**23 June 2021**

**Libraries Connected funded projects:**

**INN CROWD pilot touring events in library spaces**

**1: PROPOSAL**

[*INN CROWD*](http://www.inncrowd.org.uk) have been working with Libraries Connected to create a pilot tour of events in library spaces, to help libraries re-engage their communities with cultural activities.

Libraries Connected, in partnership with INN CROWD, are inviting library services in England to apply for the opportunity to work with INN CROWD and receive one of their live events packages to host in one of their libraries.

This will include a live show from one of their amazing performers or a workshop style event or film screening. The event can be tailored/adapted to the library requirements and audience and any Covid related restrictions and will be planned in discussion with the library service.

We are inviting Expressions of Interest from library services who would be interested in hosting one of the events. Funding is available via Libraries Connected’s Universal Culture and Creativity Offer to give approximately 10 library services the opportunity to work with INN CROWD and host one of the events.

Find out more about INN CROWD and the performers currently touring, the shows, films and projects and what’s on at [*www.inncrowd.org.uk*](http://www.inncrowd.org.uk) and [*www.inncrowd.org.uk/performers*](http://www.inncrowd.org.uk/performers/)

If you are interested, please complete the attached expression of interest and return it to

[*info@librariesconnected.org.uk*](mailto:info@librariesconnected.org.uk) **by 5pm 8 July 2021**.

Successful applicants will be invited to an introductory online meeting in August with INN CROWD to agree the event details and start the planning process.

**2: ABOUT INN CROWD**

Started in 2016, INN CROWD is a unique arts project, devised by partners Applause Rural Touring, Creative Arts East and National Centre for Writing with support from Pub is the Hub. From 2016-19 INN CROWD supported rural pubs throughout the Southeast and East of England to host exciting and inspiring spoken word, poetry and storytelling performances in their pubs, reaching and engaging with a wide range of audiences.

Following the award of a significant grant from Arts Council England, INN CROWD will tour spoken word and live literature nationally across the country through partnerships with a network of rural touring schemes. In addition to performances in pubs, INN CROWD will also tour to other new spaces including libraries bringing people together and giving direct access to high quality brilliant performances in communities.

The INN CROWD:

* Have expertise working with low-engaged and isolated audiences
* Have expertise attracting new audiences to venues
* Work is specifically created to adapt to all types of spaces
* Are experienced in supporting those who do not usually host shows from booking to post-show evaluation.

**3: IMPROVING ENGAGEMENT IN LIBRARIES**

As we hopefully move towards a period of recovery, Libraries Connected are looking forward to working closely with the INN CROWD to:

* Explore the role of the library in creating local cultural places, boosting community connections
* Support artists and performers
* Improve community wellbeing
* Reach new audiences
* Offer audiences quality performances celebrating communities, diversity and identity and a safe space to escape and enjoy a new experience.

**4: THE PROCESS**

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| Action | By |
| Libraries complete and submit a simple expression of interest | 5pm 8 July 2021 |
| Selection process | W/B 12 July 2021 |
| Library Services notified | W/B 26 July 2021 |
| Successful services invited to an individual online meeting with INN CROWD to plan their event | W/B 9 August 2021 |
| Performance events to start | September 2021 |
| Performance packages delivered | September 2021-January 2022 |
| Case study/evaluations written and submitted | February 2022 |
| Sharing session online with INN CROWD and Libraries Connected | March 2022 |

**5: WHAT TO DO NOW**

Write your expression of interest via the form below and submit it to [*info@librariesconnected.org.uk*](mailto:info@librariesconnected.org.uk) by **5pm** **8 July 2021**

**Expression of Interest form**

1: Name of authority Click or tap here to enter text.

2: Lead contact Click or tap here to enter text.

3: Email address Click or tap here to enter text.

4: Phone number Click or tap here to enter text.

**Please explain in no more than 500 words**:

* How the project will help you to reengage with audiences and communities
* Whether there is a particular group you are hoping to reach through this project
* Your preference for a live performance, workshop style or film screening event
* Details of the library and the space in which you would host the event.

**Your preferred delivery month (between September 2021 and January 2022**)

**Please indicate your first, second and third choice**

1:Click or tap here to enter text.

2:Click or tap here to enter text.

3:Click or tap here to enter text.

We agree to provide feedback, participate in a short evaluation survey and provide a short report that could include photos, video and customer comments and lessons learned