

Cultural Youth Forum



Leicestershire County Council's *Cultural Youth Forum's* mission is to place museums and libraries at the heart of the cultural conversation in Leicestershire, making heritage opportunities more relevant, accessible and impactful for other young people across the county.

Environmental Focus – 23/24

Cultural & Natural Heritage

This year, young people in projects across the county have been exploring natural and cultural heritage linked to the environment, sustainability and climate change. Their projects will help inform future plans for Net Zero Leicestershire.

25 young people have joined Cultural Youth Forum projects at our Market Town Museums and Libraires in Melton Mowbray, Market Harborough and Loughborough.

Melton Carnegie Museum's Cultural Youth Forum



**OUR PLANET
OUR FUTURE
OUR VOICES!**



We want you to think about our future. We have created artwork and banners out of recycled materials that highlight environmental issues we are passionate about. We want to bring attention to wasteful habits and ways we can all help save our planet. We hope our displays start a climate change conversation with other young people in Melton and help shape future plans for Net Zero Leicestershire.

Melton Carnegie Museum's Cultural Youth Forum



- 30 young people attended 8 environmental art workshops from October to December 2023
- 8 young people from the Cultural Youth Forum led an environment takeover day, leading on filming, creative activities & serving refreshments
- 50 adults & 30 young people & children attended the event
- 4 young people signed up to join the Cultural Youth Forum
- Inspired primary school aged children to get involved with the conversation
- 20 young people completed a climate change survey
- Brought in new museum visitors

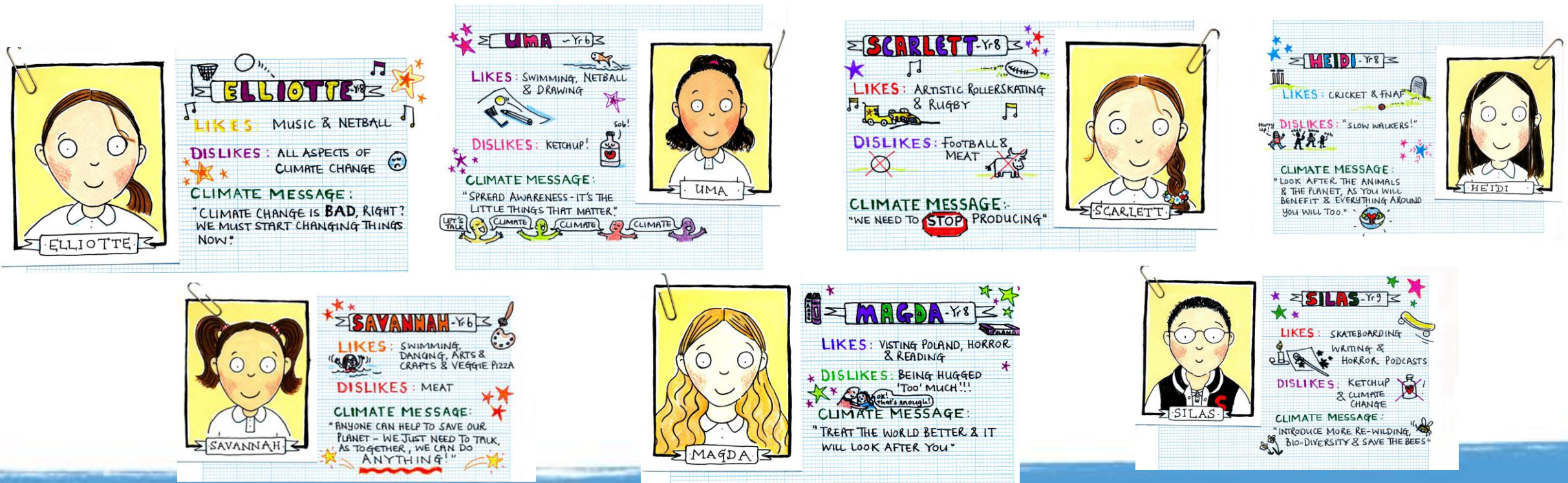
Melton Carnegie Museum's Cultural Youth Forum

Our Planet, Our Future, Our Voices



Harborough Museum & Library's Cultural Youth Forum

We have created a **Net Zero Zine** and artwork out of recycled materials that highlight environmental issues we are passionate about. "We hope our Zine and display start a climate change conversation with other young people in the Harborough District".



Harborough Museum & Library's Cultural Youth Forum



- 7 young people attended 8 environmental art workshops from October to December 2023
- Young people from the Cultural Youth Forum will be leading on an environment takeover day, filming & running creative activities
- They will be presented with copies of their Zine and their artwork will be unveiled
- Young reporters from the local 'Speak Out' magazine will be reporting on the event

Harborough Museum & Library's Cultural Youth Forum

Our Voice



Charnwood Cultural Youth Forum



We have created environmental characters, costumes & artwork which will be showcased at Charnwood Museum and Loughborough Library during February and March 2024

Cultural Youth Forum - Curators in the Making!

A special mention to two young people who have joined the Cultural Youth Forum and are already inspiring other young people.

George, aged 15, is a young carer with a passion for museums and theatre. George has been supporting the Creative Practitioner at Charnwood at outreach sessions with a SEND group and will be supporting the installation of the exhibition.

Henry, aged 12, is a fossil enthusiast and had his very own display at Charnwood Museum earlier this year.

Cultural Youth Forum – Youth Voice

Young People across our Cultural Youth Forum projects, with support from LCC’s Carbon Reduction Team, have developed a Young Person Environmental Survey for 11-24 year olds living in Leicestershire.

“We are Leicestershire County Council’s Cultural Youth Forum, and we would like the views of young people aged 11-24 years living in Leicestershire on how to make the environment better. This will help shape and inform future plans for Net Zero Leicestershire.

Your feedback and ideas from this survey will be used to help develop Leicestershire County Council’s engagement plan, which is designed to educate and encourage Leicestershire residents to take positive climate action. We would like to hear how you think individuals and communities could step up to the climate emergency challenge.”

The Cultural Youth Forum have given themselves a target of 1,000 completed surveys by 31st March 2024!

Cultural Youth Forum - Our Creative Practitioners

Melton

“My involvement included listening to the young people who were asked what their concerns were regarding their environment.

In response to “too many houses being built”, “take care of the bees,” “recycle clothing”, and “plant more trees”, we had numerous activities including seed bombs that resulted in the peaceful protest banners hanging in the exhibition at the museum. I thoroughly enjoyed facilitating the young people’s ideas”.

Danielle Vaughan, Creative Practitioner

Cultural Youth Forum - Our Creative Practitioners

Charnwood

“Last night was a beautiful session. Calm and steady and lots of artwork being created as well as the beginnings of more costumes! They sat all together and really got involved in the nature/climate creativity and it was a joy to see.”

Shelley Smith, Creative Practitioner

Cultural Youth Forum - Our Creative Practitioners

Harborough

“I just wanted to say a HUGE thank you the young people for making the 8 workshops so inspirational. I have enjoyed seeing the young people grow and flourish in both their ideas and illustration skills. It really has been a pleasure and an honour to give some of Harborough District’s young people an accessible platform to ‘voice’ their views and concerns on climate change but ultimately, their hopes for the future.”

Katy Dynes, Creative Practitioner

Cultural Youth Forum – Parent Voice

Harborough

“She has come home happy and full of ideas after every session. Since starting the workshops she has been drawing every single day, both on the environment project and other art projects she’s started”.

Parent of Young Person

Cultural Youth Forum - Our Partners

LCC's Carbon Reduction Team

- Delivered educational sessions
- Supported young people to create an environmental survey
- Stands at takeover events

LCC's Children & Families Service

- Youth workers for Charnwood SEND & Carers groups hosting outreach sessions in to widen the reach & inclusivity of the Cultural Youth Forum

Longfield Spencer Academy

- Supported their young people to participate in the Youth Forum workshops

Greener Melton Volunteers

- Session with young people on Guerrilla Gardening

Melton Space & Country Parks

- Information stall at event

Harborough Children & Young People's Charity

- Reporting on project, event & survey in their 'Speak Out' magazine

Sustainable Harborough

- Information stall at event

Greener Schools Harborough

- Raising profile and connecting with schools

Charnwood Forest Geopark

- Delivering legacy activity for Charnwood group

Cultural Youth Forum – Feedback

“The Cultural Youth Forum has been a great project for the Carbon Reduction Team to be a part of. Having a presence at both the education sessions and celebration events has not only provided us with a platform to engage with Leicestershire’s young adults on tackling climate action, but also allowed us to make valuable connections with other teams, groups and schools. Our newly purchased ‘How Bad Are Bananas’ activity was used for the first time at the celebration event in Melton and the information learnt will hopefully go on to alter behaviours from understanding carbon footprints.”

**Bethany Pownall , Environment and Waste Management Technician
Leicestershire County Council**

“It was a lovely event, great atmosphere, learnt some new things and enjoyed the time with the family.”

**Suzie Parr
Heritage Manager
Leicestershire County Council**

“I feel very inspired by the work the children have done and they've got the message across really well about the problem with climate change.”

Museum Visitor

“Young people were all very engaged and focussed and seemed to really enjoy what they were doing.

The members of the public that came in for the event enjoyed doing the activities and stayed in the museum for quite a while.

Visitors are still enjoying the displays.”

**Katie Bluet
Museum Supervisor
Leicestershire County Council**

Cultural Youth Forum

National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Activity Outcomes 2023-24

Outputs, Targets and Success Measures

- We have established a Culture Youth Forum to specifically support our work with young people, develop our collections and nurture the museum and library professionals of the future. We have held our first cross-county sharing events.

Ambition and Quality

- Within 12 months – We have launched the Cultural Youth Forum
- *Next step > to invite our two inspirational leaders to join the NPO Board to guide the programme and ensure project focus*

Cultural Youth Forum

National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Activity Outcomes 2023-24

Environmental Responsibility

- **3 year ambition** - We have embedded Environmental and Net Zero Strategies into our work with young people in our Cultural Youth which is enabling staff, Creative Practitioners, participants and volunteers to make their contribution. We have widened our ambition by giving a voice to young people across the county and giving them the opportunity to inform and shape Leicestershire's net zero strategy.

Dynamism

- We have begun capturing data for the Cultural Youth Forum projects & events using Illuminate & Snap impact surveys.
- We have worked with Business Intelligence to develop young people surveys.
- We record community curators hours which are included in tableau data.

Cultural Youth Forum

National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Activity Outcomes 2023-24

Inclusivity and Relevance

- We have started to embed the practice of community collaboration, co-design and delivery throughout the Cultural Youth Forum by gathering young people's views, connecting with under represented groups, involving young people in panel recruitment of practitioners and letting them lead on events / activities within our venues.

Cultural Youth Forum

Thank you