



Keeping Performance Live: the Future of Performing Arts Collections in Public Libraries seminar

Wednesday 23 October 2019, Arts Council England, [21, Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1B 3HF](#) (rooms 12 & 13).

Aims for the day:

- To identify current issues and challenges in the management and delivery of performing arts collections, including the lack of a national database and the need for evidence based internal and external advocacy;
- To share best practice through case study presentations;
- To identify solutions and next steps for ensuring an effective and sustainable future for the delivery of services.

The seminar is aimed at public library services that provide a performing arts collection loan service and partner organisations.

Programme:

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| 10.30 | Registration and refreshments |
| 11.00 | Welcome: Shelagh Levett, Director, SWRLS CIO |
| 11.05 | Context and aims: Sue Williamson, Director, Libraries and Birmingham, Arts Council England. |
| 11.25 | <p>Case studies:</p> <p>1. Joining The Dots: a regional perspective. Sue Crowley, Strategic Manager Library Services, Somerset County Council. Sue will share the South West experience of exploring the challenge of identifying a multi-authority approach to managing Performing Arts Services in public libraries.</p> <p>2. Nottingham Performing Arts (Regional) Library Service (NPALS) - 3 years on. Stephen Chartres, Performance & Improvement Manager, Sport & Culture, Nottingham City Council. The presentation will provide an overview of the background to, set up and service operation of NPALS and the opportunities and developments that have taken place since the launch of the service in January 2016.</p> <p>3. Surrey Performing Arts Library: from SPAL to NewSPAL. Craig Jones, Community Connections Lead, Surrey Library Service. The presentation will talk about the transfer of the Surrey Performing Arts Library from Surrey County Council control to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It will cover the reasons for the decision, the engagement with possible organisations willing to take it over and the process involved in moving towards making the transfer a reality, which is still in progress.</p> |

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| | 4. Saved for Posterity. Judy Smith, MBE, Volunteer Fundraiser and Ceri Mann, Administrator, Community and Youth Music Library, based in Hornsey, London. Judy will talk about how the Community and Youth Music Library became a charitable company and the challenges facing it. |
| 12.45 | Lunch |
| 13.30 | Round table discussions, facilitated by Fiona Goh, freelance cultural consultant. There will be four discussion topics, with delegates moving tables to discuss each issue. A briefing paper will be issued before the seminar with further details of the round table discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocacy including audience development; 2. Development and partnerships; 3. Funding; 4. Systems and management. |
| 15.00 | Feedback from table discussions - Fiona Goh |
| 15.45 | Next steps - Fiona Goh and Sue Williamson. |
| 15.55 | Closing remarks - Sue Williamson. |

SWRLS CIO: taking a strategic and partnership approach to serving communities by developing staff, services and resources that are inclusive, sustainable and enhance learning.

