

Northern Cultural Ambassadors Network

Enabling cultural learning for young people in North East England.

Web-site: www.ncan.co.uk

Twitter: @CultAmbassadors



What is the Northern Cultural Ambassadors Network?

Northern Cultural Ambassadors is a network that facilitates a two-way dialogue between the educational and cultural sectors within the North East to allow young people to access high quality arts and cultural experiences.

The Network enables Cultural Ambassadors to access the arts most appropriate to their needs and in doing so enable all young people to effectively receive their cultural entitlement. The Network allows Cultural Partners to improve and promote their offer to young people, and help teachers and youth leaders to access quality arts experiences.

If you are a teacher, youth leader or work with groups of young people then read on...you could be an **Ambassador**. If you are a cultural venue, artist, architect, scientist (the list is endless...) with a passion for creative teaching and learning and are able to offer workshops in formal or informal education settings, we would love you to be a Partner.

Who are the Ambassadors?

Cultural Ambassadors can exist in any learning setting, and there are many in Gateshead as well as in Newcastle, and Northumberland, ranging from Early Years to Post-16. The majority are in schools, but Ambassadors also exist in Early Years settings, charities, community and youth groups and Local Authorities. Ambassadors volunteer to receive news of creative opportunities on behalf of their colleagues and the young people they work with and circulate these accordingly.

Who are the Partners?

Cultural Partners are artists, cultural venues and arts organisations. They work throughout a diversity of art forms, including but not limited to dance, drama, visual arts, music technology and digital media. They can come along to an Ambassador's

learning setting to deliver a workshop, or groups can visit their cultural venue, such as a gallery, museum or theatre.

What does the Network offer?

Registered Ambassadors and Partners receive membership details for **www.ncan.co.uk** where they can access their profile in a similar way to social networking sites. This profile can be edited and updated by each member, whether they are an Ambassador or a Partner.

The website is fully searchable to allow learning settings to locate appropriate Partners and allows Partners to share best practice and showcase their work directly to Ambassadors.

Ambassadors and Partners also receive fortnightly e-bulletins. These bulletins give information on creative events for young people, training opportunities, creative resources, and special offers and freebies.

Partner e-bulletins show news from within the educational and cultural sectors including job and training opportunities.

Partners are also invited to submit promotional materials that are then distributed directly to Ambassadors on a termly basis. The website lists opportunities and online resources, as well as showcasing Ambassadors' and Partners' projects.

There is also a calendar listing events throughout the region. Ambassadors and Partners can click on a calendar entry to find out more information including event times, event content and directions and a map for the event.

In order to get the most out of the network, you should:

- Check our website regularly for the latest opportunities.
- Log in to your profile on the website and keep it updated.
- Share our e-bulletin and mailings with your colleagues.
- Get involved with creative and cultural opportunities for your colleagues and the young people you work with.
- Contact your Network Co-ordinator for advice and information about working with the Cultural Partners, or with Ambassadors.
- Let colleagues know of your role as Ambassador.

To join the network, please contact your Network Co-ordinator:

- victoriaanderson@gateshead.gov.uk or joanneanderson@gateshead.gov.uk



Gateshead School Sculpture Days. Photo by Mark Savage