



**Save the Date!**

**Didsbury Arts Festival 2013**

**Saturday 22 – Sunday 30 June**

**Plans for new Fringe programme announced!**

Local artists, people and organisations are invited to take part in Didsbury Arts Festival 2013, being held from 22 to 30 June.

This year's annual showcase of local talent promises to be more exciting than ever with the introduction of a brand new fringe programme – 'DAFringe' - to run alongside the main DAF line-up. The move will allow more artists to organise their own events and choose their own local venues.

DAFringe events will take place throughout DAF week at venues ranging from shops, bars and restaurants to nursery schools, visitor centres – and even park benches! More information and artist submission forms for both the DAFringe and DAF main programme are now available on the DAF website. **The deadline for artist submissions is 13 March 2013.**

Meanwhile, DAF organisers are keen to hear from individuals and organisations willing to support this year's events. Volunteers are needed to help out during

Festival week. Local businesses are invited to support the event by providing venues or through sponsorship and donations of goods and services.

Festival organisers are also looking for volunteers to join their team and to take on roles in a variety of areas, including fundraising, marketing and event and artist co-ordination. They would particularly like to hear from anyone interested in managing the festival's visual arts programme and writers programme.

An assistant festival director is also being sought to work with the festival director in liaising with sponsors and local stakeholders and in organising the festival programme.

Since its launch in 2009, Didsbury Arts Festival has become a fixture on the local calendar. Last year's DAF Diamond Weekend, held in September, saw 3000 festival goers flocking to Didsbury's bars, churches and other venues to enjoy a four-day celebration of local talent.

DAF Director, Maria Stripling, said: 'Last year's DAF Diamond Weekend brought together some of the best artists – not just from Didsbury and Manchester – but from all over the UK. As DAF continues to go from strength to strength, our aim is to build on the success of previous festivals by creating fresh opportunities for artists and encouraging more diverse and exciting art forms.'

Anyone wishing to discuss ways in which they would like to get involved should contact: [info@didsburyartsfestival.org](mailto:info@didsburyartsfestival.org)

Visit the DAF website at: [www.didsburyartsfestival.org](http://www.didsburyartsfestival.org)

The DAF AGM will take place on Thursday 7 March, 7- 9 pm at the Albert Club, Old Lansdowne Road, West Didsbury.

ENDS

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