



A Note From Our Co-Directors



The arts really came to the fore during the pandemic lockdowns, when so many of us drew on the arts and other creative pursuits to help us manage our anxieties, connect with one another and support our children in their home-based learning. They continue to be vital for health, wellbeing and as we deal with pressures such as climate change and the cost-of-living crisis. Our members are at the forefront of research and creative

practice that explores, supports and capitalises on these links. In this newsletter we report on some of the recent fantastic projects and events supported by the Centre. We would love to hear your updates, news, events too; if you'd like to contribute to our online platforms or news digests, email us at CentreforArtsandWellbeing@brighton.ac.uk

[Helen Johnson](#) and [Jess Moriarty](#)



Update on Funded Projects



Image of [Sarah Elwick, University of Brighton](#) taken by Helen Johnson

1. Everyday Creativity Network Launch

Following a successful CAW-funded project in June, Helen Johnson has been awarded AHRC funding to develop an International Everyday Creativity Network, working with a group of academics, community and creative practitioners, including internal and Associate CAW members. The group are planning a two year programme of sandpits, talks and other activities across the country that will bring in creativity experts from around the world. The programme will kick off next spring with a sandpit on creative research methods to be held at

the University of Brighton and culminate in a two day conference at our institution in

autumn 2024. You can find out more about the Network's activities here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/everydaycreativity/> and join the everyday creativity mailing list by emailing: EVERYDAYCREATIVITY-REQUEST@JISCMail.AC.UK

2. Graphic Brighton Symposium

The Centre supported Barbara Chamberlain and Alex Fitch to host the annual Graphics Brighton symposium at the University in May. This year's event, focused on children's comics, saw a dizzying array of comics creators and scholars participating, including UoB lecturer and audio producer, Lance Dann, former Comics Laureate (and UoB alumnus) Hannah Berry, and former Children's Laureate (and national treasure!) Michael Rosen. Graphic Brighton 2022 demonstrated that it is important to talk about the role that comics play in young readers' lives, in terms of their developing literacy and creativity, as well as their understanding of and connection to the world around them, both of which are fundamental to children's wellbeing and sense of self. Here's hoping more events like this will take place in the future to keep the discussions going.



Read more here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/06/05/report-graphic-brighton-27-28-may-2022/>

3. Black and Asian British Women's Writing International Conference



The 'Common Threads' conference was held at the University of Brighton from 21-23 July 2023 at Edward Street, City Campus. It was co-organized by Prof Suzanne Scafe (Brighton), Dr Kadija George (recent Brighton PhD Graduate), Dr Sarah Lawson Welsh (York), Amanda Holiday (PGR Brighton) and Dr Vedrana Velickovic (Brighton). The conference celebrated the fact that so many Black and Asian women writers have emerged in the last two decades and assessed the significant impact their writing has made on publishing, the curriculum and the media since 2015. 'Common Threads' built on this rich cultural heritage and explored how Black and Asian British Women's Writing has enabled us to re-imagine the nation otherwise in the context of the unsettling, hostile environment of post-Brexit Britain. It saw 80+ people attending, 3 keynote speakers – Sharon Duggal, Bernardine Evaristo, Dr Louisa Uchum-Egbunike – and 65 presenters, including writers,

academics and PhD students from the UK, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Canada and the US.

Read more here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/11/10/report-common-threads-black-and-asian-british-womens-writing-international-conference/>

4. Queer Peers

The Queer Peers project team includes researchers [Charlotte Wilcox](#), [Rebecca Graber](#), [Helen Johnson](#) and [Kay Aranda](#), with research assistance from doctoral scholar [H Howitt](#). In June, the team held an inspiring afternoon of talks, crafts and research at the new [Ledward Centre](#). The result was a weaving together of different and diverse voices, images, and impressions – not always sitting comfortably, or with



the intention of doing so, but capturing the multiplicity of diverse communities. Following on from this, they are preparing a summary of findings and suggested strategies, with plans to engage LGBTQIA+ cultural, heritage and well-being organisations throughout the city. The time certainly seems right, as the city is re-creating its community spaces, and the opening of the Ledward Centre marks a new beat in the long history of LGBTQIA+ community and culture in Brighton & Hove. This afternoon

demonstrated that creative practices have the potential to carry the complexity involved in crafting a community that centres queer wellbeing, wherever, however and with whomever it may happen.

Read more here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/06/30/report-queer-peers-15-june-2022/>

Events

1. Materiality of Invisibility Exhibition and Crowdfunder

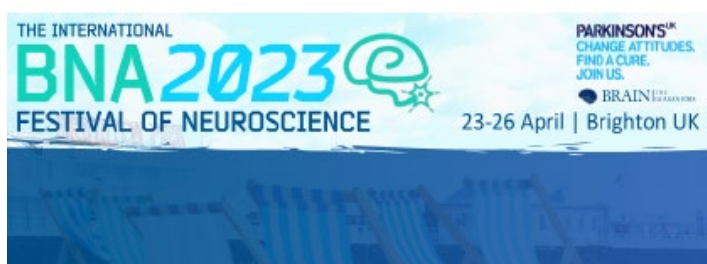
This autumn the Lyme Museum will bring their first exhibition, *The Materiality of Invisibility*, to the Documentary Media Centre in Leicester. Between 25 November and 3 December, expect a powerful and emotional display of flat lays sent by individuals around the world to showcase the materiality of their invisible illnesses and disabilities, a workshop making your own flat lays, a physical display exploring illness through objects and storytelling, online talks and an opportunity to meet the museum owner, Dr Angela Stienne. This will be a unique opportunity to bring



the silenced lived experiences of illnesses and disabilities that are not visible to the limelight through photography, storytelling, workshops and conversations.

For further details see: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/thelymemuseum>

2. British Neuroscience Association Festival of Neuroscience 2023



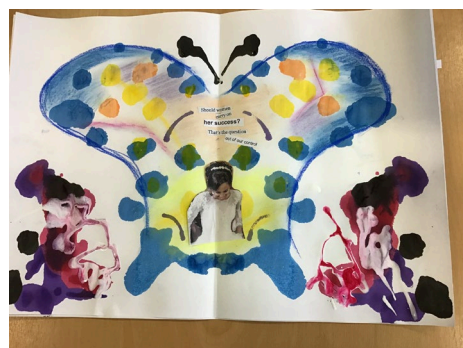
Since 2021 Senior Lecturer Susan Diab, School of Art and Media, Ana Barretxeguren, movement educator and fascia and breath specialist and Dr. Flavie Torrecillos, neuroscientific researcher, Brain Network

Dynamics Unit, University of Oxford have been researching how deep breathing practices can be used by people with Parkinson's to calm tremor. The research began with a seed funding award from the Centre of Arts and Wellbeing at the University of Brighton. In April 2023 they will be presenting the research as part of the British Neuroscience Association's public-facing Festival of Neuroscience.

For further details see: <https://www.bna.org.uk/mediacentre/news/be-part-of-the-2023-festival-of-neuroscience/>

3. Creative Research Methods Group

The Creative Research Methods Group meet roughly every six weeks. Our next session is Tue 6th December 14:00-15:30 and features UoB PhD students Laharee Mitra and Joe Jukes. Laharee will be speaking on 'Thinking through tours: The reflective potential of museum tours in understanding staff experiences' and Joe will be speaking on 'Arranging, recording, emerging, repeating: Video for unlearning (rural) and enlivening (queer) research.' To participate, join the Team any time using this code: 6r81bq6 and then join the meeting in the main channel on the day. Subsequent sessions will run at the same time and place on Mon 16th Jan, Mon 27th Feb and Tue 18th April. Participants from outside the University of Brighton can join by emailing Helen Johnson at h.f.johnson@brighton.ac.uk You can also email Helen if you are interested in presenting at the Jan or April symposia.



Funding Opportunities

1. CAW Funding for Events and Small-scale Seed Projects

Seed Funding:

Funding of up to £1000 is available to support a small-scale or pilot project that links to arts and wellbeing. We are particularly keen to receive proposals that focus on:

- Collaborative/Transdisciplinary work
- Developing networks with external academic and/or community partners
- Sustainable outcomes
- Inclusive practice and pedagogy

Full details here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/11/03/news-open-call-seed-funding-from-caw/>

Event Funding:

Funding of up to £1000 is available to support the production of an event (conference/symposium/festival). We would particularly welcome events that:

- Celebrate collaborative/transdisciplinary work with an emphasis on arts and wellbeing;
- Include work from artists, community partners, PGRs and academics;
- Sustainable outcomes/outputs/ways of capturing the event;
- Value practice/research/pedagogy as equal;
- Offer a face-to-face element and are inclusive;
- Offer free spaces for CAW members.



Full details here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/11/03/news-open-call-event-funding-from-caw/>

Applications for both schemes should demonstrate how the proposed activity aligns with at least one of our research themes. **The deadline for both schemes is 10 January 2023**

2. Impact Acceleration Account

The University has been awarded a prestigious UKRI Impact Acceleration Account, funded through the Arts and Humanities Research Council. This grant will enable us to showcase and advance how our arts and humanities research provides real-world change in response to key societal challenges. As part of this, a new stream of impact funding has recently been launched. This offers funding for: 1) smaller exploratory projects of up to £3000 and 2) larger scaling up projects of up to £8000.

Full details here: <https://unibrightonac.sharepoint.com/sites/RAKE/SitePages/Impact-Acceleration-Account.aspx>

Visiting Research Fellowships

We are seeking applications for International Visiting Research Fellows to pursue their research within the themes of the CAW and form collaborations with CAW staff. Collaborative output or bid development work with staff is particularly encouraged. The aims of the scheme are to:

- provide external researchers with an opportunity to immerse themselves in the research culture of the Centre
- offer opportunities for external researchers to work collaboratively with CAW members
- foster international networks within arts and wellbeing research
- provide a stimulating intellectual environment for advancing collaborative bid development or co-authoring
- give visiting researchers a platform for presenting their current or emerging work.

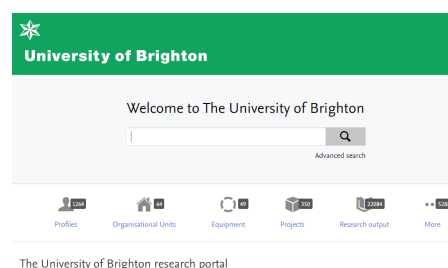
We encourage researchers working in the following areas to apply:

- research led-teaching in the arts and wellbeing
- creative methods/methodologies
- diversity in arts and wellbeing
- practice based work in the arts and wellbeing

Travel, accommodation and fellowship-related research costs up to £1200 are part of the Fellowship. Fellowships are usually expected to last from 2 weeks to 2 months. For further information see the full call here: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/2022/11/03/call-for-visiting-research-fellow/>

Pure Profiles

If you are an internal Centre member, please do take a moment to check your Pure profile and ensure this is up to date. These profiles are frequently linked to by the university and are looked at when assessing internal funding applications, so it's really important to ensure yours is up-to-date and accurate. If your profile doesn't identify you as a CAW member, please email us at the address below and we will ensure you're added to our list.



Keep the Conversation Going

Please remember to continue to name the CAW in connection to any events, publications, bids and other work you carry out that is relevant to your membership of the Centre. We would also love to feature your work, news and events on our blog. Please email us at the address below if you're interested in writing a piece for us.

Find us at....

Website: <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/caw/index.aspx>

Blog: <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/artswellbeing/>

Twitter: @ArtsWellbeing

Instagram: uob_artswellbeing

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/artswellbeing>

Email: CentreforArtsandWellbeing@brighton.ac.uk

