



**Dorset  
National  
Landscape**

## **Outdoor Flavours – Creative Workshop for Artists and Arts Facilitators**

**Thursday 6th November at Durlston Country Park Dorset.**



### **Opportunity overview**

The FLAVOURS project is a partnership between Dorset National Landscape, Activate Performing Arts, Dorset Race Equality Council, and Dorset Food & Drink with support from National Lottery Heritage Fund and BPC Indian Community that offers opportunities for people from ethnic minority and refugee backgrounds to get a taste of Dorset's outstanding landscape.

Join the Flavours Project, and long-time collaborators Grace the Space for a fun, informative and practical day of skills-development that will enable arts

facilitators from any field to feel more confident and prepared to deliver sessions with diverse community groups in Dorset's outstanding landscape.

During the day participants will experience activities to add to their facilitation toolbox that nurture safe creative spaces and invite connection to nature. We will also provide the opportunity to practice outdoor facilitation in a supportive environment. Together, we will explore areas such as:

- Pre-event preparation: how to build networks and relationships ahead of sessions that ensure you have advanced understanding of the group's needs.
- How your work can: nurture confidence and appetite for art and nature; signpost individuals and groups towards reconnecting with the landscape; embed creativity beyond the scope of the session
- How to work responsively to both individual and group needs.
- The role of the facilitator outdoors and in community: considerations and clarifications from managing spaces, communication and best practice.
- Developing a practical understanding of working outdoors and in community: from Health and Safety, supportive protocols for creative spaces, real-life examples and workshopping scenarios.
- Skill-swaps: an opportunity to learn from each other, sharing our existing knowledge and benefiting from peer-to-peer support.
- Engagement that models facilitation options with one-to-one, small group and whole group activities.
- Opportunities for Q&A and group reflective practice to further integrate the day's learnings and experiences.
- Exploring your creative facilitation practice and understanding how it can be developed through the engagement of communities.

This will be a day that embraces your creativity and facilitation style, while also offering tools, experience and insights that you can take forward to work in nature with diverse communities.

We would love to hear from you – let us know if you or someone you know needs this information in another format.

For more details and information on how to apply please see below, or call the Activate Office on 01305 260954 if you have any additional questions.

## **Who we are**

**Activate** is here to bring performing arts to as many people as possible. And give creatives the support they need to make outstanding work. We are an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation working across Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole. We exist to promote, support and produce performing arts projects in our communities. Bringing world class events to unexpected places, supporting our performing arts community is at the heart of everything we do.

## **Dorset National Landscape – Flavours**

Dorset National Landscape is beautiful, but people make it outstanding. Our mission is to protect and regenerate this designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. And to make sure everyone can enjoy it. As a small team, we work in partnership with many others and Flavours is one of our partnership projects.

The Flavours project for people from ethnic minority and refugee backgrounds living in Dorset. It helps build confidence to connect to nature in Dorset and to share food and drink in all its glorious expressions.

Flavours is a partnership between Dorset National Landscape, Activate Performing Arts, Dorset Race Equality Council, Dorset Food & Drink with support from National Lottery Heritage Fund and BPC Indian Community.

**Grace the Space** (GtS) is a community organisation that removes access barriers to green spaces and creative activities for diverse and marginalised, vulnerable and isolated women, especially women of the Global Majority. It was founded in 2021 by theatre practitioners Ruth Pitter and Natasha Nixon as an outcome of their residency with Activate Performing Arts on the Women Leaders South West Programme. Alice Flynn joined the team in 2022 and became a co-director in 2023. Grace the Space is currently working towards Belonging, a nature-based performance installation that we are co-creating with the women of the GtS community in 2027.

### **Ruth Pitter**



Ruth has extensive experience working in the arts and charity sectors. She is co-founder and performer with two Bristol based theatre companies for women of African and Caribbean heritage, Breathing Fire and Black Women Let Loose, and a director of nature based organisation, Soul Trail Wellbeing (Bristol).

She is a qualified teacher in adult learning, a keen hiker and draws inspiration from engaging with people from all walks of life. Ruth is co-founder and co-director of Grace the Space and was awarded an MBE for her services to equality, to charity and to the community in Bristol in 2024.'

## **Alice Flynn**



Alice is a writer, movement practitioner, theatremaker and highly experienced facilitator working in community arts.

Alice trained internationally as a director and actor in Viewpoints and Composition and the Suzuki Method with Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre, Australia. She has a degree in English Literature from Cardiff, University of Wales.

Alice's community arts work is diverse, ranging from working with vulnerable and marginalised adults in creative contexts through to tutoring movement for acting at higher education level. She is based in Bournemouth, Dorset.

**Dorset National Landscape** <https://dorset-nl.org.uk/>

## **Sue Dampney**



Sue leads on culture, community and learning projects for the Dorset National Landscape team. She has been central to the development and delivery of the Flavours project and is also currently working on the Nature Calling project with Activate, artists Radical Ritual and writer Louisa Adjoa Parker which culminates in September. She has developed the EDI Statement of Intent for the Dorset National Landscape partnership, taking a strategic approach to widening the reach of our work. By overseeing the team's communication work, she also tries to find ways to make the landscape welcoming, accessible and relevant to all.

### **Tom Munro**



Tom manages the team and coordinates activity and strategic policy for the Dorset National Landscape Partnership. Tom has a farming and wildlife background and coordinates specific conservation projects in Purbeck, alongside supporting the wider team activity

**Activate** <https://activateperformingarts.org.uk/>

### **Kate Wood**



Kate is Executive and Artistic Director of Activate and has over twenty-five years' experience working in the arts and creative industries. From performing and tour management, through to her current Director roles, taking Activate from a county-based organisation to one working with artists and producers from all over Europe.

Kate has had the pleasure of working with many talented artists and companies and has led Activate into several National and European partnerships in order to support, commission and present extraordinary artists and artistic work. Kate is Co-Artistic Director of Inside Out Dorset, helping to commission land-based performance and make the festival nationally distinctive.



## Caroline Suri



As a Dorset resident she enjoys working within the Dorset cultural community and exploring and experiencing the diverse range of events both at indoor arts venues and outside against the backdrop of the fantastic Dorset landscape. Her role at Activate is diverse and exciting and includes working on the creation and delivery of the outreach programme for Inside Out Dorset, bringing schools, community groups and artists together, engaging with venues across the region and working strategically with the team to strengthen performance opportunities for all across the county.

### **Outdoor Flavours – Creative Training.**

#### **What we can offer**

- An introductory online session delivered by Activate Producers and Members of Dorset National Landscapes Flavours team covering partnership work and the context and background of the Flavours Project. **Wednesday 22<sup>ND</sup> October – online evening session**
- A full day workshop on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November** at Durlston Country Park Education Space delivered in person. Up to 10 places available.
- Meals and refreshments throughout the day
- A bursary of £125 per participant towards costs and expenses

#### **Who can apply**

- We're keen to hear from both emerging artists and practicing artists.
- Open to artists, performance makers and arts facilitators who live or work in Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole. We're interested in a wide range of art forms including theatre making, dance, music making, including singing, visuals arts including drawing, painting, print making and collage.
- We particularly welcome applications from people who have experienced barriers or prejudice relating to their age, gender identity, ethnicity and/or having a disability or long-term health condition, their sexuality, or being from a working class/ low-income background.
- You don't need to have previous experience in the area of making work for outdoor locations or working with diverse communities.

## How to apply

To apply please send the following to [info@activateperformingarts.org.uk](mailto:info@activateperformingarts.org.uk)

- Please include a CV and one piece of additional material (see below) outlining your artistic practice and how we will gain value from working with you. Please include why you are interested in learning more about building connections to landscape for diverse communities.
- Please also include your name, date of birth, postcode and contact details, including phone and email

Additional material – you can send up to one side of A4 (approx. 500 words) or alternatively, you can apply via video or audio rather than via written form; maximum length 3 minutes.

If you need additional access support, please contact the Activate team on 01305 260954 or [info@activateperformingarts.org.uk](mailto:info@activateperformingarts.org.uk)

## When

- The deadline for application is midday on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**. Please send completed applications to [info@activateperformingarts.org.uk](mailto:info@activateperformingarts.org.uk)
- We will notify those who are successful by Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

## How we will make our decisions

Members of the Activate producer team and Flavours team will undertake the selection process, along with Artistic Director, Kate Wood.

We aim to reach decisions by Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October and will notify all applicants by phone or email so keep us informed of any changes to your contact details during the assessment period.

Main image photograph Dorset National Landscape

Photograph of Ruth Pitter by Olumide Osinoiki

Photograph of Tom Munro by Katharine Davies

