

WELCOME!

Dear Guests,

I am excited to extend you a warm welcome to the 2026 edition of Art in the Park! This year's theme is "Pathways", inviting you to reflect on the winding course of fate and circumstance that has brought you here today. With that theme in mind, I reminisce about our own journey over the last 13 years, which led us to winning the Silver Medal for "Tourism Event or Festival of the Year" at the prestigious West Midlands Tourism Awards, held at the iconic Belfry Hotel & Golf Course in March.

The team was commended for delivering a "genuinely inspirational festival", while the judges praised its "focus on inclusion and using the power of art to bring disenfranchised and under represented groups together", concluding that Art in the Park is "a credit to Leamington Spa". 13 years ago, Mo Finnessy lit the torch and took the first steps, and we have proudly carried it forward ever since. This recognition affirms the hard work and commitment of every individual who has walked with us along this path. I thank you all.

However, every year it becomes harder to find the funding needed to keep this event packed with activities and free to all. Every penny helps, so if you are able, please tap your card at one of our donation stands at the entrances, or visit the information tent if you are interested in sponsoring next year's event.

In 2026 we are bringing you another packed slate, with fantastic new exhibitors alongside returning festival staples. Head to Pangaea Sculptors' Centre for their mobile sculpting studio or take the family to the Big Gobs tent to create your own puppet! We have face painting, henna tattoos, street art from Brink, DJ workshops with New Future Creatives, and the Sunday Parade returns with a HUGE surprise that shouldn't be missed! There are too many to list, so peruse these pages to find the perfect activity and stop by our fantastic charity and community stalls to learn about their vital work.

As usual, we also have hundreds of hugely talented artists ready to provide that special, inspirational piece to delight you and your loved ones. So, grab some delicious food and drink from one of our many vendors and enjoy fabulous music at one of our stages. There really is something for everyone, so please explore. Who knows what inspirational moments await down the many paths you can choose.

Kate Livingston

Festival Director



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