

Arts and Culture Strategy (2018-22)

Vision – Changing the world for the better by providing inspiring arts and culture for everyone

Arts, culture and creativity are at the heart of the University of Southampton.

We are home to renowned Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations, five leading research-active faculties including Arts and Humanities, a multi-disciplinary Public Engagement with Research Unit and over 40 creative industries and performing arts student societies.

Our arts and culture programme is locally relevant and internationally acclaimed.

We support high quality, innovative and interdisciplinary practices that bring together artists with pioneering researchers.

We attract leading national and international talent, from our students and staff, to the artists we work with.

Our arts and culture programme enriches people's lives, giving opportunities for discovery, increasing creative engagement, connectivity and well-being for our students, staff and diverse communities.

Mission – building on our history as a pioneering arts patron

We produce exceptional arts and culture within an international interdisciplinary context.

We nurture new talent and create unique opportunities for artists, communities and researchers to collaborate with each other.

We are investing in the cultural life of Southampton, building its profile as a vibrant city in which to live, work, study and visit.

We promote the role that the arts and everyday creativity can play in innovative, cutting edge research, increasing engagement and impact.

We build the reputation of our students, our staff and the University through mutually beneficial and sustainable partnerships across our networks.

We recognise, demonstrate and celebrate the positive impact that the arts and culture can have on people's lives.

Actions – to achieve this

We will contribute to Southampton's growing reputation and animate the city through our inspiring arts and culture programme.

We will increase the visibility of the arts and creativity as an essential part of everyday University life, and develop our local, national and international communications strategy.

We will increase access and engagement in the arts and culture by placing students, staff and diverse communities at the centre of our plans.

We will increase our students' career prospects through professional development opportunities and workplace placements.

We will celebrate the creative achievements of our students, staff, alumni and communities at all career stages.

We will be collegiate and pro-active, seeking partnership working through interdisciplinary research and collaborations with the cultural sector and communities.

We will be pro-active and enterprising, seeking innovations and opportunities to increase our resilience and sustainability.