

A summer arts festival in Rochdale for you

The FestivalDale

8–18
Aug

The Den,
Kingsway Park
High School
Turf Hill Rd
Rochdale
OL16 4XA



Welcome to The FestiDale and the Den.

We are so excited to be here in Rochdale and can't wait to share a packed-out festival of summer fun with you. We've been working with a brilliant team of Local Ambassadors and Champions who are all very proud and passionate about Rochdale. They have helped us to create The FestiDale, a summer explosion that has something for everyone from drop-in family days to workshops, music, plays and a very exciting community production TALES OF THE DALE - come along anytime, there's always something going on especially in our eco-friendly mobile theatre, the Den.

What is TALES OF THE DALE?

Over the last three months stories, memories, poems about Rochdale have been collected and curated to create this brand-new immersive audio and script-in hand theatre experience.

TALES OF THE DALE has been created by the award-winning team of director Nickie Miles-Wildin, curator Shahid Iqbal Khan and audio producer Polly Thomas.

All four performances are unique and will feature real voices from the community, professional actors and a community cast. Pop in to hear a couple of stories or stay for the duration.



We will have exhibitions, films, drop-in craft and writing activities, tabletop games, and Pay What You Can food, snacks and soft drinks (no alcohol). There will be access to a prayer room throughout the festival.



Our drop-in sessions are designed so that you can pop-in anytime and join an activity.



Get involved with one of our workshops. Arrive early so you can join in from the start.



Book a ticket and take a seat for a performance or event in our mobile theatre the Den.



Stick around post show to enjoy live music.



Scripted moments of this event will be captioned. Captions are delivered to audience members' own mobile devices, via the Difference Engine from Talking Birds. Download the free app at bit.ly/DEInfo

Thursday 8 August

Open 2.30pm – 9.00pm

Islamic Culture Takeover

by Culture Co-op



3.00pm – 8.30pm

Come and join us for an afternoon of workshops and an evening of food, poetry and live music inspired by South Asian storytelling and rhythms. The three exceptionally talented Muslim artists performing are Shahbaz Hussain, Elmi Ali, Aminah 786.



Friday 9 August

Open 11.00am – 9.00pm

Be Hear Now

with Bridgewater Hall



11.30am – 1.00pm

A participatory music and movement workshop for people with learning disabilities with a performance by PossAbilities.

Circus for All

with Skylight Circus



2.00pm – 4.30pm

Discover your hidden talents and master skills like juggling, plate-spinning, diabolo and more in this fun workshop for all ages. Skylight Circus specialise in circus sessions for children and adults with disabilities and additional needs.

Coconut

by Ria Phatarphekar-Karmarkar



6.30pm – 7.30pm Age 12+

Come and hear a conversation between global majority Rochdale residents about their shared experiences. Followed by chats and nibbles.

Saturday 10 August

Open 4.30pm – 9.00pm

From Fragments to Fiction

5.00pm – 6.00pm Age 16+



A monologue and scene writing workshop with actor and writer of Evening Conversations, Sudha Bhuchar. There will be space for conversation and Q&A about Sudha's work.

Evening Conversations

by Bhuchar Boulevard



7.30pm – 8.30pm Age 12+

Written and performed by Sudha Bhuchar

Directed by Kristine Landon-Smith

Music by Arun Ghosh

A one woman show telling surprising stories of British-Asian family life. Middle-class, middle-aged, multicultural mother of millennial sons, Sudha invites her Indo/Pakistani, fiercely British boys to 'crack open a cold one' and share their views on life.

"You're the one with the identity crisis mum, not us!"

"Full of truth and beauty.... really brave!"

Riz Ahmed

'Evening Conversations' is well worth a look. Insightful, charming, funny'

Sir Lenny Henry



Sunday 11 August

Open 10.00am - 5.00pm

Family Fun Day for Under 10's

A fun day of workshops, crafts, facepainting and performances for all the family! Stay for the day!

Family Story Making Workshop

with M6 Theatre

10.30am - 11.45am & 2.15pm - 3.30pm

Story-making and storytelling for 4-8 year olds and their adults.

Anansi and the Lost Sun

by Swallow's Wings Puppetry

12.00pm - 1.00pm & 4.00pm - 5.00pm Age 4+
12.00pm show will be BSL interpreted

A funny, inspiring & entertaining West African tale mixing puppetry, spoken word & live traditional West African music.

Puppetry Workshop

with Swallow's Wings Puppetry

2.00pm - 3.00pm

Using recycled material make puppets and play with the makers of Anansi and the Lost Sun.

Children must be accompanied by adults in all activities.

Thursday 15 August

Open 11.00am - 9.30pm

Tales of Touchstones

11.30am - 4.00pm

Join Touchstones for a day of activities full of fun, magic and creativity for all ages! Expect storytelling, a mini museum, community sharings, and food.

Scrumptious

by Beggars Belief, presented by Touchstones

11.30am - 12.30pm & 2.00pm - 3.00pm Age 4+

Join Sylvie, the sweetshop owner and her friends from Storybook World as they try to make the world's finest ice-cream.

Fractured but Fearless

by Soul Sisters

3.45pm - 5.15pm Age 16+

This work in progress explores the injustices of women's experience through the legal system surrounding domestic violence.

Laughter Workshop

with Awakening Minds

5.15pm - 5.45pm

Reduce stress and improve your mood through laughter in this positive and fun workshop.

Tales of the Dale: Welcome to Rochdale

a Royal Exchange Theatre production

6.00pm - 8.30pm

Join us as our stories take you across Rochdale. Together we'll explore nature and find good places to eat. But be careful! We may stumble across the ghosts of the town.

Shenanigans

8.30pm - 9.30pm

Chris Addington and Cliff Woodworth are sure to blow you away with their foot-stamping tunes and light-hearted humour!



Friday 16 August

Open 2.30pm – 10.00pm

Creative Writing

with Cartwheel Arts



3.00pm – 5.00pm Age 11+

Explore your creative voice and share your joys through creative writing or spoken word.

Tales of the Dale: Big Night Out... and Sexy Chips!!

a Royal Exchange Theatre production

6.30pm – 9.00pm

Bingo dabbers at the ready as we kick off our night out from the comfort of The Den. From karaoke to the swinging Carlton Club, this is an evening like no other.

Katie and the Bad Sign

9.00pm – 10.00pm

Local musicians with national profile bringing their mix of Americana, Blues, and good 'ole Rock 'n' Roll!



Saturday 17 August

Open 11.00am – 9.30pm

5 Ways to Wellbeing

with Rochdale and District Mind



11:30am - 12:30pm Age 12+

The five ways to wellbeing can help with everyday life stresses and ease mental health issues.

Creative Corner

with Rochdale and District Mind



1:00pm – 2:00pm Age 12+

Bring out your inner creativity with something to take home.

Tales of the Dale: Pride in Rochdale

a Royal Exchange Theatre production

2.30pm – 4.30pm

Pride, pride, pride. What makes Rochdale the place to be? Come and be part of the celebration!

Writing Inspired by Place

with Chris Hoyle



4.30pm - 5.30pm Age 12+

Explore your own creative writing to create characters and narratives inspired by place.

Tales of the Dale: Do the Cruckle

a Royal Exchange Theatre production

6.00pm – 8.30pm

Our final evening will be jam-packed with celebrations of Rochdale.

PoolEra

8.30pm – 9.00pm



Enjoy a live performance from up-and-coming Indie-Rock band, PoolEra, who came together after meeting at Hollingworth Academy.

Sunday 18 August

Open 12.00pm – 7.00pm

Family Pride Day

12:30pm – 7:00pm

Join us for a feel-good Pride celebration day for all the family in association with Rochdale in Rainbows. Drop in for Culture Co-op's Queer Publishing activity including zine making, tote bags and much more!

Family Catwalk Extravaganza

by Ghetto Fabulous (Presented by Touchstones and Big Imaginations)

12:30pm – 1.00pm & 3.00pm – 3:30pm

Bring your Glamour, Glitz and Grace to this family-friendly catwalk event to celebrate the power of self-expression.

Collective Workshop

with Royal Exchange Theatre

1:30pm – 2:30pm Age 14-25

Get a taste for performing and theatre making with Luke Skilbeck and learn about the Royal Exchange's Collective programme for young people.

Violet Blonde and Bennettiscoming

Presented by Touchstones

4.30pm – 5.00pm

Get ready to party with brand new sets from exciting drag and RnB talent, with thanks to Pride Stages Bursary.

Dance Party in the Den

Presented by Culture Co-op

5.00pm – 7.00pm

Close the festival with us on the dancefloor alongside some family-friendly Gogo Dancers!



Rochdale is a town brimming with hidden and not-so-hidden gems—a place of culture, creativity, and pride where people work together to make great things happen. From the magnificence of the Town Hall to the stunning countryside and parks, from intimate grassroots music venues to lively family festivals, and from theatres to museums packed with the borough's rich history, Rochdale has it all.

Rochdale is home to an amazing array of artists and arts organisations delivering extraordinary events, exhibitions, performances and activities, giving those who live here and visit us unforgettable experiences, and a chance to discover their own creativity.

The goal is simple: to ensure that culture in Rochdale boosts well-being, fosters economic growth, and makes our town an even better place to live, work, play and visit!

To find out more visit www.RochdaleCreates.co.uk and follow us on Instagram at www.instagram.com/rochdalecreates/

Supported by Rochdale Borough Council, Rochdale Development Agency, Arts Council England, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.



Touchstones
Rochdale



**Pop in on your own and
discover something new
or bring all your friends and
family to share in the fun!
We can't wait to see you!**

All tickets are **Pay What You Can**.
Book in advance at royalexchange.co.uk
or turn up on the day.

This festival is part of Local Exchange,
the Royal Exchange Theatre's ambitious
long-term programme co-curated with
Ambassadors and Champions in
communities across Greater Manchester.



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