

SOUTH EAST LONDON FESTIVALS

Sydenham Arts Festival



Sydenham Arts Festival is an annual celebration of music, theatre, dance, art, film, spoken word, outdoor and family events – taking place in venues both familiar and unusual in and around Sydenham for two weeks every July. It transforms non-conventional spaces into performance and exhibition venues: pubs, churches, halls, parks, shops, libraries, schools and the high street.

Sydenham Arts Festival provides free participatory workshops engaging the public in new arts skills: dance, drama, singing, film-making and poetry to name just a few. It also mentors young people and new writers through its ongoing projects and creates open-air theatre for all ages.

Lewisham People's Day

Lewisham People's Day, is south east London's biggest and longest running FREE community festival. The event happens in July in Mountsfield Park, in Catford, London.



Black History Month

Lewisham's Black History Month runs every October and brings together a series of events that celebrate the culture, history and achievements of black and ethnic minority communities.

New Cross Festival (Fordham Park)

The event consists of a mini food festival, arts & crafts, storytelling, a puppet show, games, face-painting, competitions and a myriad of music and dance performances, participative workshops in carnival arts, salsa and more, and a carnival procession

Brockley Max Festival

The Brockley Max Festival features music, performance arts and exhibitions in a programme of free events. It celebrates the work of local artists and has plenty of events for kids and adults of all ages.

With a series of fun and creative events, the Brockley Max Festival aims to foster a real community spirit. There's live music, cemetery tours, poetry recitals, comedy shows, theatre performances, art exhibitions, open studios, film screenings and much more special events at venues around Brockley.

<http://brockleymax.co.uk/>

Dulwich Festival

<http://www.dulwichfestival.co.uk/>

LONDON FESTIVALS

The Mayor's Thames Festival

The Mayor's Thames Festival is a spectacular 10-day festival of free events celebrating London and its river. First launched in 1997 with a high wire walk across the Thames, the Mayor's Thames Festival has grown to become London's biggest free outdoor arts festival and a highlight event on the London calendar. Londoners of all ages can enjoy free entertainment in a lively, festival atmosphere and can experience a host of activities on offer - river-themed art, music and educational events both on the Thames and along its banks and bridges.

<http://totallythames.org/>

The Lord Mayor's Show

The Lord Mayor's Show has floated, rolled, trotted, marched and occasionally fought its way through 798 years of London history, surviving the black death and the blitz to arrive in the 21st century as one of the world's best-loved pageants. Thanks to the ancient and justified concerns of King John, every newly-elected Lord Mayor is required to leave the safety of the City of London, travel upriver to distant Westminster and swear loyalty to the Crown.

Over the centuries this inconvenient journey became one of London's favourite rituals. It moved from river barges to horseback and then into the magnificent State Coach, and around it grew the rowdy and joyful mediæval festival that became known as the Lord Mayor's Show.

That ancient pageant is still going today. There are fewer sword fights these days but the floats are grander than ever and it's a great day out for every generation.

<http://www.lordmayorsshow.org/>

Notting Hill Carnival

The streets of West London come alive every August Bank Holiday weekend as London celebrates Europe's biggest street festival – the Notting Hill Carnival.

With a Caribbean theme that sees West London packed with steel bands, Calypso music and tempting food stalls, the Notting Hill Carnival is a huge party.

First held in 1964 as an offshoot of the Trinidad Carnival, the Notting Hill Carnival has remained true to its Caribbean roots, bringing a spirit of diversity to London. When the Notting Hill Carnival first started, around 500 people attended. Today it attracts hundreds of thousands to London, and continues to grow in popularity.

<http://www.thenottinghillcarnival.com/>