

PAISLEY BOOK FESTIVAL

Paisley Book Festival 2025

The Lives We Live

Open Call for Event Proposals

Proposal Deadline: Friday 15th November 2024 at 5pm.

Fee: up to £300 (plus reasonable expenses). Our rates are informed by the Scottish Book Trust and Live Literature guidance on Author Event minimum rates.

Brief

Paisley Book Festival is seeking creative and inclusive contributions and ideas for events to be part of the programme for the 2025 Festival, taking place between **25th and 27th April 2025**.

The Festival seeks to showcase local writers, groups, and other contributors, and provide opportunities to develop local talent.

Here are some ways you could get involved:

BE A GROUP HOST / CONTRIBUTOR – are you a Renfrewshire based community and /or cultural organisation, project, or initiative that has an idea for an event to be part of the Paisley Book Festival programme?

BE A PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTOR – are you a Scottish writer / artist / creative / organisation with an idea or current strand of activity that fits the remit of the Paisley Book Festival? We welcome submissions from creatives working in a variety of disciplines.

About the festival

The Paisley Book Festival is a platform for the celebration of books, reading and writing in Paisley over the course of 3 days. It is a festival with creativity and innovation at the heart of its programme, seeking to showcase some of the best and most diverse voices being published today in Scotland and beyond.

The Festival will connect readers and writers with bold, contemporary ideas, engage established audiences, inspire new ones and be an effective marketplace for the writing and publishing world.

Now entering its 6th year, the theme for Paisley Book Festival 2025 is **The Lives We Live**

We're living in an age saturated with ideas about how we should live, from what to eat, how to travel, and how much time to spend online, to how to connect meaningfully with our environment, and how to react in the face of world atrocities. This year the festival will be speaking to writers who have big ideas about navigating the most fundamental questions we face, and who embrace the opportunities they present. We also want to celebrate the good things in life that fire us up and bring us joy. Paisley Book Festival will showcase writers, poets and storytellers who tackle the big questions of life and celebrate the happiness that can be found in the smallest of moments.

Paisley Book Festival Outcomes

The Paisley Book Festival aims to:

- Raise the profile of Paisley and Renfrewshire as a place where inspiring cultural events happen
- Increase visitor numbers to Paisley, both local and visitors to the town.
- Animate Paisley as part of the regeneration of the town centre.
- Inspire more people to engage with the written and spoken word
- Improve access to culture.
- Develop the careers of local and national writers.
- Develop a financially sustainable festival for the future.

To Make a Proposal

Please consider how your activity responds to the festival outcomes and 2025 theme and provide the following information.

- Contact details and location
- Outline of your idea / event pitch (up to 300 words)
- A Biography (you/your group) and what you do (up to 300 words)
- Please be sure to indicate your approach to access, diversity and inclusion within your application.
- Links to previous work/relevant supporting material
- Details on what technical and production support you might need to deliver your project. Please be clear about what you can provide yourself and what you need. Note: There is no guarantee that the festival will be able to provide/facilitate technical needs.

Our standard fee for authors/participants/workshop facilitators is £200. Our fee structure is informed by industry standard rates as set by the Scottish Artists Union and the Scottish Book Trust. We are able to provide funding of up to £300 to support successful applicants to the Open Call depending on the nature of your event.

Previous Festival programmes have involved innovative and site-responsive events of varying genres, so depending on the nature and length of the contribution, we are happy to have a discussion about something a bit out of the box, and whether we have the resources to support it.

We welcome any questions and feedback you might have about the submission process.

Submission Proposal

Please send your proposal material saved as one document (PDF or Word). Please ensure to include all relevant contact details (contact details, email address, location)

We welcome applications from all backgrounds and all sections of the community.

Please submit to: OneRen_arts@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Deadline: Friday 15th November 2024

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Assessment Process

Timeline and key dates:

Please note: These dates are indicative. Based on capacity and number of applicants, notifications to applicants may diverge by 2-3 days at the most.

Friday 29th November 2024 – Successful applicants notified by

13th January 2025 – Event title, description and image to be provided to the festival by

OneRen is the local charitable trust in Renfrewshire providing culture, leisure and sporting opportunities to help people enjoy active and healthy lives. Find out more at www.oneren.org.

Paisley Book Festival 2025 is delivered by OneRen and supported by the National Lottery through Creative Scotland.

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