

A group of young people, including men and women, are gathered in a huddle on a stage. They are wearing formal attire, such as suits and dresses. The background is a dark blue curtain. The lighting is dramatic, with blue and purple hues. The group is looking towards the center, and some are smiling. A man in a white shirt and red apron is visible in the center of the group.

**RIC
NIC**

RICNIC.ORG.UK
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1158837

**EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH
CREATIVE, YOUTH-LED PROJECTS**



**OUR VISION: A WORLD WHERE EVERY
YOUNG PERSON HAS THE CONFIDENCE,
TOOLS AND PLATFORMS TO SHAPE THEIR
COMMUNITIES THROUGH CREATIVITY AND
LEADERSHIP**

**TRAVELLING
TALES!**

Discover stories from your
community! Explore our digital
library now!



RicNic.org.uk/library



AVANT
WEST COAST

**FREE
CREATIVE
ACTIVITIES
FOR ALL
AGES**

ABOUT US

Established by school students in 2004 as a summer project, RicNic has grown into a charity where young people are at the heart of everything; from shaping creative projects to taking leadership roles across the organisation.

We promote youth leadership with tangible results, helping young people to develop their financial literacy, communication and understanding of the world, while having fun and being creative.

RicNic is based in Walsall and works across the West Midlands, however all activity can be delivered outside of this region subject to travel costs. We make sure that all of our programmes are free or affordable to participants at the point of access.



OUR PROGRAMMES

Our core programmes provide regular opportunities for children, teenagers and young adults to be creative and produce their own events, products and small businesses. We create safe, supportive spaces to explore new skills, express ideas and identities, collaborate with peers and gain confidence. RicNic also provides pathways into leadership and creative careers, from volunteering and paid roles to mentoring and training.

Each year, hundreds of young people benefit from our work.

Foundry

Extra-curricular clubs and holiday activities for under-16s, all with a youth-led approach to support early skills, confidence and aspirational development.

Forge

Training, mentoring and hands-on experience supporting young adults age 16+ to enter the creative industries and to develop their transferable skills.

Flourish

A creative arts approach for young people to engage in independent thinking, social enterprise, youth leadership and socialisation, and to develop their sense of self, wellbeing, and sense of hope.

FOUNDRY

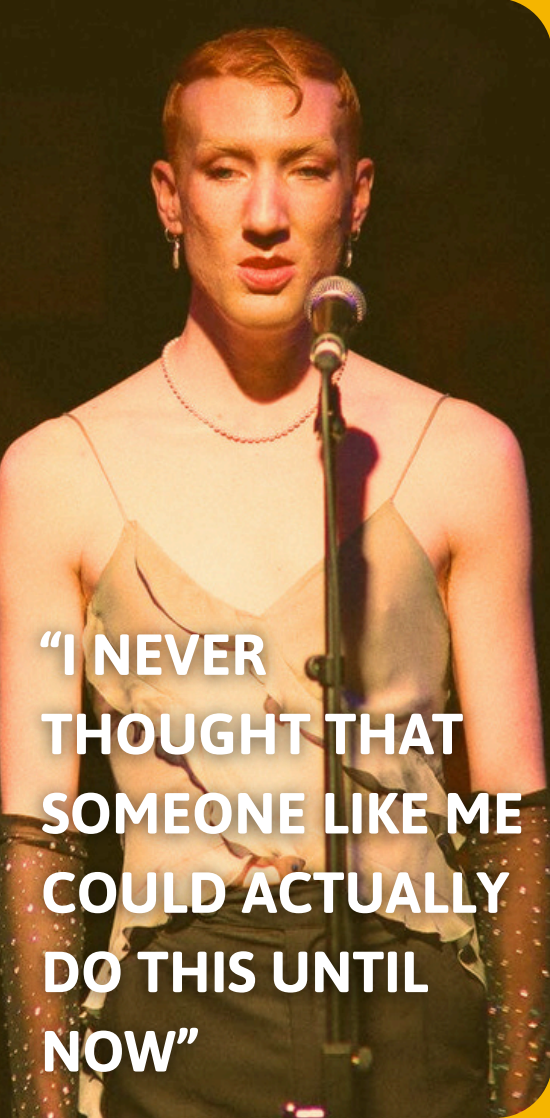
Aimed at under 16s, Foundry provides spaces for children and their families to explore creative skills with an end goal of creating events or products for their local community. This includes after-school, young-enterprise style projects, free holiday clubs and one-off workshops with visiting artists such as West-End performers.

Recent Foundry Makes projects have included creating short plays, keyring, badge and t-shirt design and a family recipe and activity book. These sessions operate on a pay-what-you-can basis across Walsall.

Holiday projects have included workshops with cast members from Hamilton, Mary Poppins, and Aladdin, writing and voiceover workshops contributing to the Travelling Tales Digital Library and craft workshops with products sold at Walsall MakerFest.



**“MY GIRLS WISH
EVERY DAY
COULD BE A
RICNIC DAY!”**



**“I NEVER
THOUGHT THAT
SOMEONE LIKE ME
COULD ACTUALLY
DO THIS UNTIL
NOW”**

FORGE

Forge supports young adults to explore creative career pathways, develop their skills and employability.

Associates - Practical group training for NEET individuals exploring creative careers, employability and soft skills, leading to participants producing their own community event.

Breaking In - Employability support sessions, networking events and skill-building masterclasses with industry professionals.

Creative Industry Coaching - 1-1 creative career coaching supporting young people as they leave school, college, or university, to explore creative employment pathways and prepare for a career in the creative industries

Creative Mentoring - Supporting young people to build confidence, ambition, leadership, direction and focus through creative engagement.

FLOURISH

Our Flourish strand supports targeted groups to build confidence, social skills, and life-long learning through creative approaches. This ranges from working with early years children reliant on parent/carers to home-schooled families where children potentially lack access to regular socialisations and to specialised projects working with young people with SEND or SEMH needs.

Our 'Story Tents' programme is the largest project under this strand to date, engaging over 400 children aged 3-7 and their parents across 2025/26. Other work, particularly with SEND groups and disengaged young people, has been taken into specific school settings or delivered in community spaces and family hubs over recent years, and we are looking to develop this into regular weekly provision throughout 2026/27.



“THEY LOVE THE INTERACTIONS THAT THEY GET THROUGH THE MUSIC AND DANCE”



**“THE CLASS WAS
SO INSPIRED THEY
EVEN ASKED TO
WRITE MORE IN
THEIR FREE TIME!”**

WORKSHOPS

Our workshop programme can be delivered across any education or community setting and can be adapted to fit the interests, requirements, and ages of participants. Workshops are designed to ensure that they are youth-led and build on participants' experience levels and abilities, with natural progression routes as skills and confidence develop.

EARLY YEARS - KEY STAGE 1

Story Sailors (EYFS / 0-4 Years) - Half the story has been lost as the clumsy sailor has been sailing round the world. We've got half of it - but we need you to fill in the blanks. Encourage story-making in this fun, interactive and movement-based session.

Story Tents (EYFS / KS1) - Can you help us make story soup to feed our hungry dragon? Explore story structures, character, setting and plot in this interactive puppet session using our unique storytent campsite.

KEY STAGE 2 - KEY STAGE 3

Twisted Tales (KS2) - Explore story structure and character-development by retelling classic tales and rhymes. Develops creative writing skills. This session can be adapted to current curriculum topics or texts on request.

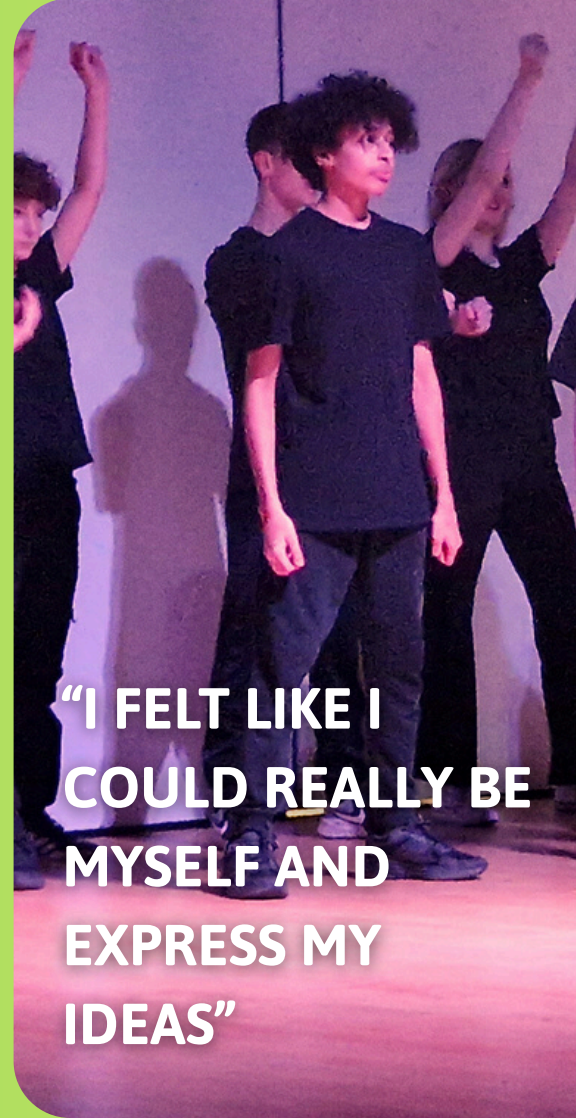
Aspirational Tiles (KS2 / KS3) - Build class aspirations by talking about life goals through art. Design a tile to add to your class mosaic board and identify 3 stepping stones towards your goal.

Pitch & Present (KS2/KS3) - What events would you like to see in your community? Discover how events are put together and pitch your ideas.

KEY STAGE 3 / 4 / 5 AND HE

Devising Workshop (KS3/4) - Explore characterisation and storytelling through devising techniques. Can be linked to BTec and GCSE examination briefs.

Engage Workshops (KS3/4/5/HE) - How to... Be a Producer, Facilitate a Workshop, Become Freelance, Start a Social Enterprise (SEND)



**“I FELT LIKE I
COULD REALLY BE
MYSELF AND
EXPRESS MY
IDEAS”**



**“RICNIC REALLY
SUPPORTS YOUNG
ARTISTS AT THE
START OF THEIR
CAREER, LIKE ME”**

WORK EXPERIENCE & EARLY CAREER SUPPORT

Creative Careers Work Experience (KS3/4/5) - Comprehensive packages for up to 15 pupils exploring the creative industries, employability skills, and personal ambitions (available across 1-5 days, delivered at your location). *Supports Gatsby Benchmarks 2, 4, 5, 6 & 8, and Youth Guarantee requirements.*

Mock Interviews - Preparing pupils with realistic interviews, followed by personalised feedback.

Breaking In - Introductory workshops, panel discussions, and assemblies exploring what a creative career could look like.

Young Leaders Scheme - Tailored training for under 18's to train within our community projects and work towards Arts Award qualifications

Early Career Placements - Short term, paid placements within the RicNic team for early-career practitioners.

OUR IMPACT

RicNic transforms lives by giving young people the tools, opportunities, and freedom to lead, create, and thrive. We empower young people in highly disadvantaged areas by providing safe, creative spaces where they can express themselves, build friendships, and explore their identities.

Our participants tell us that RicNic is:

- A place to express themselves, learn new skills and road test ideas
- A friendly space where anyone is welcome and young people feel supported to be themselves
- A safe place to make and meet friends

RicNic also provides opportunities for professional development for young people by offering paid roles in our staff team and positions on our trustee board.



**“COMING TO
RICNIC JUST
MAKES ME FEEL
HAPPY!”**



CORPORATE PACKAGES & SECTOR SUPPORT

Are you looking for a creative, team-building activities for your workplace, colleagues or employees?

Why not talk to our team about our Corporate Packages? Fun, engaging and offering an insight into the tasks we set our young people, these packages are great for Away Days, Annual Conference events, Family Days and more.

Have a fun day, getting creative and support a small charity in the process!

RicNic's experienced team are also available on a consultancy basis to support small charities, arts organisations, youth groups and small businesses on

- Creative Activity
- Project Management
- Fundraising & Bid Writing
- Small Charity Development

Contact us to discuss your requirements.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering helps us to run more projects and reach more people each year. Plus, you'll build confidence, create new friendships, and make memories.

Event Volunteers - help us to put RicNic on the map year-round. We're looking for people who are keen to get stuck in and have time to spare, no specific skills needed.

Project Volunteers - elevate a project experience for our participants. You might be a keen photographer who could document an event, an experienced artist who could mentor an individual, or a social media expert who could help us to build our online community. It is a great way to give back, or to build experience.

Fundraising Volunteers - Could you run a marathon? Could you run a bake sale? Would you do it in aid of RicNic? If you enjoy putting on events for charity, why not consider choosing RicNic for your next venture?

Get involved! Visit [RicNic.org.uk/support-us/volunteer/](https://www.ricnic.org.uk/support-us/volunteer/)



BOOK OUR SERVICES

To book a workshop or programme, please contact Jennifer@RicNic.org.uk

All sessions are delivered by experienced facilitators who are fully DBS checked and hold full public liability insurance. Sessions can be adapted to suit participants, particularly with regard to SEND settings.

While we ensure that all services are free or affordable to participants at the point of access, costs apply for booking workshops in schools and community settings (with the exception of funded places within our target areas). If this is a barrier to access for you please do get in touch and we may be able to explore alternatives.

Exact pricing is available on request, but as a guide a half-day workshop may begin from £150, while a week-long work experience programme with 2 facilitators would be around the £2000 mark. RicNic are based within the West Midlands but all workshops can be delivered across the UK subject to travel costs.

For more information on what we do, our impact, our history, and the team please visit RicNic.org.uk or get in touch.

REFERRAL PATHWAYS

For Young People:

We'd love to hear from you and help you to find the right programme. Please send us an email to contact@RicNic.org.uk with the following details and we'll be in touch:

- Some basic information about you, your age, location, etc.
- Any aspirations you have or key areas of interest.
- If there's a particular project or activity which you're interested in.

We will usually arrange an initial quick chat to find out a bit more about you and signpost you to some initial events, projects and/or resources.

For Professionals/External Organisations:

We are happy to receive referrals for young people. We are primarily able to accept young people aged under 25 across the West Midlands, but records will be held on file in case future opportunities arise. Please send the above information plus details of the referring organisation.

Please note, as a charity without core funding we are unable to deliver programmes beyond those outlined in this guide without external remuneration.



www.ricnic.org.uk
[@ricnicuk](https://twitter.com/ricnicuk)
contact@ricnic.org.uk

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