

# SANDWELL CULTURAL FORUM'S NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 2024

### CREATIVITY QUOTE OF THE MONTH!

“You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.”

– Maya Angelou



### CHAIR WANTED!

Spectra is seeking a Chair of the Board!

Through strategic and inclusive leadership, the chair will hold the Board and Executive Team to account, ensuring Spectra's methods, governance and actions align with our values.

For more information, and to apply visit our website:

<https://wearespectra.co.uk/2024/11/05/spectra-is-seeking-a-chair-of-the-board/>

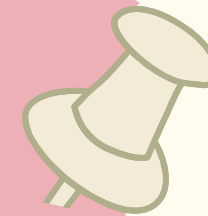
If you think this role looks great but you're uncertain about putting yourself forward, please get in touch with Kate DeRight, our Creative Director, [kate@wearespectra.co.uk](mailto:kate@wearespectra.co.uk)

**Deadline: 9am Monday 9th December 2024**

### \*SAVE THE DATE\* Next meeting date:

Thursday 16th January 2025,  
1.00-3.00pm

Kindly hosted by Infamous Arts, Unit 1 Izons Industrial Estate, Oldbury Road, West Bromwich B70 9BS. Agenda TBC



## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED MEMBER!

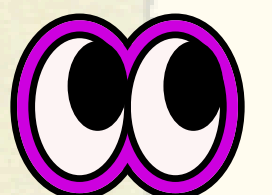
### SAY HELLO TO LEARN WITH LOLONYO - A NEW MEMBER!

Say hello to Vivean Pomell, the founder of Learn with Lolonyo (LWL), an initiative dedicated to creating educational resources that align with the national curriculum while integrating mental well-being through cultural representation. With over 30 years of experience in early years Vivean is deeply passionate about nurturing young minds and fostering a love for learning. She is also working on events/workshops.

Their motto is, ***"From baby steps to brilliance," encapsulates our commitment to guiding children through their educational journey, ensuring they reach their full potential.***

Recently, their book, 'Under the Mango Tree' (A collection of poems, created by children of the 2nd and 3rd generations of Windrush) was requested by the Legal Deposit Libraries in the UK. It will feature in The British Library and national libraries.

[Link to their Amazon bookstore is here](#)



## Opportunities!

Call for creatives!  
by The Art Yard (Midland Film and Art)



Want to interact with local community creatives?  
Need space to develop your own creative talents ?

We are looking for creatives who can give some of their spare time voluntarily to support other local creatives and help to manage The Art Yard gallery in Cradley Heath.

Applicants should be passionate about supporting other creatives and be able to engage with visitors to the gallery.

To find out more contact: Harry Bloomer  
01384 910968  
infoartyard@gmail.com  
<http://www.mfaa.co.uk/about>

## Updates on the Smethwick Arts Collective!

A huge amount of activity that has taken place since August. A whopping 19 performances and 40 workshops have been delivered by Black Country Touring and Spectra in community spaces across the town, and 19 stay and play sessions have been facilitated by Parakeet. But it's not over yet - there are still 7 performances and 2 workshops coming up before Christmas.

Visit [www.smethwickarts.co.uk](http://www.smethwickarts.co.uk) for more information!



## Say Congrats to Rupinder!

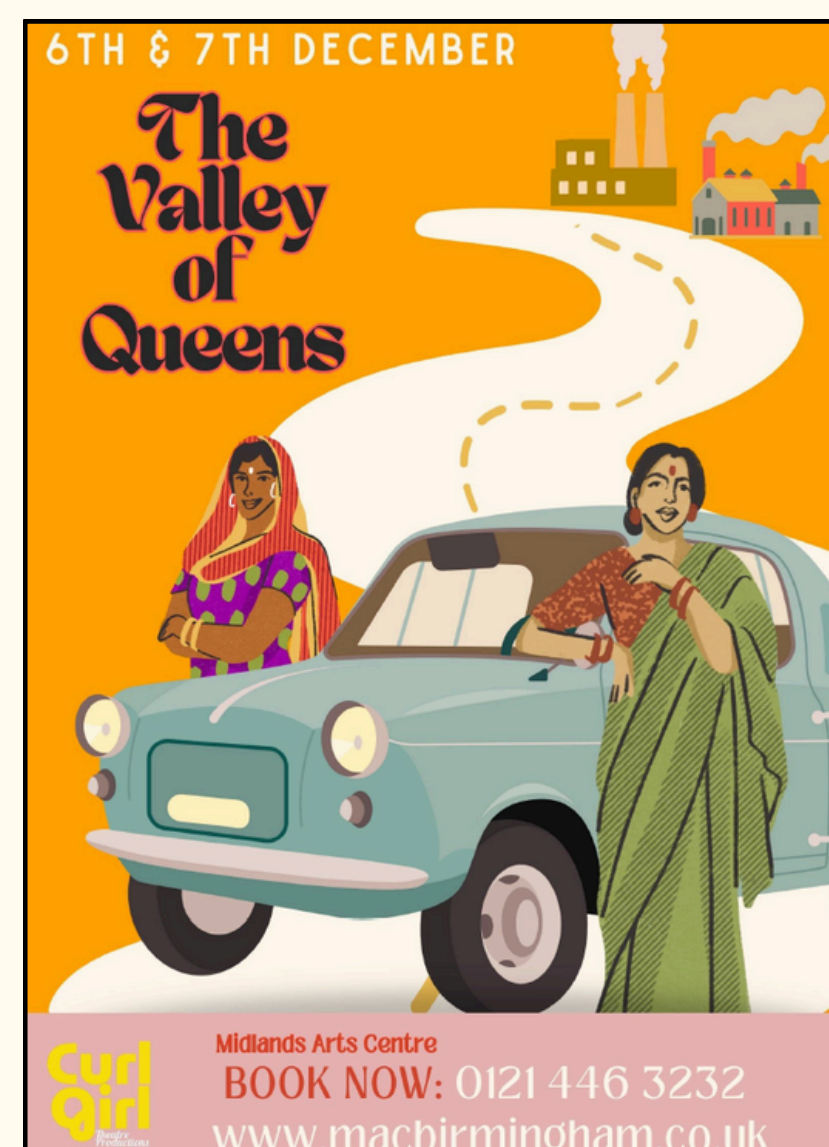
Rupinder Sandhu, Head of The Young Professionals Academy is a finalist at the 3rd Annual University of Wolverhampton Alumni Awards in the Leadership category at The Chancellors Hall. Being recognised for her work in education, community, leadership, and volunteering -she is truly humbled and grateful and wants to pass on a congratulations to all the finalists, winners, and fellow alumni!



Featured event this month!

Do you know someone who wants to join the Sandwell Forum?

Email me via:  
[stacey\\_bagdi@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:stacey_bagdi@sandwell.gov.uk)





## Events This December!



Click on them to find out more

### From our community and cultural organisations in Sandwell:

- [1st, Warley Woods Artisan Market](#)
- [4th, Connect and Reflect: Poverty Awareness in Your Programmes by Powered by Can and Place-Based Peer Learning Team, book here.](#)
- [6-7th, Valley of the Queens show at the MAC by Curl Girl Productions - book here!](#)
- [8th, Santa in the Woods The Pavilion, 101 Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, FREE](#)
- [8th, The Rusty Player's Orchestra Midlands Christmas Concert 2024 with the People's Orchestra, book now!](#)
- [10-12th, Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood Pantomime by Sandwell College Performing Arts students, public performances in the evening, book now](#)
- [12th, Spectres of the Heart\(h\) An early-winter ghost story workshops by Multistory, Free with booked sessions here](#)
- [14th, Christmas with the Orchestra at Birmingham New Street Station with the People's Orchestra, Free to attend](#)

### Sandwell's Museums:

**Bromwich Hall:** Santa's Grotto, Festive Open Day, Candle Making, The Toymaker Theatre Show, Christmas Tunes with Ian Casey.

**Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery:** Soap making workshop, Aladdin Theatre Show, A Fantastic Journeys Christmas, History Talk and Festive Open Day, Festive Picnic and Piano.

**Oak House Museum:** Craft Club, Breastfeeding Network Drop Ins, Festive Relaxation and Soundbath, Santa in his Grotto, Festive Tours, Christmas Crafts & Trails, The Rhythmic Songbirds Choir, Candlelight Evening, Find Santa & Festive Fun, Sedgley Ukulele Strummers.

**Haden Hill House Museum and Old Hall:** Notes Ukulele Band, Macramé Christmas Decoration Workshop, Letters to Santa, Santa in his Grotto, Festive Open Day, A Candlelit Christmas, Christmas Candle Making with Caico Candles, Santa in his Grotto for Under 5s.

[To book these events click here](#)



## Events This December!



Click on them to find out more

### Sandwell's Libraries:

- 7th, West Midlands Children's Theatre - Snow White Panto at Glebefields Library, Tipton, FREE
- 9th, Festive Afternoon of Music with Walsall Harmonic Male Voice Choir at Stone Cross Library, FREE
- More online via Ticketsource!

### Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre :

- 14-15th, Santa at the Valley!
- 20-23rd, ALADDIN, Christmas Pantomine at Sandwell Valley BOOK NOW

### On-going events:

- BINGO sessions every Thursday, 12.00-2.30pm at Myra Harris Community Room, Brickhouse Lane, West Bromwich, B70 0DZ, all welcome, contact Pam on 0121 525 3766

### Exhibitions:

- Legacy: October – December - Explore the Legacy of Jah Messiah, Esquire Sound System and the Legacy of Sue Brown. Co-curated by Anthony McFarlane at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery, Free to visit within museum hours.

### CALL OUT FOR EVENTS IN SANDWELL!

If you have an event in Sandwell, PLEASE add it to Visit Sandwell!



# Cultural Forum Members List

1. [1000 Trades](#)
2. Anthony McFarlane (Artist)
3. [Black Country Touring](#)
4. [Bear Bookshop](#)
5. [Bearwood Community Hub](#)
6. [Bearwood Promoters](#)
7. [Big Bear Music](#)
8. [Birmingham Opera](#)
9. [Blue Sheep Books](#)
10. [Birmingham Music Archive](#)
11. [Canal & River Trust](#)
12. [City of Birmingham Orchestra](#)
13. [Chance Heritage Trust](#)
14. [Creative Black Country](#)
15. [Drama AND SOME cic](#)
16. [The Art Yard](#)
17. [Powered by Can](#)
18. [Kickstarts Dance](#)
19. [Outside Left](#)
20. [Wild Lives Forest School](#)
21. [Learn with Lolonyo](#)
22. [Luke Perry \(Artist\)](#)
23. [ME Dance](#)
24. [Method in Motion](#)
25. [Stan's Cafe](#)
26. [Midlands Metro Hospital](#)
27. [Multistory](#)
28. [Fantastic Journeys](#)
29. Quennie Lim (Artist)
30. [SWEDA](#)
31. [Sandwell College](#)
32. [SCVO](#)
33. [SIPS](#)
34. [Smethwick Heritage Centre](#)
35. The Parakeet
36. [The People's Orchestra](#)
37. [We are Spectra](#)
38. [West Midlands Heritage Building Trust](#)

& Sandwell Council Officers

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

