



# DEPTFORD LITERATURE FESTIVAL

**Saturday 21 March - Saturday 28 March**

**Celebrating the creativity and diversity  
of Deptford and Lewisham through  
stories, words and performance.**

London  
Writers  
Centre

**More info and book:  
[deptfordlitfest.com](http://deptfordlitfest.com)**



# Welcome

Welcome to Deptford Literature Festival celebrating the diversity and creativity of Deptford and Lewisham through words, stories and performance. The festival invites you to explore what literature means to us today.

In the lead up to the festival we've got some fantastic free events with Lewisham Libraries including Poetry in the Library, Lewisham Writes workshops with Erica Hesketh and an In Conversation event with the Goldsmiths Prize.

Most of the festival activity will be happening on Saturday 28 March where we'll be taking over Deptford Lounge with a programme featuring workshops, talks, readings and performances, including: Borough of Literature Lewisham Writers' Link-up, South London in Fiction and Navigating Culture: Black Male Writers on Britain Today.

We have a special programme of children's and family events for our younger festival goers and activities for young people, including a showcase of new work from our Poetics Lab young poets.

All workshops are open to writers with different levels of experience – from regular writers to complete beginners. Come along and check out local literary talent and organisations; Deptford Literature Festival is for anyone who wants to have a go.

Deptford Literature Festival is run by London Writers Centre (formerly Spread the Word) and creative producer Tom MacAndrew with support from the Albany, Deptford Lounge and Lewisham Libraries.

## How to book

Book your tickets and find out more at: [deptfordlitfest.com](http://deptfordlitfest.com)

Please note that the general programme of events is suitable for ages 16+ unless otherwise stated. For the children's, family and young people's programmes, please see each event for its recommended age range. All children attending events must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

For travel information and a map of festival venues, see page 25.

Most events are priced at £3, we have a number of free events (see pages: 5-6, 8, 10 and 18). Children's and family events are free for parents, guardians and carers. Tickets must be purchased for children.

Access information, including how to request British Sign Language interpretation for any event is available on page 23. Please note BSL requests must be received by Friday 6 March.

If you are experiencing difficulties making a booking or have any queries, please contact: [festival@londonwriterscentre.org.uk](mailto:festival@londonwriterscentre.org.uk).

For updates, follow the festival hashtag: #DeptfordLitFest

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# Becoming London Writers Centre



Ruth Borthwick (Co-Founder), Ruth Harrison (Director), Aimée Felone (Chair) and Bernardine Evaristo (Co-Founder). Photo credit Kashif Haque.

Founded by Booker Prize-winning author Bernardine Evaristo and arts administrator and literature producer Ruth Borthwick; in 2025 we marked 30 years as Spread the Word. In our anniversary year, we took a brave step with a new name and identity: London Writers Centre.

It's a move that helps us say, more clearly and openly, why we exist: to open doors to great storytelling, champion underrepresented writers and connect communities to the stories that matter to them.

To everyone who's been part of our story over the past 30 years, thank you! We can't wait to keep growing together.

Find out more about our work: [londonwriterscentre.org.uk](https://londonwriterscentre.org.uk)

London  
Writers  
Centre



Book your tickets: [deptfordlitfest.com](https://deptfordlitfest.com)

# Get involved in the Borough of Literature Campaign

London Writers Centre is on a mission to make Lewisham the UK's first Borough of Literature. Over the past couple of years, we've been holding conversations, running community creating writing projects and finding out what a difference being the Borough of Literature will make to Lewisham. In 2026 we hope to submit a funding bid to make it

We want to create our Borough of Literature for and with everyone in Lewisham, from school children to elders, community groups to businesses, open green spaces to public buildings. Whoever and wherever, we would like you to be involved.

Find out how you can be part of our campaign:

[londonwriterscentre.org.uk/project/lewisham-borough-of-literature](https://londonwriterscentre.org.uk/project/lewisham-borough-of-literature)

# LEWISHAM BOROUGH of LITERATURE

## Lewisham Writes: Writing the Seasons Workshops

Come together in February and March for some relaxed and friendly writing workshops exploring the seasons and time, led by local poet Erica Hesketh. Erica will be offering free workshops across the borough in the run up to the festival.

- Manor House Library, Friday 27 February, 6pm-8pm
- Crofton Park Library, Saturday 28 February, 12pm-2pm
- Downham Library, Saturday 7 March, 12.30pm-2.30pm
- Forest Hill Library, Sunday 8 March, 12pm-2pm

Everyone welcome – no previous writing experience needed. If you'd like to give writing a go, book your ticket and we look forward to seeing you there.

Presented in partnership with Lewisham Libraries and Calico Projects.



# Festival Opening Events

## Lewisham Libraries Celebrates Local Writers

Date: Saturday 21 March

Time: 2.30pm–4.30pm

Location: Deptford Lounge

Price: FREE

Join Lewisham Libraries for an exciting spoken word event featuring talented writers from local groups including Lewisham Multicultural Writers, Torridon Writers and Forest Hill Stanza. If you are a writer or poet yourself, there will also be an open mic, with opportunities to perform a short piece as part of the event. Sign up for open mic slots on arrival. There will be a book signing to follow.

Presented in partnership with Lewisham Libraries.



Lewisham Multicultural Writers Group



# Festival Opening Events

## The Goldsmiths Prize presents Kate Briggs in conversation

Date: Wednesday 25 March

Time: 7.00pm–8.30pm

Location: Room 137A, Richard Hoggart Building,  
Goldsmiths, University of London

Price: FREE

Join award winning translator and novelist, Kate Briggs, who will read from and discuss her work. Kate will be in conversation with writer and critic, Jennifer Hodgson.

Kate Briggs is the translator of Hélène Bessette's *Lili is Crying*, and Roland Barthes's lecture and seminar notes, and the author of *This Little Art* and *The Long Form*, which was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize in 2023.

Presented for Deptford Literature Festival by the Goldsmiths Prize, in association with the *New Statesman*.



Kate Briggs. Photo credit: Chloe Briggs



Top: Jack Underwood.  
Bottom: Fathima Zahra. Photo credit:  
Suzi Corker

## Poetry in the Library with Fathima Zahra + Jack Underwood

Date: Thursday 26 March

Time: 6.45pm–8.15pm

Location: Catford Library

Price: FREE

Fathima Zahra and Jack Underwood take part in a special Deptford Literature Festival edition of Lewisham Libraries' roving monthly poetry evening. Poetry in the Library is a relaxed event where you will have the chance to hear poets read and ask them questions. Books will be available to buy and borrow on the night.

Presented in partnership with Lewisham Libraries.

# Saturday 28 March

## Festival Hub

### Festival Stalls + Signings

Books by Deptford Literature Festival writers and artists will be available to buy from the festival bookseller, The Word bookshop.

Local publishers and literature organisations will have stalls with titles to browse and buy alongside stalls from Lewisham Libraries and the Lewisham, Borough of Literature Campaign.

Book signings by featured festival authors will take place in the foyer of Deptford Lounge on Saturday 28 March soon after events have taken place. Books need to be purchased in advance of signings.

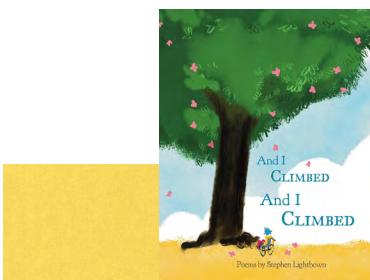


### Festival Reads

In this National Year of Reading, we're really excited that there will be a Festival Reads book collection at Deptford Lounge throughout March featuring books by festival authors. All available for you to borrow and read for free. Get yourself down to the library, to get a taste of the festival before, during and after it takes place!

Not a member of Lewisham Libraries? Find out how to join here:

[lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/libraries/join-the-library](http://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/libraries/join-the-library)



# Saturday 28 March

## Events + Workshops

### Borough of Literature: Lewisham Writers' Link Up

Time: 10am-11.30am

Location: Deptford Lounge, Main Hall

Price: FREE

A dynamic, writer-focused event designed to connect, support, and inspire; hosted by local writer Tutku Barbaros. Take part in speed-meet networking across genres, followed by focused discussions on building and sustaining writing communities. An open industry clinic will explore commissions, funding, agents, publishing and freelance finances. Finish with a collaborative creative exercise and share feedback on future opportunities for writers in Lewisham.



Tutku Barbaros

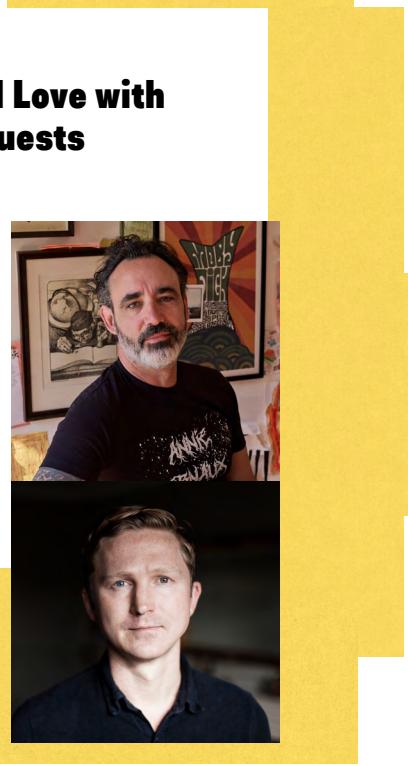
### Exploring Family, Relationships and Love with Jarred McGinnis, Joe Dunthorne + guests

Time: 10am-11am

Location: Deptford Lounge, Studio

Price: £3

Start your day at the Festival with Jarred McGinnis (*There is No Meant to Be, The Coward*), Joe Dunthorne (*Children of Radium, Submarine*) and special guests as they hold a wide ranging and engaging conversation exploring masculinity, family, relationships, care and love drawing on their own work, both fictional and auto-fictional, as well as the role of art in challenging and changing times.



Top: Jarred McGinnis, credit Julia Grassi  
Bottom: Joe Dunthorne, credit: Tom Medwell

# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Events + Workshops**

### **Science Fiction + Fantasy Worldbuilding with Esmie Jikiemi-Pearson**

Time: 10am-11.30am

Location: Deptford Lounge, Room 1

Price: £3

Build fantasy worlds from the ground up in this workshop designed to help writers working on Science Fiction and Fantasy novels and stories. The workshop will include examples taken from the SFF canon as well as newer releases to provoke thought, inspiration and learning.



Esmie Jikiemi-Pearson, credit: Nnenna Tochi Itanyi

### **Mouth Mek Fi Nyam Showcase**

Time: 11.30am-12.30pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Studio

Price: £3

Experience a vibrant showcase of poetry, storytelling and dialogue in celebration of the Mouth Mek Fi Nyam Windrush Project. A creative journey that brought together Caribbean elders and award-winning writers to explore the stories that live in our gardens and kitchens.

The event features readings and discussion from acclaimed writers and scholars including: Leone Ross, Joan Anim-Addo, Marl'Ene Edwin, Yvonne Robinson, Jacqueline Codrington, Jean Dowling, Laura Annansingh and the Caribbean elders who took part in the project. They will be sharing new poems and stories rooted in memory, cultural preservation, food, gardening and migration.

Supported through the Lewisham, Borough of Literature Campaign.



L-R: Leone Ross, credit: Hayley Benoit, Marl'Ene Edwin, Jacqueline Codrington, Joan Anim-Addo, Debbie Alleyne, credit: Jolandé Olusanya

# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Events + Workshops**

### **Lewisham Writes: Writing the Seasons with Erica Hesketh**

Time: 12pm-1.30pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Room 1

Price: FREE

A relaxed and friendly writing workshop exploring the seasons and time, led by poet Erica Hesketh. In this session you'll consider changes in the world around us as winter turns to spring, and use poetry as a time machine to explore the seasons of life and the things that give our lives shape and meaning. Everyone is welcome – no previous writing experience is needed.

### **London Writers Centre LGBTQ+ Writers Commissions with Aislinn Evans, Conan Tan, Finn Brown, Remi Graves + Liam Konemann**

Time: 1pm-2pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Studio

Price: £3

Come and hear new fiction, non-fiction and poetry by emerging LGBTQ+ writers Aislinn Evans, Conan Tan and Finn Brown commissioned as part of the London Writers Centre 30th anniversary commissioning programme. They will each read from their work and be part of a conversation with hosts, poet Remi Graves and writer Liam Konemann, exploring their work and how it was developed.



Erica Hesketh, credit: Christy Ku



Top to Bottom: Aislinn Evans, Conan Tan, Finn Brown

# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Events + Workshops**

### **South London in Fiction with Orlaine McDonald, Lisa Smith, Francis Spufford + Rachael Allen**

Time: 1pm-2pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Main Hall

Price: £3

Access: BSL Interpreted

In Orlaine McDonald's *No Small Thing*, three generations of women reckon with the power and pain of mothering on a South London housing estate. In Lisa Smith's *Jamaica Road* it is 1981 and Daphne is the only black child in her class until a boy named Connie Smith arrives from Jamaica and they form an intense bond. In *Light Perpetual*, Francis Spufford takes his inspiration from the real life V2 Rocket attack on a Woolworths in New Cross in 1944 that killed 168 people. Three award winning writers sit down with author and editor Rachael Allen to discuss how South London has inspired and shaped their novels.

Presented in partnership with Goldsmiths Writers' Centre.



L-R: Orlaine McDonald, Francis Spufford, credit: Antonio Olmos, Lisa Smith, Rachael Allen

**Saturday 28 March  
Events + Workshops**

## **Mother Tongue: Poetry, Family + Inheritance with Sarah Howe, Erica Hesketh, Karen Downs-Barton + April Yee**

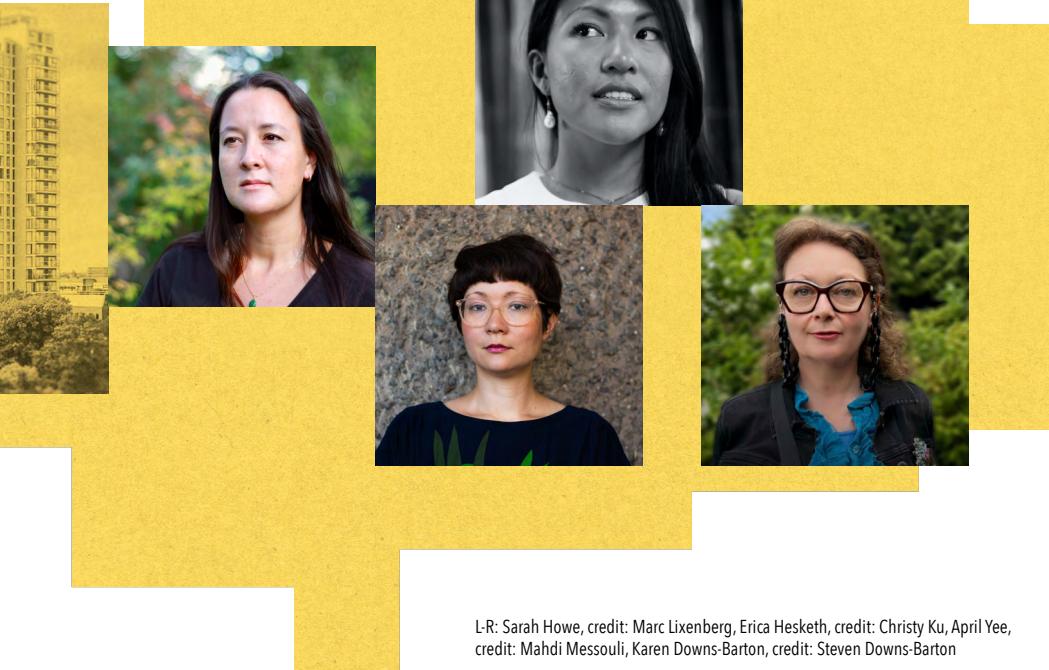
Time: 2.30pm-3.30pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Studio

Price: £3

Access: BSL Interpreted

Poets Sarah Howe, Erica Hesketh, and Karen Downs-Barton explore themes of matrilineage and family as they read from and reflect on their latest collections through the lens of motherhood. They'll be examining what it means to be a parent and a child in the context of generational legacies, colonial histories and climate crisis. Hosted by writer and critic April Yee.



L-R: Sarah Howe, credit: Marc Lixenberg, Erica Hesketh, credit: Christy Ku, April Yee, credit: Mahdi Messouli, Karen Downs-Barton, credit: Steven Downs-Barton

# Festival Timetable

## Saturday 28 March

This quick guide shows all the Festival events + workshops taking place on Saturday 28 March. For Festival events from 21-26 March, see pages 5-6.

Events + Workshops		10am	11am	12pm
Lewisham Writers' Link Up	MH			
Exploring Family, Relationships and Love	S			
Science Fiction and Fantasy Worldbuilding	R1			
Mouth Mek Fi Nyam Showcase	S			
Lewisham Writes: Writing the Seasons	R1			
London Writers Centre LGBTQ+ Writers Commissions	S			
South London in Fiction	MH			
Writing Pain	R1			
Mother Tongue: Poetry, Family and Inheritance	S			
Your Story, Your Words	T			
Writing Chimeras	R4			
Navigating Culture: Black Male Writers on Britain Today	MH			
CRIPtic x London Writers Centre Salon	O			
Triangle Queer writing open mic and showcase	T			
Children's + Family Events				
How to Tame a Mummy Monster	CL			
Welcome to Serendib	CL			
Putting it in a Letter	CL			
The Marvellous Myth Hunter and The Magical Market	CL			
Young People's Events				
Writing comedy	R1			
Poetics Lab Anthology Showcase	S			

Deptford Lounge locations: MH - Main Hall, S - Studio, R1 - Room 1, R4 - Room 4, CL - Children's library. Other locations: T - Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre, O - Online.

# **Saturday 28 March Events + Workshops**

## **Writing Pain with Caroline Druitt**

Time: 2pm-3.30pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Room 1

Price: £3

A reflective and playful workshop to explore experiences of pain through creative writing. Drawing inspiration from Deptford and its surroundings, participants will use metaphor, place-based exercises and guided mapping prompts, to consider how tenderness, memory and sensation can be charted onto both the city and the body. Together you will reflect on how pain leaves its own traces and routes, and use inventive approaches to transform challenging experiences into new possibilities.

## **Writing Chimeras with Kandace Siobhan Walker**

Time: 3.30pm-5pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Room 4

Price: £3

A fun, exploratory poetry workshop, Writing Chimeras invites participants to experiment with poems built from many worlds at once. Using collaborative exercises, sensory exploration, creative research and visual art techniques, this session encourages writers to assemble language from disparate textures, multiple voices and various media. You will cast a wide net – drawing from texts, images and physical materials – to create surprising, divergent poems that sit somewhere between what you see, feel and imagine.



Caroline Druitt



Kandace Siobhan Walker, credit:  
Alexander Gelder

# Saturday 28 March

## Events + Workshops

### **Navigating Culture: Black Male Writers on Britain Today with Aniefiok Ekpodom, Jimi Famurewa, Derek Owusu + Natty Kasambala**

Time: 4pm-5pm

Location: Deptford Lounge, Main Hall

Price: £3

Access: BSL Interpreted

This conversation, hosted by writer and broadcaster Natty Kasambala, brings together three dynamic voices – Jimi Famurewa, Derek Owusu and Aniefiok Ekpodom – to ask, what does it mean to build a life as a Black male writer in Britain today?

Spanning food, faith, music, memory and trauma; these writers have produced work exploring many aspects of British life and culture. They'll explore how journalism, memoir, fiction, social history and cultural commentary intersect with community and identity; and how different disciplines can allow for different truths.

Reflecting on their varied paths, they'll discuss what it takes to navigate a creative career in the contemporary British cultural landscape.



L-R: Natty Kasambala, credit: Vonny Lorde, Aniefiok Ekpodom, Jimi Famurewa, Derek Owusu

# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Events + Workshops**

### **Your Story, Your Words: Writing Workshop for LGBTQ+ People with Adam Zmith + Tash Walker**

Time: 3pm-5pm

Location: Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre

Price: £3

Kick-start your writing with archival lesbian newsletters, gay mags, transgender support group leaflets and helpline logs. Do writing exercises, listen to each others' stories, and learn techniques from the best queer writers today. This hands-on writing workshop will be led by Adam Zmith and Tash Walker, authors of *The Log Books: Voices of Queer Britain and the Helpline That Listened* (Faber, 2026).

Presented in partnership with Aunt Nell.



Top: Writer Adam Zmith, credit Jade Smith. Bottom: Tash Walker, credit: Jade Smith.

### **Triangle Queer writing open mic + showcase**

Time: 7pm-11pm

Location: Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre

Price: £3

Share your writing with your queer peers! Bring your short story, poem, life account or sonnet to the stage at Triangle. Go on, you'll be fantastic! Sign up for an open-mic slot on the night, and perform your writing in front of a warm audience, alongside a handful of inspirational guest writers, hosted by SL Grange. Are you ready to take the spotlight?

Presented by Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre.



**Saturday 28 March**  
**Events + Workshops**

## **CRIPtic x London Writers Centre Salon with Jamie Hale + Abi Palmer**

Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

Location: Online

Price: FREE

Access: BSL Interpreted and captioned

Join poet and founder of CRIPtic Arts Jamie Hale and acclaimed artist and writer Abi Palmer, for a special festival edition of the CRIPtic x London Writers Centre Salon. This online session is for D/deaf and disabled writers writing in any genre, both new and more experienced.

### **5.30pm-6.30pm: Creative Exercises Towards A Sustainable Practice for Disabled Writers, with Jamie Hale.**

This imaginative workshop is designed to create an open and accessible space in which disabled writers can explore what a genuinely sustainable creative life looks like for them, outside expectations of productivity or traditional writing routines. Taking a range of work by disabled writers as provocations, you will explore how the body is written, and how a 'crip' lens can influence the way we – disabled or not – write our own interactions with the body.

### **6.30pm-7.30pm: Performance + Open Mic, with Abi Palmer.**

Abi Palmer will be reading her work before opening up the virtual floor to the audience. Five writers will have the chance to share their work. If you'd like to share something during the open mic, please book your ticket and tick the box "I want to share my work" before Fri 27 Feb, and we will send you more information.

Presented in partnership with CRIPtic Arts.



Top: Jamie Hale. Bottom: Abi Palmer,  
credit: Robin Christian.



# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Children's + Family Events**

A day of special events for younger members of our community and their families. Please note that parents, guardians or carers must stay with their children during these events.

### **How to Tame a Mummy Monster with Rochelle Falconer**

Time: 10am-10.45am  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Children's Library  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 4-6

An interactive story time with author-illustrator Rochelle Falconer. Looking at her book *How to Tame a Mummy Monster*. This event has sibling rivalry and drawing fun, creating your very own mummy monster artwork.



Rochelle Falconer

### **Welcome to Serendib with Nizrana Farook**

Time: 11.30am-12.15pm  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Children's Library  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 7-9

Join Nizrana Farook, best-selling author of *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant* and *The Boy Who Saved a Bear*, as she takes you on a wild journey through Serendib. Named after the ancient name for Sri Lanka, this is the world of her books; a place of adventure and wilderness. From an elephant and a whale to a leopard and bear, prepare to be inspired by the natural world and all the stories in it. Learn fun animal facts and story ideas for your own writing!



Nizrana Farook



# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Children's + Family Events**

### **Putting it in a Letter with Stephen Lightbown**

Time: 1pm-2pm  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Children's Library  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 8-11

Discover how you can create amazing poems by writing yourself letters, with poet and author Stephen Lightbown. Together, you'll explore how poetry can help you figure out tricky or confusing feelings and help you make sense of the world; as well as inspiring you to create brilliant poems you'll be proud of!



Stephen Lightbown

### **The Marvellous Myth Hunter + The Magical Market**

Time: 2.30pm-3.30pm  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Children's Library  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 6-12

This engaging, interactive storytelling show, led by expert storyteller and facilitator Amari Harris, grounds global myths in the history of Deptford Market. This event will inspire families to celebrate local virtues – resilience, friendliness, and creativity – by writing stories and crafting unique, magical artefacts from recycled materials; fostering a community connection through literature and hands-on making.

Presented in partnership with Weird Folk.



# **Saturday 28 March**

## **Young People's Events**

### **Writing Comedy with Nathanael Lessore**

Time: 4pm-5pm  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Room 1  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 12+

Discover the hilarious world of *What Happens Online* with award-winning author, Nathanael Lessore. In this interactive event, Nathanael explores identity, internet personas, and the power of comedy in teen fiction. Learn his top writing tools, tricks, and storytelling formulas, and find out how your own life can inspire creative work. Perfect for aspiring writers and readers alike, this session promises laughter, insight, and practical advice on writing.



Nathanael Lessore

### **Poetics Lab Anthology Showcase**

Time: 4pm-5pm  
Location: Deptford Lounge, Studio  
Price: £3  
Age recommendation: 16+

Celebrate London Writers Centre's emerging poets at the Poetics Lab Showcase, featuring young creatives from Lewisham, Bromley, Greenwich and Southwark. This vibrant event spotlights emerging voices through live readings that span personal stories, social reflections, and bold creative expressions. Connect with the next generation of poets as they share their unique perspectives in an intimate, welcoming space. Whether you're a poetry lover or curious creative, this event promises inspiration and connection.

This event is generously supported by an anonymous donor.



# What Next?

We'd love to see you again at other London Writers Centre events and workshops after the Festival ends. Here's a taster of what we're running across 2026:

## Lewisham Writes

Come together for relaxed and free creative writing sessions facilitated by writers based in South East London. We'll be running workshops throughout 2026 in partnership with Lewisham Libraries. Part of our campaign to make Lewisham the UK's first Borough of Literature.

## Young Writers Collective

The Young Writers Collective is for young people aged 18-30, living in South East London. It will open for applications in April 2026. The free programme will include workshops, networking, an anthology and sharing event. Part of our campaign to make Lewisham the UK's first Borough of Literature.

## Developing Tutors

Are you an emerging writer looking for your first opportunity to teach a creative writing workshop? Developing Tutors is a programme to support up to six writers with one-on-one support to develop an idea and deliver a public creative writing workshop. Applications open in April 2026 with the first workshop to be run in October 2026.

## Wellcome Collection Non-Fiction Awards

The Wellcome Collection Non-Fiction Awards aim to find and support writers from underrepresented groups, who have a big idea for a non-fiction book for general readers which engages with the themes of health and being human. As part of a call for applications, we'll also be running public workshops on writing non-fiction.

Find out more about our work: [londonwriterscentre.org.uk](https://londonwriterscentre.org.uk)

Keep up to date - sign up to our newsletter: [londonwriterscentre.org.uk/newsletter-signup](https://londonwriterscentre.org.uk/newsletter-signup)



# Access

We prioritise accessibility. We want to make sure that as many people from Deptford, Lewisham and beyond can access as much of the festival as possible.

We want to let you know that:

- The following in-person events have British Sign Language interpretation: South London in Fiction (page 11), Mother Tongue: Poetry, Family + Inheritance (page 12) and Navigating Culture: Black Male Writers on Britain Today (page 16).
- The online CRIptic x London Writers Centre Salon event (page 18) is captioned and BSL interpreted.
- BSL interpretation is available on request for all other events. If you require this, please book a ticket before Friday 6 March, and request BSL interpretation as you book. We will then arrange for this to be put in place.
- All in-person events are in wheelchair accessible venues with accessible toilet facilities.
- Deptford Lounge has Changing Places facilities, an induction loop and assistance dogs are welcome. For more information: [deptfordlounge.org.uk/access](http://deptfordlounge.org.uk/access)
- A quiet space is available during the day at Deptford Lounge, in the Music Room, on the first floor.

Keeping you safe is our priority. We continue to encourage anyone displaying Covid-like symptoms not to attend the festival.

If you require additional access provision in order to attend or take part in the festival, for example larger print handouts at workshops, or a Scribe, please get in touch before the festival at: [festival@londonwriterscentre.org.uk](mailto:festival@londonwriterscentre.org.uk)

If you require assistance whilst attending the festival, please speak to a member of staff. Or, on Saturday 28 March, you can come to the Festival Hub in the foyer of Deptford Lounge where we will be happy to help you.

# Support the Festival

Deptford Literature Festival celebrates local talent and introduces exciting new writers from Lewisham and nearby boroughs.

We want everyone to be able to join in the workshops, readings, events and community projects at a low cost. We do not want finances to be a barrier to anyone taking part.

If you are in a position to make a donation, please give a gift today. Anything you give will help more people come to future festivals for free.

Please give what you can through this link:

[londonwriterscentre.org.uk/donate](https://londonwriterscentre.org.uk/donate) or via the QR code.



The organisers behind the Deptford Literature Festival are Spread the Word trading as London Writers Centre, a registered charity that has to raise all the funds to pay local writers, host events and make them accessible to our communities.

## Let us know what you thought of the Festival

We'd love to know about your thoughts and experiences of this year's Deptford Literature Festival.

Throughout the festival, there will be paper feedback forms as well as QR codes linking to the form. By completing the form you could win one of 4x £20 book tokens.

Festival volunteers can also support you to share your feedback, and there will be opportunities for you to share your ideas for future Deptford Literature Festivals.

Give your feedback through this link:

[surveymonkey.com/r/DeptfordLitFest26](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DeptfordLitFest26)

or via the QR code.



# Getting To Deptford

The majority of the festival events on Saturday 28 March take place at Deptford Lounge. Travel options are given below.

- **Train:** Deptford (2 min walk to Deptford Lounge)  
Access: lift to both platforms, step-free access
- **DLR:** Deptford Bridge (9 min walk to Deptford Lounge)  
Access: lift to both platforms, step free access
- **Train/Overground:** New Cross (8 min walk to Deptford Lounge)  
Access: lift to platforms, ramp for train access, step free access, staff help available
- **Buses:** 47 / 53 / 177 / 188 / 199 / 225 / 253
- **Bike parking:** spaces outside Deptford Lounge and the Albany. For more spaces in Deptford check: [activethings.app/home](http://activethings.app/home)
- **Disabled car parking:** Franklin Street car park is the closest to Deptford Lounge with seven disabled bays. The pay-and-display parking bays are 77 steps away from the Lounge.
- **Taxi drop off point:** If you are travelling via taxi, the drop off point is on Giffin Street directly next to Deptford Lounge.

The Your Story, Your Words workshop and Triangle Queer writing open mic and showcase (page 17) take place at Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre, which is a 3 min walk from Deptford Lounge.

The Poetry in the Library event on Thursday 26 March (page 6) takes place at Catford Library - nearest station Catford (8 min walk) nearest stations Catford or Catford Bridge (both 10 min walk) and buses including: 202, 136, 54, 47, 171.

The Goldsmiths Prize event on Wednesday 25 March (page 6) takes place at Goldsmiths, University of London - nearest stations New Cross and New Cross Gate (both 7 min walk).

We are committed to mitigating the environmental impacts of creating a live festival, reducing our carbon footprint and advocating for action on climate change. We would like to encourage people coming to the festival to use local public transport links or to walk or cycle if possible. You can read the full Festival Environmental Statement on the festival website.

# Festival Map



**A. Deptford Lounge**

9 Giffin Street,  
London SE8 4RJ

**B. Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre**

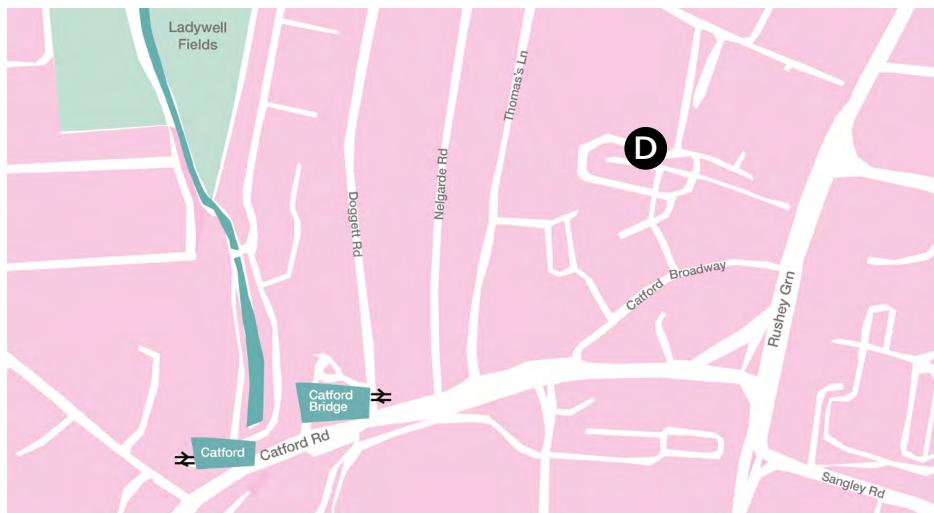
34 Watson's St,  
London, SE8 4AU

**C. Richard Hoggart Building**

**Goldsmiths, University of London**  
Lewisham Way,  
London, SE14 6NW

**D. Catford Library**

23-24 Winslade Way,  
London SE6 4JU



# Thanks

We are grateful to our principal funder Arts Council England. Many thanks to our principal partners the Albany, Deptford Lounge and Lewisham Libraries for all their support.

Thank you to our partners The Word bookshop, Goldsmiths Writers Centre, the Goldsmiths Prize in association with the *New Statesman*, Calico Projects, Future Worlds Prize, Weird Folk, Aunt Nell, Triangle LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre, and CRIPtic Arts.

Thank you to our festival volunteers, as well as the great artists, publishers, BSL interpreters, photographers and support staff who are contributing to this year's programme and the supporters and donors who help make the festival happen.

Most of all, thank you to you for coming and supporting the festival.



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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 **Deptford  
Lounge**



**LEWISHAM** London  
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