

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**27 February 2018 / PR 10687**

### **BEXLEY – PROUD TO BE A BOROUGH OF CULTURE**

The Council has promised to build on the work that took place to bid to become the Greater London Authority's London Borough of Culture and has restated its commitment to put culture firmly at the centre of its exciting growth plans.

Leader of the London Borough of Bexley, Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE said; "I'd like to congratulate the London Boroughs of Waltham Forest and Brent on achieving London Borough of Culture status for 2019 and 2020.

"I'd also like to thank our partners, local people and businesses for all the support they gave our campaign. To win the accolade would have been a great achievement for Bexley, but even though we weren't successful, our bidding journey has been so valuable in creating a strong foundation to build on, and has proved that we are already a borough of culture.

Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Environment and Leisure, Cllr Peter Craske said: "Going forward we have aspirations for working with our partners and communities to further develop our cultural and creative agendas, informed by the bid development work and also our wider agendas. This is important, not only because of the value of culture and the arts, but also because we recognise the role culture has in creating identity, shaping our communities and providing new opportunities.

"Bexley already has an exciting programme of cultural events taking place throughout 2018. As well as the recent BookBuzz literary festival, highlights include 'The Spine' festival for young people, the 'Brick City' exhibition at Hall Place, the second Sidcup Fringe, a number of 'Performing Places' events in summer and much more. There will also be our new annual Lantern Parade in December."

To keep up-to-date with cultural events and news, and to help shape our on-going cultural journey, sign up to our regular e-newsletter at [www.bexley.gov.uk/newsupdates](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/newsupdates) or visit <https://bexleyculture.london>

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Attachments

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