

# GET INVOLVED

The 1100th anniversary of the crowning of King Athelstan in Kingston-upon-Thames in 2025 provides a springboard to bring people and organisations together to explore the borough's diverse and contemporary identity, through core themes developed with the community.



Photo by: Eleanor Bentall

Celebrating our  
past, present  
and future



[kingstonheritage.org.uk/  
kingston2025](https://kingstonheritage.org.uk/kingston2025)





# Ciné Schools



Calling all young musicians! We're on the look out for musicians to be a part of the first primary school Kingston Ensemble for 2025 to perform live to a new film about Kingston. Organised by Cine Schools this project has been programmed as part of the Kingston 2025 celebrations. The film screening and live music performance will take place at The Rose Theatre in June.

## Ensemble Auditions

Auditioning is straightforward, all the information you need is in the [video here](#).

Please submit the short recording to [george@cineschools.com](mailto:george@cineschools.com) along with the following information:

- School Name
- Parent Name
- Student Name
- Year Group
- Preferred Instrument

Successful applicants will be contacted during February Half Term.

## Children's International Film Festival



**Friday 6th June 2025 - 10am - 3pm**

This summer Ciné Schools will launch London's first Children's International Film Festival, organised in collaboration with the established Kingston International Film Festival. The Children's Film Festival will be the largest of its kind in the UK and will take place at various venues across Kingston. Screenings will include films made not just by our Film Academies here in West London, but by students from all over the world, including schools in Ukraine, Cambodia, Nepal, South Africa and Alaska.

The day starts with presentations and Q+As with film industry professionals. This will be followed by masterclasses and events, with hands-on practical demonstrations that explore the process of making films across various disciplines. At 12.30pm there will be a very special Festival Film Premier screening at The Rose Theatre.

Full programme TBC

# Kingston International Film Festival



FILM CHALLENGE - KINGSTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 6 – 8th June 2025

website: [www.kiffest.uk](http://www.kiffest.uk)

Age Groups:

## U15 – SHOOT A FILM ON YOUR PHONE

The winner(s) will receive a VIP pass to attend the 2025 festival

Top 6 winning films will be shown at the Odeon cinema during KIFF 2025.

### YOUR BRIEF

You are being hired by the Kingston Tourist Board to make a 90 second film to promote Kingston to visitors from around the world. As Kingston is your hometown, you will know best how to highlight the most exciting parts of the town. Ask yourself: What would you want to see when you visit Kingston for the first time?

To include:

- 3 Kingston Landmarks
- Kingston upon Thames borough logo
- End credits including your school's name and everyone involved and KIFF logo

## U18 – SHOOT A FILM ON YOUR PHONE

The same prize and brief as for U15 AND in addition you will need to:

- Create your own Production Company Name
- Create your Company logo
- Create a strapline for the film

**The final 6 films of both U15 and U18 categories will be judged by Mike Newell, director of *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*, & *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.**

## U 12 - CREATE A POSTER FOR OUR CANBURY GARDENS OUTDOOR CINEMA

The winner will receive 12 complimentary tickets to Canbury Gardens Outdoor Cinema on May 4th 2025.

Top 10 winning posters will be exhibited as part of the Poster Exhibition on show during the 2025 festival. In addition, they will be shown on the big screen at Canbury Gardens Outdoor Cinema

### YOUR BRIEF

Choose your favourite film and create a poster for it at the “Outdoor Cinema in Canbury Gardens”. Size A3 Landscape.

To Include:

Film title

Name of the stars in the film

Date: 4th of May 2025

Location: Canbury Gardens

We will supply images from the last 2 years screenings in Canbury Gardens as well as samples of cinema posters.

If you wish to enter these competitions, and for full details, please contact Jelena Lutzel: [jelena@kiffest.uk](mailto:jelena@kiffest.uk)

## Workshops for local primary and secondary schools

Hayes Ng, a PHD student at Kingston University will be running workshops at local primary and secondary schools and at Kingston Museum exploring migration, the local community and celebrating diversity within our borough from May to October 2025.

If your school and/or class is interested in these bespoke workshops please email: [rhys.paul@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:rhys.paul@kingston.gov.uk) - workshops are limited.



## Workshop 1: Community Mapping

This workshop invites students to explore living in Kingston through creative mapping, fostering a sense of connection and belonging. Over the session students will use mapping tools to visualize the places, people, and experiences that shape their daily lives. Guided activities encourage students to reflect on their personal stories, share perspectives, and collaborate on creating a collective Kingston map. This process not only allows students to see their role within their community but also provides a platform for emotional expression and engagement.

By the end of the workshop, students will contribute to the "Kingston Map Collection," a compilation of their maps that will form part of a community archive. This archive will serve as a valuable cultural resource, showcasing the diversity and experiences of Kingston's youth. The workshop helps foster self awareness, creativity, and empathy while encouraging students to view themselves as active contributors to their environment. It also strengthens ties between students and their community, highlighting the importance of youth voices in shaping Kingston's identity.





# Anglo-Saxon Workshops at Kingston Museum

On the 1100th anniversary of Athelstan's coronation in Kingston, book a school visit to Kingston Museum for an Anglo-Saxon inspired workshop. These sessions are the perfect introduction for students as they discover Kingston's connections to the Anglo-Saxon period.

## Our Kingston Story

### Key Stage 1 | 45-60 minutes

Get 'hands on' with history with Our Kingston Story - an interactive introduction to the history of Kingston-upon-Thames. There is only one problem - our map is missing important moments from Kingston's history! We need your help to rediscover Kingston's past. Explore Kingston Museum and discover local heroes, Athelstan, first King of England, and Eadweard Muybridge, pioneering Victorian photographer as you develop an awareness of local history through key events, people and places. You will be encouraged to ask questions and seek answers as we rediscover those missing moments in order to tell our collective Kingston story

## Saxon Stories - In partnership with All Saints Church

### Key Stage 2 | 105 minutes

In partnership with All Saints Church, we offer a dual workshop package that includes an interactive session at both Kingston Museum and All Saints Church.

Discover Kingston's rich Anglo-Saxon history and develop an understanding of daily life in Saxon Kingston through object-based exploration at Kingston Museum. Using this knowledge, you will then walk in the footsteps of Athelstan, first King of England by reenacting his coronation ceremony at All Saints Church over a thousand years ago.

Each workshop lasts approximately 45 minutes with an additional 15 minutes to transfer between the two sites. This also provides a great opportunity to see the Coronation Stone - believed to have been present at up to seven Anglo-Saxon coronations - as you travel between sites.



## Saxon Stories (Museum only)

### Key Stage 2 | 45-60 minutes

The Saxons were renowned for their storytelling and you can join us here, at Kingston Museum, to find out about the role Kingston played in the Saxon story.

Exploring the Museum, you will help us tell over 600 years of Anglo-Saxon history through guided exploration and embedded object handling as you discover what life was like in 'Cyningestun'. Our workshop covers the period from the Roman withdrawal (410) to the eve of the Battle of Hastings (1066) with a particular focus on Athelstan and the Vikings.

This session has been curated in line with the local history of Kingston and the National Curriculum. It aims to consolidate classroom-based learning in a museum environment.

## Saxon Textiles - In partnership with Ariadne's Thread Group

### Key Stage 2 | 90 minutes

Come and learn about the history of natural fibres from the Anglo-Saxon period in a hands-on workshop. Watch the magical process of how sheep fleece and flax were turned into yarns and cloth. In this interactive session the students will have an opportunity to try basic yarn spinning and practice simple embroidery techniques. There will be time to explore the museum's textiles collection and ask questions about their history and the making.

All of our Anglo-Saxon workshops take place on-site at Kingston Museum.

If your school and/or class is interested in these bespoke workshops for further information and booking costs, please email: [rhys.paul@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:rhys.paul@kingston.gov.uk)



**KINGSTON**  
HERITAGE SERVICE



# Summer Reading Challenge

## KINGSTON 2025 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Kingston Libraries is excited to announce that this summer's Reading Challenge will have a unique theme tying in with the borough wide Kingston 2025 celebrations to mark 1100 years since King Athelstan was crowned the first King of England, and celebrate Kingston and its residents throughout the centuries. Did you know this historic crowning happened in Kingston? We look forward to welcoming all our young readers into the libraries and helping them uncover amazing local history facts and celebrate exciting reads this summer.

More details closer to the time on [Kingston Libraries' website](#) or in your local library.

## Community Dance Showcase - Dance West Fest



### Call out for Community Groups

Get ready to step into the spotlight - DanceWest Fest, West London's biggest celebration of dance, returns on Sunday 15th June 2025!

We're calling on community dance groups of all ages, styles, and abilities to join us at the Rose Theatre, Kingston, for a spectacular showcase of talent, creativity, and movement. The event will also feature in the Kingston 2025 cultural programme, which will be a special celebration of the borough's past, present and future. DanceWest Fest is a vibrant platform that brings together performers from across the region to share their passion for dance on a professional stage. Whether you're part of a school, a community group, or a dance company, this is your chance to shine in front of an enthusiastic audience, surrounded by the energy and joy of live performance.

DanceWest is committed to championing dance for everyone. Join us as we celebrate the diversity and creativity of our local dance community. Let's make DanceWest Fest 2025 an unforgettable experience!

## How to Get Involved

We're seeking 25 dance groups to participate in this year's festival. Performances will be professionally produced, ensuring a memorable moment for you and your dancers. Interested in showcasing your work? Apply now and be part of this extraordinary event!

## Our offer

Community Dance Platform at the Rose Theatre Kingston. Each group will be part of a professionally produced ticketed event Photograph of your group in action for you to keep.

Performance dates Sunday 15th June 13:30 & 19:00 at the Rose Theatre Kingston Location Rose Theatre, 24-26 High St, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1HL

## Who can apply?

We are seeking an array of dance groups regardless of age, ability and style to take part! Schools, Youth Groups, inclusive dance groups and older adults.

Timescales Deadline for applications: Friday 24 February 2025 Groups will be informed: Mid March 2025 Performances: Sunday 15th June 2025

Apply here : [DanceWest Fest 2025](#)

## 'Bridging Kingston'

Bridging Kingston is an exciting new music production specially commissioned for schools and young musicians to be staged at the Rose Theatre. The vision of the work is to invoke time, place, community, and lesser-heard voices through the theme 'Bridging Kingston'. The theme will explore more contemporary interpretations of Kingston's identity and sense of place through the generations.

This project is now full and rehearsals are underway. Tickets to see the final production will be available as part of FUSE International Festival.

