisin Kearney.

1. You can access **recommended shows** on the following airtable link:
[Airtable - 2026 UK Showcases](#)
2. You can book shows by clicking on the “**book now**” button which will take you to the Edinburgh Fringe website.
3. You will be prompted to **create an account** or **sign in** with the e-mail address you have provided.
4. You can then redeem your voucher code (given to you by Ondine) on the “redeem gift voucher” section. This will bring the ticket balance to zero and taken out of your **£350 budget**.
5. You will then receive an e-mail confirmation with your **e-tickets**.

Please note:

- Tickets **can't be exchanged or refunded once purchased**.
- If a UK show you want to see is sold out, do get in touch with me and I can investigate if we can find tickets.
- If you experience any technical difficulties or need assistance booking tickets, please contact the Fringe box office using the following EMAIL: groupbookings@edfringe.com - Please write 'IPAD26' in the subject line, and then it will be dealt with appropriately.



Made in Scotland: Transmission by Nelly Kelly and Sanctuary Queer Arts, The Masquerade by Jj Fadaka, Tell Me by Sadiq Ali Company, Mayflies by Grid Iron

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if my budget runs out?

A: Once you have used up all your £350 allocation, you will need to purchase tickets at your own cost directly from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe or EIF websites.

Q: My remaining balance doesn't cover the full price of a ticket. Can I use it and pay the difference with my own bank card?

A: Yes. Once you've redeemed the final balance from your voucher, any remaining value on the transaction can be paid with your bank card.

Q: What if the show is sold out on the Fringe website but there are still tickets on the venue website?

A: You wouldn't be able to use your voucher as it's only valid on the Fringe website. You would be able to book the ticket directly from the venue with your own card.

Q: Can I exchange my ticket for another show?

A: All tickets are non-exchangeable and non-refundable once the booking is completed.

Q: Can I get a refund if I no longer need a ticket?

A: All tickets are non-exchangeable and non-refundable once the booking is completed.

Q: What if I arrive late?

A: It will depend on the latecomer's policy of each company performing during the festival. We advise you to plan ahead and arrive in good time for the shows as you might be denied entry if arriving late. If you are denied entry for arriving late, no refunds can be issued.

Q: Can I call the Fringe directly to book my tickets?

A: Yes. Please call our Group Booking line on +44 131 226 0027.

Q: Can I contact the Fringe by e-mail?

Yes. Please contact the Fringe box office using the following EMAIL:

groupbookings@edfringe.com - Please write 'IPAD25' in the subject line, and then it will be dealt with appropriately.

Accommodation

Where and when

We have booked a room for you at **Vita Students, New Waverley:**

[14 Sibbald Walk, Edinburgh EH8 8GG](#)

Check in	18/08/2026
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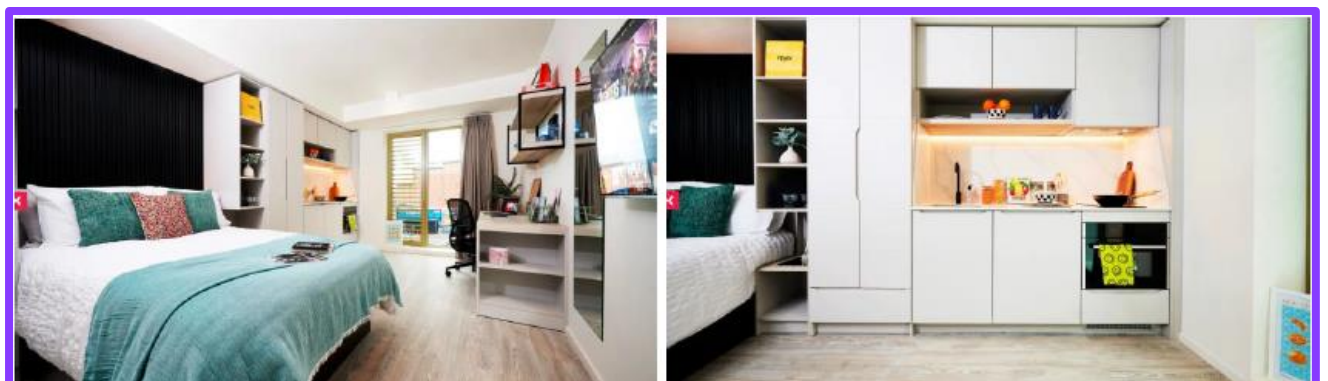
Check out	27/08/2026
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- Your stay is **paid for by the programme** on those dates.
- You will need to **present your ID** on arrival to reception so they can verify your identity (passport, national identity card, driving licence).
- Normal hours for check-in are **from 3pm, check out 11am**.
- The reception is open 24h/7
- The booking is by default for **single occupancy**. Vita Student's policy is that you can have a guest at no extra cost. If you choose to do so, you will need to let reception know so that staff is aware.
- Please note that you won't be able to bring a guest to Edinburgh IPAD events.

Booking extensions

If you have been in touch with **Online** to organise a **booking extension**, you will be able to pay additional nights by card at reception on arrival. Nightly rate is £105.

Room features



Rooms are equipped with the following:

- Double bed
- Kitchen – microwave oven, hob, sink, fridge freezer
- Opening window
- Mirror
- Ensuite bathroom – single shower, mirror, sink, toilets
- Desk
- Smart TV
- Desk chair
- Bin
- Underbed storage
- Wardrobe

Breakfast

- When you first check in, you will find in your room a box including breakfast items to welcome you on your first day.
- The accommodation site doesn't offer breakfast service.
- You will be responsible for your meals for the rest of the week. Your room is equipped with a small kitchen and a fridge-freezer where you can prepare and store food if you wish.

Health & Safety

Please check the evacuation procedures of your accommodation site including exit routes in case of an emergency.

Sustenance



Apart from the networking lunches and social events already included in the programme, you will be responsible for organising and paying for your own meals. This section highlights different places where you can shop as well as some recommended restaurants.

Local grocery shopping

- **Tesco express**, [59 Holyrood Rd, Edinburgh EH8 8AU](#) (opening times: 6:00-23.00) 6min walk from accommodation.
- **Sainsbury's Local**, [79 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1HN](#) (opening times: 7.00-23.00), 8min walk from accommodation.
- **Bismillah Food Store**, [3 Nicolson Square, EH8 9BH](#) (opening times: 10.00-22.00) 12min walk from accommodation
- **Abdul Halal Supermarket**, [53 Nicolson St, Edinburgh EH8 9BZ](#), (opening times: 8.00-1.00) 13min walk from accommodation
- **Lang Yu, Asian Supermarket**, [Capability Scotland, 61-63 Nicolson St, Edinburgh EH8 9BZ](#) (10.30-20.00) 13min walk from accommodation
- **Maycheelin Asian Chinese supermarket**, [67 Holyrood Rd, Edinburgh EH8 8AU](#) (opening times: 10.00-23.00) 6min walk from accommodation.

Lunch and dinner

Take away/food on the go

During the festival, there will be plenty of pop-up street food places where you can buy takeaway lunches and dinner.

For example:

- **Assembly George Square Gardens**, [50 George Square, EH8 9JU](#)
- **Edinburgh Futures Institute**, [1 Lauriston Pl, EH3 9EF](#), home of the [Edinburgh International Book Festival](#). You will find an outdoor courtyard with a choice of pop-up street food and tables and chairs to eat them.

- **Pleasance Courtyard**, [60 Pleasance, Edinburgh EH8 9TJ](#)

A takeaway meal will cost £15 on average. If you are on a **tight schedule, budget and feel organised**, you can also prepare your lunches in advance at your accommodation (salads and sandwiches in a Tupperware) with fruits and snacks. It should never be an issue to eat those at the venues while waiting.

Please note Scotland's tap water is of exceptional quality so don't hesitate to carry a **water bottle** with you which you can re-fill in local bars and venues.

Restaurants & Cafes

Your accommodation is located right at the centre of town with plenty of restaurants and cafes to choose from including:

- **Fruitmarket Café**, [45 Market St, Edinburgh EH1 1DF](#) (opening times: 9am-6pm) For breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. Restaurant-quality food from sustainable suppliers at an affordable price. More info [here](#)
- **Loudons, New Waverley**, [2 Sibbald Walk, Edinburgh EH8 8FT](#) (opening times: 8am-3pm) For breakfast and brunches right next to your accommodation. More info [here](#)
- **The Haggis Box**, [Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High St, Edinburgh EH1 1SR](#) (opening times: 10am-5pm) Offering meat and veggie Scottish Haggis with mashed potatoes in an iconic cultural venue. More info [here](#).
- **The Dumpling Queen**, [52 Blackfriars St, Edinburgh EH1 1NE](#), (opening times: 12-6pm) Dumplings and Asian cuisine. More info [here](#).
- **David Bann Restaurant**, [56-58 St Mary's St, Edinburgh EH1 1SX](#) (opening times: 12pm-10pm) Excellent vegetarian restaurant. More info [here](#).
- **The Royal Mile Tavern**, [127 High St, Edinburgh EH1 1SG](#) (opening times: 12pm-1am) Traditional Scottish pub with traditional "pub food" (burgers, chips, pies etc) and a selection of craft beers and whiskeys. More info [here](#).
- **Howies Victoria Street**, [10-14 Victoria St, Edinburgh EH1 2HG](#) (opening times: 12.00-9.30pm) Scottish seasonal food but at higher standards than a traditional pub. More info [here](#)
- **Mother India**, [3-5 Infirmary Street, EH1 1LT](#) (opening times: 12.00-9.30pm). Informal Indian dining with a tapas concept. More info [here](#).

More restaurants recommendations, per area, can be found [here](#).

Please note **most kitchens in the UK close around 21.00** so do ensure you make it to the restaurant before then. It is also advisable to **book tables in advance**, especially during August Festivals when restaurants are very busy.

Getting around Edinburgh



Mobility in the city

Walking: Edinburgh is a very walkable city that allows easy travel from one place to another. Most venues are within walking distance, and this will likely be the easiest and fastest way to travel as the city will be very busy during August and there will be traffic delays. Please bring comfortable shoes.

If walking is a challenge for reduced mobility reasons, please get in touch with **Online** who can help you plan alternative ways to move around.

Public transport: There is a wide network of buses within Edinburgh. You can purchase tickets directly inside the bus using contactless payment cards. You can also pay by cash but you will need to hand out the exact fare. Individual tickets are £2.50 and day tickets are £4. You can also download Lothian Buses Application on your phone to help you plan or just use Google Maps. Please note Edinburgh city centre is very crowded in August so please allow extra time if you are taking the bus.

Taxi - The main taxi companies are:

- **Capital Cars:** +44 [131 777 7777](tel:1317777777). You can pre-book taxis [online](#).
- **Central Taxi:** +44 131 229 2468. You can pre-book taxis [online](#).

A short taxi ride is £15 on average.

Weather

The weather in Edinburgh can change dramatically within the course of the day. The temperature is usually over 12 degrees at this time of the year. We would recommend you to bring a waterproof jacket and shoes in case of rain. An umbrella is good when it's not too windy. It can also be hot - between 20-25 degrees. It's good to have a backpack/practical bag to carry different layers of clothes according to your needs for the day.

You can check the weather forecast on [Met Office](#).

Airport transfer

When you arrive

Public transport:

- There are **buses (100 Airlink by Lothian Buses)** which will take you to [Waverley bridge bus stop](#) in around 30-45min minutes (£7.50 for a return ticket). You can buy tickets directly on the bus and pay by contactless card or by cash. If you pay cash, you might need the exact fare. [Waverley bridge bus stop](#) is 7min walk to your accommodation.
- You can also take the **Edinburgh Tram** to [West End](#) (£9.25 return ticket), you can purchase tickets on the [Edinburgh Tram app](#), from a vending machine at the platform or by tapping your bank card. [West End Tram Stop](#) is 30min walk to your accommodation.

Taxi:

- **Taxi:** Taxi rides will take around 30min to your accommodation. Please follow the signs for “taxi” when you arrive and there will be an airport staff taking your name and allocating you to a vehicle. Taxi rides to the city centre usually cost £45 and you can pay by card inside the taxi. You don’t usually need to pre-book a taxi. However, it is advisable to pre-book if you arrive very late/in the middle of the night.
- **Taxi** - The main taxi companies are: **Capital Cars:** +44 [131 777 7777](#). You can pre-book taxis [online](#). **Central Taxi:** +44 131 229 2468. You can pre-book taxis [online](#).

When you leave

Public transport:

- **Bus Airlink 100** from [Waverley Bridge](#) (every 10 min during the day, every 30min during the night) then it’s a 30min route to the airport.
- **Edinburgh Tram** from [West End Tram Stop](#) (every 10min. 1st tram at 5.28am, last one at 23.52) then it’s a 30min route to the airport.

Taxi:

- If you are planning to take a taxi, it is advisable to **pre-book** it to make sure you make it to the airport on time – the services from the city centre can be over-subscribed for last-minute requests.
- The main taxi companies are: **Capital Cars:** +44 [131 777 7777](#). You can pre-book taxis [online](#). **Central Taxi:** +44 131 229 2468. You can pre-book taxis [online](#). It should take 30min to get to the airport.

For all modes of transport, please plan **45min route in case there is traffic**.

Medical emergency numbers & access to treatment

You should call 112 (from an international phone) or 999 from a UK phone for:

- **Life-threatening emergencies:** If you/someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk, such as a suspected heart attack or stroke, severe bleeding, or breathing difficulties.
- **Major trauma:** This includes serious road traffic accidents or falls from height.
- Suspected poisoning
- Severe allergic reaction
- Loss of consciousness

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh | Accident and Emergency | +44 131 536 1000
Western General Hospital | Accident and Emergency | +44 131 537 1000

You should call 111 from a UK phone only for:

- When you need urgent medical help but it's not life-threatening.
- This service is not available if you don't have access to a UK phone. Please contact **Online** (+44 743 743 1685), **Isabel** (+44 7958 040 476), or the reception staff at Vita, someone with a UK phone near you to make the call.
- This service helps you determine the best course of action - visit to an urgent treatment centre, an Accident & Emergency Hospital department, and can also provide health advice.
- This service is available 24h/7 days a week.

Medical Insurance:

- You should ensure that you have **adequate medical insurance** to cover the period of your stay in the United Kingdom.
- EU members will receive treatment as they would at home. A European Health Insurance card (EHIC) is required. The form can be obtained at the post office or telephone: 0845 606 2030, www.ehic.org.uk

Medical Centres:

- **West End Medical Practice Edinburgh**, 36 Manor Pl, EH3 7EB | Tel: 0131 225 5220
- **Meadows Medical Practice**, 9 Brougham Pl, EH3 9HW | Tel: 0131 229 7709 CENTRAL PHARMACISTS
- **Tollcross Pharmacy**, 2 Home St, EH3 9LY | Tel: 0131 229 7778

Other emergency and useful numbers

Police Scotland

If it's an **emergency**, call **999** if:

- Someone is in danger
- You need help now
- A serious incident is happening or is about to happen

Do not go near the suspects or try to stop them. Keep yourself safe.

If it's **not an emergency**, you can report a crime or something that doesn't feel right:

- [Online](#)
- In person
- By phone: call **101**

If you are not sure something is an emergency – see what Police Scotland means by [non-emergencies](#).

Embassies and Consulates contacts

If you lose your passport, you can contact your national UK-based embassy, consulate or high commission:

- Venezuela (London): +44 20 7584 4206 or +44 20 7581 2776
- China (Edinburgh): +44 131 337 3220
- Japan (London): +44 20 7465 6500
- Kazakhstan (London): +44 20 7925 1757
- Ukraine (London): +44 20 7727 6312
- Spain (Edinburgh): +44 131 220 1843
- Australia (London): +44 20 7379 4334
- Philippines (London): +44 20 7937 1898
- India (Edinburgh): +44 131 229 2144
- Egypt (London): +44 20 7499 3304
- Lebanon (London): +44 20 7229 7265

We advise you to keep a digital and accessible copy of your passport in case it goes missing.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion – Reporting a safeguarding concern

Our values underpin everything we say and do, how we work with people, behave towards them and communicate. Here is a brief description of what each one means to us.

Open and committed: Our belief in what we do translates into a deep and long-term commitment to the people we work with and the places where we work. We tackle challenges and take responsibility with openness and honesty to bring about positive change.

Expert and inclusive: Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. By involving everyone in the conversation we learn from each other and bring together all of our experience, knowledge and expertise to do the best work that we can.

Optimistic and bold: We believe in the potential of young people to create a better world. Inspired by this optimism, we are positive and creative and we focus on what works. We are not afraid to make bold choices to shape a better future for everyone.

Our work is based on building meaningful, enduring and respectful relationships across different cultures. We cannot do this without a strong commitment to **equality, diversity and inclusion**, which runs through much of our work around the world, whether in the arts, society, inclusive education, teaching English or offering exams. Our goal is to develop inclusive programmes and projects that bring together people with different experiences and backgrounds. We hope this will make everyone's experiences richer, and ultimately lead to more inclusive societies.

We focus on six areas of diversity, aligned to those protected by UK equality legislation: **age, disability, sex and gender, race/ethnicity and culture, religion and belief, sexual orientation**.

If you feel like you are/have been **discriminated against** or been a **victim of abuse** during your participation to the programme, please contact:

Isabel Moura Mendes | isabel.mouramendes@britishcouncil.org | +44 7958 040476

She will liaise with British Council Safeguarding team. You can also report incident(s) that you have witnessed.

It is possible to **report directly to the Safeguarding team online or by phone:**
<https://clueappcf.britishcouncil.org/#/childprotectionexternal>

You can also contact the Safeguarding team directly by e-mail:
safeguarding@britishcouncil.org