

We

Invented the Weekend

The festival
of free time



Sat 3 June 2023 10:00–22:00
Sun 4 June 2023 10:00–18:00

MediaCity & Salford Quays-Salford, Greater Manchester



@WeInventedTheWeekend

weinventedtheweekend.com

Supported by

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WHAT'S ON >

Welcome to the first ever We Invented the Weekend festival

which throws open MediaCity and Salford Quays on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th June to celebrate the invention of the weekend, a world changing moment that took place right here in Greater Manchester in 1843.

We're so excited to present a programme of well over 200 free events delivered through collaboration with dozens of brilliant local organisations. A huge thank you to all of our partners, supporters and the people of the City of Salford, whose collective passion and determination to create a truly inclusive and joyful event is why we're here for this massive showstopper weekend of activity, creativity and community.

So let your hair down, try new things, make new friends and let's show the world that we didn't just invent the weekend, we know how to celebrate it!

@WeInventedTheWeekend

Festival Times

SAT 3 JUNE 10:00-22:00

SUN 4 JUNE 10:00-18:00



weinventedtheweekend.com

LOCATIONS

MediaCity Weekend Stage

The festival's main hub with music and performance across the weekend. Don't miss: [The Musical Story of The Gingerbread Man](#) with the BBC Philharmonic - Neo soul from [Lovescene](#) - family rave with Playhouse Project - And a funk and soul-tastic [Craig Charles](#) festival finale.

MediaCity Piazza

The heart of the festival - expect food, drink, arts and craft markets, the North's first [Charity Super.Mkt](#), roaming performances and more. Or just grab a deckchair, a drink and soak up the main stage action.

Box on the Docks

Join local collective [Girl Gang MCR](#) for [dance classes](#), [sewing & stitching sessions](#) and [Angst Aerobics](#) - an emotional exorcism through exercise! Whilst [Pete Obsolete](#) will deliver one of his popular [OverDrawn](#) interactive art events. Or just chill out and enjoy some delicious independent food and drink.

Freetime Stage

Chill in the tent or lounge on the lawn whilst listening to expert talks with the RHS including [Cloud Gardener](#) and [Garden Ninja](#); hear [Wayne Hemingway](#) MBE & [Patrick Grant](#) in conversation; learn to werk the runway with [Ghetto Fabulous](#), then on Sunday [SFTOC](#) presents [Sounds From the Other Quays](#) with local music talent including [OneDa](#) and [iamkyami](#).

Weekend Arena Sports Hub

Sports for everyone! Don't miss: A huge range of try-outs from [Salford Community Leisure](#) including footie, archery, basketball, dodgeball and much more. Plus crazy golf, [UBX boxing sessions](#) and skateboarding with [Northern Rolling](#).

The Lowry Plaza

Plonk yourself on the plaza for performances, DJ sets and more. Don't miss: a special preview of [Kargo's](#) delicious [street food traders](#); Sing-ergy with the [Barton Belles A Capella Choir](#) - [Weekend Woofers Dog Show](#) - [Traditional Persian dance performance](#) - [Living Room Dance Club](#) - And on Sunday some brilliant DJs courtesy of [Sounds From the Other City](#).

The Lowry

Get stuck in to free creative family activities, put your painting skills to the test with [Gogglebox](#) star and [Salfordian artist, Helena Worthington](#) as she shows you how to paint just like our beloved Lowry. And on Sunday afternoon, cheer on the 15 brave young artists at [Art Battle: The Next Generation](#) - the live competitive painting event opening the floor to the next generation for the first time.

The Reading Lawn / The Green

From horticultural fun to pop-up libraries and creative workshops! RHS Bridgewater will be on hand for a [plant swap](#) and [propagation tips](#); enjoy fruit and veg fun and games with [Walk the Plank's Veg Tombola](#); oin, read and borrow with the [Salford Pop-Up Library](#) and [National Literacy Trust](#); then head to [CBeebies Bedtime Stories LIVE](#) to enjoy stories read by a host of special guests.

Quayside Shopping Centre

Check out the Science and Industry Museum's huge hands-on activity, [Mega Makers](#); help [Manchester Street Poem](#) create a huge artwork; pop in [Flock & Gaggles](#) to make your own Salford Bird; head to the pop-up [Community Clothing swap shop](#); join workshops on street dance, printing, acapella and more, then top it all off by bringing your A-game to the [Ping Pong Parlour](#).

dock10 Open Centre

Get creative with a brilliant mix of workshops from [screen printing](#) with [Hot Bed Press](#) and [postcard printing](#) with [Sally Gilford](#) to creating colourful sculptures, ceramics, fabric button badges and more.

University of Salford

We think big at the weekend! Head to the University for an inspiring range of talks and workshops with an impressive mix of speakers. From the [Four Day Week](#) to fast fashion and the impact of sport and music, it's time to debate the issues facing us all today.

Roaming activity

Keep your eyes peeled for [The Bread and Butter Theatre Company](#) who are bringing their hilarious horticultural antics to the festival; do a good deed and join the [Salford Litter Pickers](#), and don't forget your dancing shoes as motivational dance explosion [Ailsa McPhee](#) ('The Daily Dance') gets us all in groove!



Map Key

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1 HOST | 8 MediaCity Community Garden | |
| 2 dock10 Open Centre | 9 The Green | |
| 3 Weekend Arena Sports Hub | 10 The Reading Lawn | |
| 4 Dockyard | 11 Dock 9 | |
| 5 Box on the Docks | 12 Get Your Docks Off boarding point | |
| 6 We Think Big talks and workshops | 13 Salford Quays Community Garden | |
| 7 Freetime Stage | | |
| 5-a-side Football Pitch | Toilets | Information |
| First Aid | Changing Places | Parking |
| Markets | Festival street food traders (plus loads more food and drink across the site) | Tram Stop |

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WHAT'S ON ✓



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Highlights



MARY-ELLEN MCTAGUE



CRAIG CHARLES



YEMI BOLATIWA



The North's first Charity Super.Mkt

SAT & SUN FROM 10:00

The UK's first ever multi-charity shop hosts their ever first pop-up! Browse the rails of eleven charities and know that every pound you spend is for good causes! There's a sustainable fashion theme across the festival as [Community Clothing](#) & their founder Patrick Grant are running a pop-up swap shop in Quayside. And head to the Freetime stage at 12.30 on Saturday to catch Patrick and Wayne Hemingway MBE as they have a chin-wag about their journeys in fashion.

[Charity Super.Mkt: MediaCity Piazza / Community Clothing Pop-up: Level 1, Quayside Shopping Centre](#)

Weekend Woofers Dog Show

SUN 10:00-11:15

Does your dog have the waggiest tail? It's time to show off your four legged friend with our Dog show by Animal Direction. Anyone could win a prize, from perfect pups to old dogs with new tricks.

The Lowry Plaza

→ NO NEED TO PRE-BOOK, PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES EARLY TO ENTER YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIEND.

Get Your Docks Off – musical boat rides

SAT & SUN FROM 15:00

Get Your Docks Off has something to float everyone's boat with a series of genre-themed canal cruises, with DJs and special guests sailing you through all the best musical eras from Disco to Reggae. So put on your dancing shoes and let's set sail!

Manchester Ship Canal

→ BOOKABLE – SOME WALK UPS AVAILABLE

How what we eat shapes who we are

SAT 12:45-13:30

Part of our We Think Big talk series, in this discussion, we'll hear from panellists including Chef & founder of Eat Well MCR, Mary-Ellen McTague and Incredible Edible founder, Pam Warhurst CBE on the role food plays in communities and how we can create a food system that is sustainable and accessible for all. This is just one of [seven inspiring talks and debates](#) hosted by the University of Salford across the weekend covering food, fashion, sport, music and more.

University of Salford

→ BOOKABLE

Sounds From the Other Quays

SUN 12:00-18:00

Sounds From the Other City will bring its DIY ethos out of Chapel Street and onto the Quays for the first time, treating audiences to a Sunday filled with brilliant acts across three stages. Look out for live music and DJs from the likes of OneDa, Yemi Bolatiwa, Good Afternoon, Queer Latifah and Slow Knife.

The Lowry Plaza, Dockyard, Free Time Stage

RHS Bridgewater presents Bread and Butter Theatre – Gardeners' Question Time (with a twist)

SAT & SUN FROM 11:00

Enjoy some hilarious horticultural antics from the [Bread and Butter Theatre Company](#), plus don't miss the [RHS seed and plant swap](#), meet members of [Salford Loaves and Fishes](#) in the [Community Garden](#) as well as take part in crafts and planting activity with [Bupa](#), our lead event partner for all We Get Green activity at the festival.

The MediaCity Community Garden/ Roaming around the festival

Art Battle: The Next Generation

SUN 13:00-15:00

Established in 2013, Art Battle MCR is a live competitive painting event where fearless artists have 20 minutes on the clock whilst a circling audience watch and vote. It's that simple. Well sort of. Now for the first time ever, Art Battle are opening the floor to the next generation. Join us in The Lowry as 15 artists aged 11 – 17 bravely take the stage in a bid to be crowned winner.

The Lowry – Compass Room

→ BOOKABLE

Screen printing with Hot Bed Press

SAT & SUN 11:00-17:00

Join Salford printing legends Hot Bed Press to create your own tote bag or weekend inspired flag using the WITW festival brand and exciting colour combinations. You can also bring your own tote bags to be printed too! This is just one of nearly [100 creative workshops](#) at the festival, from postcard making to jesmonite workshops and much more, there really is something for everyone!

dock10 Open Centre

Unity Radio Main Stage Takeover

SAT 16:00-22:00

Greater Manchester's #1 independent radio station Unity Radio takes over the MediaCity Weekend Stage from 4pm on Saturday 3rd June, celebrating the city's hip hop, soul, and R&B scene; with live performances from residents and emerging talent including singer & rapper Prido, BBC Radio 1's Victoria Jane, DJs Chaise and much more.

MediaCity Weekend Stage

Free Time Parade – the festival finale

SUN FROM 15:30

Create your weekend placard with Salford art & design duo Mikesian Studio over the weekend, then join the big Free Time Parade to close the festival. Hold your placard high in the air as part of a mass procession to celebrate free time, leading to an energetic and fun finale to the soundtrack of Craig Charles' DJ set.

Parade starts outside dock10 Open Centre

→ PLUS PLACARD MAKING ALL WEEKEND AT THE OPEN CENTRE

Food and drink

Enjoy food and drink from across the world with street food traders, a [special preview from Kargo](#) (who will open at Central Bay this Summer) and MediaCity's own Box on the Docks. Plus festival drinks partner Seven Bro7hers will be providing beers for the bars across the entire weekend.



We

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of free time

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We

Rocked?

Tell us what you think
of the festival and enter
a prize draw to win a
VIP night at The Lowry
including dinner for
2, show tickets and a
bottle of fizz.



SCAN TO ENTER
< PRIZE DRAW

Go to our website for the full line-up,
travel & accessibility info.

It's set to be a busy weekend for the region
with concerts and events galore which
will bring additional traffic on the roads
- ensure you plan ahead to avoid delays!
tfgm.com/witw

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We Invented the Weekend is made possible by the commitment and
passion of our brilliant partners

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PROGRAMME PARTNERS

Community Clothing • Factory International • HOST • Imperial War Museum North
Islington Mill • Lancashire County Cricket Club • Manchester Bikes • National Literacy Trust
Open University • Quays Culture • RHS Bridgewater • Salford Community Leisure
Salford CVS • Science + Industry Museum • Sounds from the Other City • UBX • Unity Radio
University of Manchester • Walk The Plank • And a huge range of local artists, designers and makers.

SUPPORTED BY

Carbon Creative • dock10 • Co-op Food • Holiday Inn • The Alchemist

Huge thanks to all the brilliant community groups taking part in We Invented The Weekend.

Barton Belles, Bee Pedal Ready, Break Dance Manchester, Community Doosti Friendship CIC, Dance
Like a Mother, Dancing with Dementia, Fallen Angels Dance Theatre, Feelgood Communities CIC, GM
Ringway, Gaddum, Growing Togetherness, JD Dance CIC, Mariners Canal Public Consultation, The Music
Shed, Ordsall Acappella Singers, Partisan Collective, Poetry Peers, Recreate-U, Rock Choir, Salford
City Council Fostering Service, Salford Community Theatre, Salford CVS, Salford Litter Heroes, Salford
Loaves and Fishes, Salford Rangers Team, Streetgate Strummers, Ydalir Vikings.