



# **OPPORTUNITIES AND COLLABORATORS - LET'S JOIN UP!**

Here's a list of other community events you and your Maker team can get involved in - handily collated month by month throughout the year ...

# JANUARY

## THE JANUARY CHALLENGE

Each year, thousands of people take part in 64 Million Artists' 31 days of free creative challenges. <u>The January Challenge</u> takes place across social media and promotes creativity, peer support and wellbeing.

# **FEBRUARY**

## LGBT HISTORY MONTH

Promoting equality and diversity for the benefit of the public. Increasing the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender ("LGBT") people, their history, lives and their experiences in the curriculum and culture of educational and other institutions, and the wider community. More info here.

#### MARCH

#### **BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK**

The British Science Association runs <u>British Science Week</u> every March, and welcomes involvement from anyone interested in science and local events. As a Fun Palace Maker, you might want to link with a local BSA branch, join in with their events and invite them to contribute to yours. This year's dates are 5-14 March.

#### MAY

#### AGE OF CREATIVITY FESTIVAL

The Age of Creativity supports professionals in arts, health, culture, social care, academia, voluntary and community sectors to enable more older people to take part creative activities and enjoy improved health, wellbeing and quality of life. The Age of Creativity will be running its fourth festival, from 1<sup>st</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021. <u>Find out more here</u>.



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# **GET CREATIVE**

Get Creative is run by a group of cultural organisations to celebrate and support the everyday creativity happening spaces across the UK. It aims to inspire people to try something new at home or during the annual Get Creative Festival, 8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May 2021. To join in <u>click here</u>.

## JUNE

## **THE BIG LUNCH**

<u>The Big Lunch</u> calls on communities to take part in the UK's annual get-together for neighbours by hosting their own Big Lunch. Organising a Big Lunch with your is a great way to start some conversations about your Fun Palace – who knows what you can come up with over lunch? This year it takes place on 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

#### MAKE MUSIC DAY

<u>Make Music Day</u> is a free celebration of music around the world and takes place on June 21st 2021. It was launched in 1982 in France as the Fête de la Musique and is now held on the same day in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries. It is open to anyone who wants to take part and is free and open to the public.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### **HERITAGE OPEN DAYS**

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture. Every year places across the country open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. See hidden places and try out new experiences. Heritage Open Days 2021 will be 10<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> September. <u>Check out their website</u> to find out how you can get involved.

#### **OCTOBER**

FUN PALACES! (you knew that, right?)

#### **SILVER SUNDAY**

Silver Sunday provides an opportunity for local authorities, charities, community groups and private, voluntary and public organisations to promote what they already do to relieve social isolation and loneliness among older people. This year it's 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021, so if you are an older person or making a Fun Palace with older people, sign your Fun Palace up to Silver Sunday too. <u>Find out more here</u>.



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# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Black History Month takes place throughout October and is an opportunity to remember the past and look to the future, joining together to renew our commitment to racial equality. As it happens annually (in the UK) during October, it's a great opportunity to make a fuss about local history and learning in your Fun Palace. <u>Black History Month</u>.

## ... And here's a couple of organisations doing great things year-round:

#### **RE-ENGAGE**

Re-Engage brings older people together in social groups at a time in their lives when their social circles are diminishing. Last year, nearly 7,000 older guests were part of over 900 groups across the UK, supported by 12,000 volunteers. Have a look at their website to see if there is a group near you – perhaps they can be part of your Fun Palace this year.

#### WHAT NEXT?

What Next? is a UK-wide movement bringing people together to articulate, champion and strengthen the role of culture in our society. There are local chapters across the UK, bringing together those working in or passionate about culture, to address issues of relevance to them. WN? Chapters are a great way to meet people that may be keen to get involved with your Fun Palace, to spread the word, and importantly, to place your Fun Palace in the context of political discussions about arts and culture in your area. You can find out more <u>here</u>.

#### THE GREAT GET TOGETHER

The Great Get Together is an initiative inspired by the late Jo Cox designed to bring people together to celebrate what they have in common; in her first speech in Parliament, Jo said: "We have more in common than that which divides us." The Great Get Together hold several events across the UK throughout the year. Find out more.



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