GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund  
  
**Art with Heart**   
Art with Heart are an award-winning CIC proudly based in Salford, who have been creating high quality, accessible artistic experiences for audiences and participants since 2010. They create performance which tours locally and nationally to arts venues and unexpected places, provide curriculum and enrichment educational workshops, develop creative projects with community groups, and run bespoke professional development training sessions. Embedded in the Greater Manchester community, they create meaningful artistic experiences that support personal and collective growth to instigate social change.

Art with Heart Co-Director Sarah Emmott said: ‘The support from GMCA will enable us to expand our reach and continue our commitment to deliver meaningful arts and wellbeing initiatives that provide lasting impact in our local communities.’

**Brighter Sound**  
Brighter Sound is a creative music charity, working across the North and nationally to support inclusivity, creativity and a more equal and diverse music sector. Throughout Greater Manchester, Brighter Sound works with young people and emerging musicians to develop their artistic confidence and originality through ambitious projects, training and events.

Debra King, Brighter Sound Director said: ‘Brighter Sound is delighted to be part of the investment in culture from GMCA over the next two years. Their funding will enable us to strengthen our engagement and support of young musicians - especially those in challenging circumstances - and emerging musical talent from across Greater Manchester, supporting creativity, development and careers.’

**Cartwheel Arts**   
Cartwheel Arts promotes social inclusion, cohesion, diversity and regeneration through community participation in vibrant, innovative, high-quality arts projects. They call this Art for a Reason. Their vision is to champion vivid, memorable art – great art - fostering creativity and wellbeing in diverse groups and neighbourhoods, leading opinion, uniting communities and sharing good practice. Based in Heywood, they work across Rochdale borough and also in Oldham, Bury and Wigan, with some project work in North Manchester and other boroughs.

Rick Walker, Director Cartwheel Arts said: ‘Cartwheel Arts are delighted at the success of our application to GMCA and look forward to delivering a challenging programme of work over the next two years.’

**Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art**   
CFCCA is the national lead in supporting UK audiences to understand Chinese culture through creating meaningful encounters with Chinese contemporary art. This vision is delivered through a unique and varied programme of exhibitions, events, artist residencies, engagement projects and research. For over 30 years CFCCA has supported talent development opportunities for artists from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Diaspora to showcase their work and develop their practice while enriching the UK art ecology.

As the only non-profit organisation in Europe to specialise in Chinese contemporary art and visual culture CFCCA are uniquely placed to explore the transcultural debates that shape the future.

Zoe Dunbar, Director at CFCCA, said:

We're absolutely thrilled to receive funding from Greater Manchester Combined Authority. As a registered charity we rely on the generous support of funders to continue with our work in supporting new and emerging artists, and bringing the art and visual culture of contemporary China to wider UK audiences. This funding also means we can continue with our engagement work with local communities, schools and colleges. We've a full, varied and exciting programme of exhibitions and events coming up, and we look forward to sharing this over the next few years with Manchester audiences and beyond!

**Contact**   
Contact is a leading British cultural venue founded on a model of youth governance, where young people change their lives through the arts and highly diverse audiences of all ages experience radical new work.

Their mission is to work locally, nationally and internationally providing life-changing opportunities for the next generation of creative leaders, artists and audiences, across Greater Manchester, through a diverse, high-quality artistic programme in our building, surprising places and online.

Contact has always engaged young, diverse audiences and participants. Over 70% of their audiences are under 35 and 40% of audiences and participants are from BAME backgrounds.

**Dance Manchester**  
Dance Manchester (DM) improves the lives of GM communities through engagement with dance as a high quality, creative art form. Dance Manchester presents dance outdoors and in alternative spaces, reaching non-arts attenders, making dance accessible, developing vibrant communities and places.

They use dance to achieve:

* social change,
* positively impacting on physical health,
* mental health,
* creativity for self-expression,
* loneliness/isolation,
* people from different backgrounds socializing,
* life skills e.g. working as a team, self-confidence/esteem,
* aspiration,
* achievement e.g. by performing

Key to the city-region’s dance ecology, Dance Manchester delivers youth and community dance, commissioning, programming, audience development, partnership building, advocacy and sector development projects.

Deb Ashby, Director, Dance Manchester said: ‘Dance Manchester is delighted to receive GMCA support, which will enable it to continue to improve the health, skills, educational and creative opportunities of our local communities and nurture the careers of our home grown dance talent.’

**Gaydio**   
  
Gaydio is a skills development and broadcast organisation for the LGBT community. We provide a voice and a platform of expression for LGBT people experiencing discrimination and social isolation. Our radio training academy enables those in need to take part in social action, while making new friends, learning new skills and achieving their goals.

**GM Arts**  
  
GM Arts’ works with communities across all ten districts of Greater Manchester, delivering activity in the heart of neighbourhoods – activity that speaks of them and to them. They work to:

* Increase access to arts through commissioning and delivery with partners
* Improve life opportunities, to deliver impactful social outcomes, raising skills and aspirations
* Support the development of an economically vibrant cultural ecology;
* Connect cultural organisations and artists with sectors as diverse as health, housing, education, and skills & employment;
* Influence thinking and policy on the importance and role of the cultural sector

**GMCVO**

Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations (GMCVO) works to sustain and develop a responsive, accountable and influential local VCSE sector in Greater Manchester (GM), which:-

* Improves the quality of life of local people
* Enables the involvement and leadership of communities, both geographic and thematic, in addressing and resolving the issues that affect them, and advocating for the changes they want to see.
* Provides support and connectivity to people and communities, especially those that are disadvantaged.

They work in partnership with other support providers and the VCSE, public, private, academic and faith sectors to seek evidence and take action on the most difficult issues facing the city region.

Alex Whinnom, Chief Executive, GMVO said: ‘We are really pleased to say that GMCA will fund us through the new Cultural and Social Impact Fund. Partnership with the GMCA is crucial to our work. We see this decision as an acknowledgment of the importance of the VCSE sector in the city region and the need to support strong, connected, multi-sectoral leadership.’

**GreaterSport**  
  
GreaterSport is a charity with a unique and trusted strategic alliance with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Health and Social Care Partnership and Sport England. Their vision is to change lives through physical activity and sport and help to make Greater Manchester (GM) the most active region in England.

There is a strong evidence base that an active lifestyle impacts positively on people’s lives. Those who are active are more likely to live healthier and happier lives. By 2021 Greater Sport aims to get 2 million Greater Manchester residents moving (30 minutes or more of physical activity per week).

Matt Johnson, Deputy CEO, GreaterSport said: ‘It’s fantastic to be recognised by the Culture and Social Impact Fund as we believe that a more active Greater Manchester will contribute to making it one of the best places in the world. This funding will support our ambition of changing lives through physical activity and will result in increased investment, improved skills, stronger communities and improved well-being of residents’.

**The Halle**  
  
Since 1858 the Hallé has delivered symphonic music of international quality for, and from, its home city, Manchester. It acts as one of Greater Manchester’s key cultural ambassadors, performing more than 120 concerts annually and broadcasting nationally and internationally.

The Hallé also runs one of the largest community participation programmes in the world with a complete range of choirs and youth ensembles, working across all sectors of the community. Its dedicated education programme reaches many thousands of children and young people each year working in strategic partnerships with the GM Music Hub and others.

**HOME**  
  
HOME is a centre for international contemporary art, theatre and film that welcomes audiences from Greater Manchester and beyond. HOME is an international production and exhibition centre of outstanding provocative contemporary theatre, visual art and film and an axis of experimentation at the point where they meet. HOME has a strong reputation for use of digital media communication and distribution, developing talent, audience engagement, and working creatively with communities.

Dave Moutrey, Director and CEO, HOME said: ‘We are delighted and excited to be part of the new chapter in the growth and development of Greater Manchester which is enabled by support from the Culture and Social Impact fund.  Our city region is a hot bed of arts and cultural activity and it is fantastic to see that recognised and supported by the Combined Authority.’

**MadLab**  
  
MadLab helps people make things better, together. Established in 2009, MadLab is the UK’s longest-running and most active makerspace, supporting 43,000+ people directly in 2016/17, and reaching millions more through digital engagement.  They foster open and creative communities across Greater Manchester, where people come together and bring their ideas to life using everything from a fountain pen to a 3D printer.

MadLab’s multi-award-winning cultural programme is widely accessible: from grassroots digital creativity workshops reaching those with fewer life opportunities, to curiosity-driven art-science-technology research with cultural partners – both UK-based and overseas – as part of a growing international 'maker movement'.

Rachel Turner, director of MadLab said: ‘We're thrilled to be supported by GMCA. The funding allows us to pursue our digital mission in Greater Manchester - helping people learn more about tech for school, for work, and for fun.’

**Manchester Camerata**  
  
Glastonbury openers, UK Ensemble of the Year (RPS Music Awards 2017) and ‘Probably Britain’s most adventurous orchestra’ (The Times) – Manchester Camerata is redefining what an orchestra can do. Famous for innovation, the orchestra pops up in all sorts of places, from concert halls to care homes, and collaborates with a spectrum of artists, from classical superstar Martha Argerich to iconic band, New Order. The orchestra opened the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury this year with its collaboration with the Hacienda DJs. Camerata’s Music Director and conductor, Gábor Takács-Nagy, is one of the finest musicians on the planet, and a magnet for international artists. A Registered Charity, Manchester Camerata is at the forefront of music-led dementia research, and its pioneering community programme helps to promote social change in its communities.

**Manchester Histories**   
  
Manchester Histories is a growing and dynamic charity that works collaboratively with people, artists, communities and partners to reveal, share and celebrate histories and heritage. Manchester Histories is an open and interactive platform which enables and empowers people across Greater Manchester to influence decisions around their histories and their heritage, and to shape their histories of tomorrow. The festival equally values all voices across GM in the telling, preserving and celebrating of our stories, working to transform lives through histories and heritage.

Professor Hannah Barker, Chair of Manchester Histories said: ‘I am delighted that the Greater Manchester Combined Authority are supporting our work. Everyone at Manchester Histories is looking forward to engaging with people and organisations across Greater Manchester over the next few years, and especially around key events such as the commemoration of the end of the First World War in 2018 and Peterloo in 2019.’

**Manchester International Festival**  
  
Manchester International Festival (MIF) is the world’s leading biennial festival of original, new commissions and special events. At its heart is an entrepreneurial, risk-taking, artist-led approach to making extraordinary work. It brings together artists from different art forms and backgrounds to create dynamic, innovative and forward-thinking work, which is staged across Greater Manchester. It builds the creative potential of communities and artists working widely across the city and the wider region. Its year-round community engagement initiative enables a diverse network of people to forge closer connections with MIF by participating in public projects connecting MIF to their communities.

**Manchester Jazz Festival**   
  
Manchester jazz festival is the longest running music festival in Manchester and is unlike any other event on the jazz festival circuit. Award-winning and renowned throughout Europe for dissolving stereotype, having an uncompromising commitment to commissioning and presenting new music, diversifying indigenous talent and for its pioneering advances in artform and audience development. mjf is accessible to all and with many free events featuring 9 days of contemporary jazz from the Northwest, the UK and abroad, with national premières of original work and international debuts.   
Winner: 2016 Europe Jazz Network Award for Adventurous Programming.

EJ Trivett, Executive Director said: ‘We are delighted to be invited to join the GMCA portfolio. For many years now we have shared our work with audiences from across Greater Manchester; this fund will enable mjf to expand our reach by discovering untapped talent, developing artists and spaces across the authority, supporting local music-makers into the pipeline and providing access to an international stage.’

**Manchester Jewish Museum**  
  
MJM is only Jewish museum outside of London, sharing stories of Jewish Manchester to as broad an audience as possible and in doing so actively promoting an appreciation and understanding of all faiths and cultures. They tell stories of flight and sanctuary, migration and identity – then, and now. Together, they use the past to build a more tolerant, culturally rich future. GMCA funding will be used on a strand of activity - a two year outreach programme with schools and BAME community groups across Greater Manchester.

**Music Action International**   
  
Music Action International (MAI) designs and delivers music programmes that transform communities and lives devastated by war, torture and armed conflict. They work with refugees, asylum seekers (RAS) and Roma, connecting and communicating with local audiences in ways that would otherwise not be possible. Their specialist approach and multi-lingual team of artists use music to reduce the effects of trauma, producing high-quality, thought-provoking and inspiring performances that can be shared within communities to help build stronger and safer neighbourhoods and make residents proud of their community and city. In 2016, they won the Guardian Charity and Southbank Changemaker Awards.

A spokesperson for MAI said ‘We are thrilled to have the support of GMCA to enable us to deliver our creative and unique music programmes in some of Greater Manchester's most deprived areas, working with children affected by war, armed conflict and displacement.’

**Octagon Theatre Bolton**  
  
Octagon Theatre Bolton connects with the people of Bolton and beyond through theatre. Communites throughout Greater Manchester will be enriched and inspired by quality, entertaining and thought theatre productions, and opportunities for people to realise their potential, express themselves and fly.

The Octagon makes quality, exciting, enriching theatre inside, outside and online, ensuring that every young person can enjoy theatre and the arts and that people are given space to develop and achieve their potential.

**Oldham Coliseum**  
  
Oldham Coliseum Theatre is a cultural and educational charity that works with over 150,000 individuals per year. The Coliseum has a rich history in Greater Manchester dating back to 1885. It provides a wide variety of distinctive theatre performances and participatory activities for people from all communities in Oldham, Greater Manchester and beyond. It creates eight original productions each year, of which up to half are newly-commissioned work, which are presented at the Coliseum and on tour. Intrinsic to the town’s on-going regeneration, the theatre works with its local communities and young people to develop creative programmes to facilitate learning, engagement and community cohesion.

**People’s History Museum**  
  
The People’s History Museum (PHM) is the national museum of democracy, telling the story of its development in Britain: past, present, and future.  The museum provides opportunities for people of all ages to learn about, be inspired by and get involved in ideas worth fighting for; ideas such as equality, social justice, co-operation, and a fair world for all.  PHM offers a powerful programme with annual themes; 2018 looks at representation and commemorates 100 years since the first women and all men got the vote, and 2019 will see a year of activities around protest movements to mark the bicentenary of the Peterloo Massacre in Manchester, 1819. Winner of Kids in Museums Family Friendly Museum Award 2017.

**Royal Exchange Theatre**  
  
Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre Company transforms the way people see theatre, each other and the world around them. They are a nationally recognised, award-winning, cultural charity that produces new theatre in-the-round, with communities, on the road and online.

Exchange is at the heart of everything they make and do. They produce brand new drama and reinvigorated classics, made by the boldest artists and a company of highly skilled makers - all brought together in a shared imaginative endeavour to trade ideas and experiences with the people of Greater Manchester (and beyond).

Mark Dobson, Executive Director of the Royal Exchange Theatre said: ‘We are thrilled that the Royal Exchange Theatre has been recognised by the GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund. We’re very proud to continue this long and successful relationship. The breadth and growth of this support is another fantastic example of innovative thinking from the GMCA and their joined-up commitment to making Greater Manchester one of the most successful and culturally rich city-regions in the UK’.

**The Lowry**  
  
The Lowry is the most visited cultural venue in Greater Manchester (GM) and one of the UK’s leading combined arts organisations. We deliver award-winning performances, visual exhibitions, cross-arts presentations and public realm art, alongside an extensive Learning & Engagement programme which ensures we engage the broadest possible audiences with the arts. The Lowry is lead partner for the Quays Partnership consortia project between University of Salford, BBC North, MediaCityUK, IWM North, Salford City & Trafford Councils and LCCC. The Partnership delivers Quays Culture which presents excellent large-scale pubic-realm cultural events at Salford Quays to attract audiences, inspire and engage people.

**The Proud Trust**  
  
The Proud Trust is a life-saving and life-enhancing charity supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people (plus those with related identities such as non-binary and intersex – known as ‘LGBT+ people’). They work directly with over 20,000 people each year, 80% of whom are Greater Manchester residents. Their mission is to end stigma and fear of stigma through group and 121 work directly with LGBT+ young people, as well as supporting and influencing wider communities, professionals and society.

Amelia Lee, Strategic Director of The Proud Trust said: 'The Proud Trust are delighted to be receiving this funding. The Combined Authority has a thoughtful approach to funding, based on evidence and impact, and supports organisations who can prove they are doing a good job. We feel proud to be part of such a wonderful group of innovators and cultural pioneers, and through our work, will help make the ten boroughs a great place for young lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people to grow up in.'

**Wigan STEAM**   
  
Wigan STEAM is a future focused collective of artists, scientists, engineers and creative technologists, delivering a programme of high quality creative activity for children, young people, and the wider community. Their ambitions for the future are clear and strategic, with outcomes that are sensible, measured and achievable. They deliver strategically designed projects including immersive installations, e textiles, coded music, kinetic art projects and creative invention sessions.

Wigan STEAM works to create inspirational opportunities for children and young people to explore new creative possibilities and digital technologies. They inspire and develop the next wave of digital, creative and cultural innovators and they engage the wider community with the creative possibilities of digital media and technology.

Elizabeth Griffiths, CEO Wigan STEAM said ‘Wigan STEAM are delighted to be the first creative organisation in Wigan to receive funding from the GMCA Social Impact Fund. This investment will create three new roles within our organisation, and enable us to deliver a programme of high quality cultural activity for young people and their families.’

**Water Adventure Centre**  
  
The Water Adventure Centre (WAC) is a registered charity with a play/youth work ethos delivering canoeing and water play activities with local communities and groups from Greater Manchester. Since 1977 they’ve delivered work designed to accommodate and attract hard to reach young people to canoeing i.e. people with educational and behavioural difficulties, not in education, employment or training, looked after young people and those from low socio-economic backgrounds. They deliver kayak/ canoeing sessions to young people and a wide range of community groups i.e. LGBTQ, people with disabilities, young parents, ethnic minority groups, womens’ groups, asylum seekers and refugees.

Pauline Venus, Director WAC said: ‘WAC are delighted to receive funding from the Greater Manchester Culture and Social Impact Fund! We are looking forward to welcoming lots of new and familiar faces to our recently refurbished Clubhouse, and great to see new groups coming on board!’

**Z-Arts**  
  
Z-Arts is Manchester's venue for children and families, offering best practice in CYP (children and young people)'s creative provision, nationally.  Their mission is to inspire and enable generations of young people from Greater Manchester and beyond to use creativity to maximise their potential. They have specialised in delivering excellent participatory creative activities in all art forms for ages 0-13 for over 15 years.  Their vision is to provide an artistic programme that reflects and stimulates a 21st century family, embracing all its diversity. Over several years Z-arts has increasingly played a key role developing children’s theatre nationally.

Liz O’Neil, Chief Executive/Artistic Director, Z-Arts said: ‘It seems like there was never a more urgent time to invest in the talent and creativity of our young people.  It’s heartening that GMCA recognise this, prioritising the creative development of children and young people, and Z-arts are absolutely delighted to be joining the GMCA portfolio at this time.’