Creative Lancashire are proud partners of the award-winning National Festival of Making (NFM). Now in its third year, NFM is a vibrant national celebration of making, from the kitchen table to the factory floor. The festival weekend brings together artists, designers, manufacturers, small-scale makers and the public, to explore their own making potential. The festival takes place on 15th and 16th June in Blackburn, where the percentage of people employed in manufacturing is double the national average.

Alongside the weekend programme of hands-on workshops, performances and art installations, there will also be a series of presentations, panels, interviews and speaker events taking place at Blackburn Cathedral, Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery, and various town centre locations.

From Friday 14th to Sunday 16th June, Creative Lancashire in association with select partners, is hosting a series of talks and related events for interested members of the public, creative practitioners, business people, and stakeholders connected to the creative sector, manufacturing industries and associated fields.
The NFM Talks programme launches with three curated roundtable discussions being held at Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery on Friday 14th June. One session will highlight some of the ways the sector is responding to the diminished resource for creative and arts provision in schools, and the implications of its marginalisation in the curriculum. Another session will focus on the issues and challenges experienced by women in tech and STEAM. A third session will explore the unexpected and extraordinary outcomes of the Festival’s ‘Art in Manufacturing’ Programme (AIM) and similar projects, as well as the innovation emerging from the intersection of the arts, making, manufacturing and digital technologies.

REGISTER HERE

The Festival of Making Talks are free to attend. To reserve your place please register for sessions via Eventbrite. A limited number of walk up places will be available for each day’s events.

Click here to visit the Festival of Making Eventbrite page.
Our Speakers

Andria Zafirakou
Artists in Residence

Darren Henley
Chief Executive,
Arts Council England

Patrick Grant
Community Clothing / 
Great British Sewing Bee

Daniel Charny
Fixperts / From Now On

Jason Stocks Young
JSY Leatherworks / 
DiamondAwl

Helen Heggie
Director, STEMFirst

Halima Cassell
Ceramicist

Malcolm Garrett
Designer

Visit the Festival of Making Eventbrite page for the full line up and speaker biographies
Our Speakers

Over the weekend a host of leading and innovative speakers will be sharing views and perspectives on a range of topics. From opportunities to gain insights on the artists participating in the AIM showcase; to panels exploring themes such as Why Creativity and Making Matters? as well as the relationship between culture, creativity and placemaking.

Speakers include Andria Zafirakou (founder of Artists in Residence Foundation & Global Teacher of the Year 2018), Alison Clark & Darren Henley (Arts Council England), and leatherworker, Jason Stocks Young, who was featured in the recent BBC2 TV series Made in Great Britain.

Prominent makers and designers, such as Halima Cassell, Daniel Charny, Malcolm Garrett and Patrick Grant, will be sharing their process and insights in curated panels and Conversations in Creativity events. An exhibition of Malcolm Garrett’s work will also be on show at Blackburn Cathedral in association with GF Smith.

Crafts Council’s Real to Reel film festival also returns to NFM and will be screened alongside films made by local producers.
Art in Manufacturing (AIM) - a programme co-commissioned by Festival of Making and Super Slow Way, is one of many highlights of the festival weekend. AIM features ground-breaking collaborative commissions created by makers and artists paired with global manufacturers based in Lancashire, such as the Cardboard Box Company, Graham & Brown, and WEC. For 2019, AIM Season 3 presents a series of collaborations between artists and partner factories - Blackburn Yarn Dyers, Forbo Flooring Systems, Heritage Envelopes, The Senator Group and Spiroflow. We profile those involved in a series of intimate in-situ talks, plus a panel discussion featuring past and present participants.

Lastly, creatives and makers will have the opportunity to gain business support and advice by pre-booking a slot for one of the Maker Development Surgery Sessions during the weekend.

We look forward to welcoming you to this year’s National Festival of Making Talks programme. For more information and to book your tickets, visit our Eventbrite page.

REGISTER HERE
Friday 14th June 2019

10:45   Women in STEAM - Inspiring the Next Generation (Roundtable)
        Key Contributors: Daksha Patel (Artist), Helen Heggie (STEMFirst), Louise Gardner (Darwen Terracotta) & Philippa Glover (CNC Robotics)

12.00  Lunch & Networking

13.30  Why Creativity & Making Matters (Roundtable)
        Key Contributors: Daniel Charny (Fixperts), Darren Henley (ACE), Sarah Gregory (Creative Industries Federation) & Lucy Kennedy (National Saturday Club)

14.45  Break & Networking

15.10  The Arts & The Possible (Roundtable)
        Key Contributors: Adele Orcajada (MaterialDriven), Charles Hadcock (Artist), John Wilson (Darwen Terracotta), Liz Wilson (Artist) & Nicola Ellis (Artist)

Making Apprenticeships Work (Optional Breakout Session)
        with Cultural & Creative Skills, and Blackburn College

VENUE
Victorian Gallery,
Blackburn Museum
& Art Gallery

FestivalofMaking.co.uk  |  Facebook Twitter Instagram  |  creativelancashire.org
Saturday 15th June 2019

11:15  Great Ideas to Save the World – with Daniel Charny & Guests
       with Adele Orcajada (MaterialDriven), Andrew Gregson (Greenlab) & Gareth Owen Lloyd (Other Today)

12.15  Conversations in Creativity: Malcolm Garrett

       with Alison Clark (ACE), Andria Zafirakou ( Educator), Jason Stocks Young (JSY), Daniel Charny
       (Fixperts) & Rachel Cooper (LICA)

14.40  AIM Artist Talks (Short in-situ talks alongside exhibits - various locations)

14.45  Superwomen — Small Business Heroes with Wayne Hemingway
       & Guests (Panel)
       Outside Stage, Cathedral Quarter

16.30  Conversation in Creativity: Halima Cassell with Janet Boston
Sunday 16th June 2019

11.00  AIM Artist Talks  (Short in-situ talks alongside exhibits - various locations)

12.30  Great Ideas to Save the World - with Patrick Grant & Josie Warden (RSA)

13.45  Culture, Creativity & Place (Panel)
       with Christine Cort (MIF), Dawinder Bansal (Artist & Producer), Paula Akpan (BlackGirl Fest),
       Robert Howell (Culturapedia) & Wayne Hemingway

15.00  Art in Manufacturing (Panel)
       with Anthony Green (Blackburn Yarn Dyers) Daksha Patel (Artist), Jamie Holman (Artist),
       Jon Wilson (Darwen Terracotta), and other AIM artists - full line-up tbc