

Julie McKiernan – Writer

BA (Hons) Combined Studies Creative Arts (Drama & Writing), Cert Ed (FE)

Julie has spent over twenty five years teaching performing arts and writing in colleges and community venues working with a wide range of students from teenagers, adults with learning difficulties, older people, and mental health service users to the recently retired. She has worked extensively as a freelance writer on a wide range of projects involving local residents, community groups and charities, helping them all to tell their stories, express their views, convey information and change perceptions. Her work has been performed in professional and community theatres and venues, and recorded and used to train professionals. She passionately believes that writing and drama can transform lives. She is also an experienced costume and prop maker who combines sewing and craft work with journalling techniques to encourage health and wellbeing.

www.juleswriter.co.uk

www.facebook.com/juleswriter

Martin Green – Actor / Director / Theatre Project Manager

B.A. (Hons) Theatre Arts, PTLLS Teaching Certificate, Arts Award Adviser (Bronze/Silver)

A trained actor who has gone on to work in the fields of directing/producing, teaching acting and project management. Spent over 10 years with Wigan Pier Theatre Company developing their community outreach programme. Established Green Room Creative Productions in 2014 to deliver drama/heritage/issue-based work. Previous successes include full length productions with professional and non-professional artists, youth theatre, arts festivals, school-based workshops and numerous bespoke community drama projects. A strong artistic leader who is passionate about working with people creatively, using theatre and other art forms.

www.facebook.com/pages/Green-Room-Creative-Productions

Bob Kettle – Musician / Songwriter

MA Critical Theory, BA (Hons) English Literature and Cultural History (First Class)

Bob has been a published songwriter and professional musician for around twenty five years, performing and writing for the bands Tansads and Merry Hell. For over a decade, he was a university lecturer in English Literature and Cultural History. More recently, he has been using words and music to help and encourage socially marginalised people and mental health service users to express themselves and to interact with the broader community. Bob's music and songwriting workshops provide a friendly and supportive environment in which participants can join in with exploring the basics of creating rhythm, melody and lyrics, allowing them to discover the satisfaction and confidence that comes from producing their own unique compositions.

<http://merryhell.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MerryHellBand/>

Chris Boyle – Comedian

LLB (Hons) Law

A stand-up comedian, mainly working on the Manchester circuit. Chris can offer comedy writing and comedy performing skills of a very high standard and nurtures these skills in other. He is also an excellent MC with highly developed skills of improvisation. Chris has spent most of his adult life combining murder with mirth, teaching A Level Law to the adolescent youth of Preston and Wigan. He took up stand-up comedy in September 2013, making a triumphant debut at the award-winning Manchester comedy club XS Malarkey. He can now be found honing his

skills at The Comedy Store, Manchester, and at various other entertainment events and venues around Greater Manchester. Chris believes that stand-up comedy is a great way of building confidence and addressing issues in a positive, life affirming way.

[@ChrisBoyle11](#)

Elizabeth Skull – Visual Artist / Portraiture

[HNC Health & Social Care & Arts Award Adviser](#)

A professional freelance artist specialising in pastel portraiture. Elizabeth loves to draw, paint, stitch and make whenever time allows. She works in a variety of mediums and is happy to tailor any piece to meet individual preferences. She takes commission work and runs community craft groups at local schools / community centres.

www.elizabethskull.com

Martyn Lucas – Artist / Curator / Educator

[BA \(Hons\) Fine Art, MA Art & Design in Education](#)

Martyn's interests lie in developing that rich conversation between art, artists and people. He has over twenty years professional experience in the visual arts, including managing a public art gallery in Greater Manchester for ten years, organising the exhibitions, learning and outreach programmes. He is currently a freelance artist, curator and educator, working on gallery-based and community projects in Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Yorkshire. Martyn has exhibited widely in galleries in the UK and in addition to his studio practice, has developed a number of collaborative projects alongside teaching in schools, colleges, universities and community settings. He has worked with a range of artists and organisations, including Chrysalis Arts, West Yorkshire Print Workshop, Arts Council Collection, Tate Liverpool, and the Whitworth Art Gallery. He is a studio member of Cross Street Arts in Standish.

www.martynlucas.net

Melanie Bradley

[Media Studies National Diploma, Sign Language Level 1](#)

Sound therapy and handpan demonstrations to groups, organisations, schools and individuals to aid relaxation. This gives the opportunity to experience the rare, unique sound and benefits of the handpan, not only as a musical instrument, but also as a tool for spiritual growth and development.

Pat Carey – Artist/Educator

[BA \(Hons\) Visual Arts and Culture, Post Graduate Certificate in Education \(PGCE\)](#)

Pat has spent over twenty years teaching Visual Arts in schools, colleges and with the community. She has worked with a diverse range of people from children to retired people, on a variety of exciting projects: some lasting a couple of hours, to the more sustained educational programmes. She has worked with artists and curators, as part of a team and as a leader. Since 2015 she has devoted herself to being a full time artist/educator. Her focus is to encourage and entice people to become motivated about being creative and expressing themselves. She is a passionate believer that this helps to lead to greater self-awareness and confidence.

Wendy Boyers – Visual Artist

[B.A. \(Hons\) Fine Art, PGCE FE](#)

Wendy offers a wide range of workshops that provide a high standard of quality community artwork. Her main areas are abstract expression / painting, sculptures from recycled / found objects and mono and block printing. She has a passion for inclusion, giving children and adults the opportunity to gain skills, experiences and self-esteem through their own creativity. Wendy enjoys challenging social problems through art and creating collaborative artwork for the community, by the community – using art as a platform to provide opportunities to develop and promote soft skills and social inclusion. Wendy works from one of the studio spaces at Cross Street Arts, Standish.

www.umbrella-arts.org

Elaine Delaney – Craft Artist & Props Maker

Elaine can use many different mediums in her crafting. Recycled art is one of her favourite ways to work. Participants are encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to produce brilliant pieces of art. Elaine also heads up the Props department at Wigan Little Theatre, where she gathers and makes props for most productions. A ‘Props Workshop’ looks at the importance of backstage work and how all departments come together to create a perfect production. Participants can produce a prop using the tools and materials at hand.

www.facebook.com/Els-Prop-Stop-1454060671505491

Steve Fairclough – Drama & Literacy Facilitator / Scriptwriter / Coach

[BA \(Hons\) Performing Arts / MA Scriptwriting / Qualified RD1st Coach](#)

Steve has vast experience of working with young people in regional youth theatre and school settings. He is very versatile and loves the challenge of creating bespoke workshops for all ages. His focus age groups are KS2, 8 – 11 years and adults. Through fun drama games, improvisation and role play used as learning tools, Steve provides skills and confidence for young people to develop imaginative thinking, improvisation, devising towards performance and creative writing. He is passionate about exploring new and interesting ground within workshops using drama to support literacy and script writing and even the process of creating short film from script to screen.

Drawing from his professional experience as a performer, director, facilitator and scriptwriter within the arts, Steve can create activities and projects tailored to suit all age ranges. He also works as an Accredited Coach and Arts Award Advisor, and as a Dementia Friends Champion.

Paul S. Foster – Sculptor

[Self-taught artist with over 50 years’ experience, specialising in Sculpting for the last 30 years](#)

Paul is an artist and sculptor working in acrylics, graphite, pastels, watercolour, black ink and charcoal for his paintings and drawings and recycled materials and bronze for his sculptures.

Paul’s passion is wildlife and this is his main subject in his many and varied works, A few years ago he discovered that not only could he paint and draw animals but that he could also sculpt them as well.

Using household rubbish (cardboard, paper and polystyrene), Paul has made a number of studies of his favourite wildlife species from recycled materials – these have often been mistaken for real bronzes! He has recently started sculpting to cast in real bronze using the lost wax process.

Paul runs art demos, workshops and classes in sculpting and painting specialising in sculpture for complete beginners using no specialist tools, equipment or materials and working with a wide range of ages and people of all abilities.

Catherine Hawkins – Environmental Movement & Dance Art

[BA\(Hons\) Dance Theatre, Laban Centre for Movement & Dance](#)

Cath has over twenty years' experience developing innovative performance, community and health movement and dance projects. These have been wide ranging from; Community Dance Development, Associate Tutor on the Dance degree at Edge Hill University, specializing in developing creative learning in Foundation Stage Education on Reggio Emilia inspired Manchester Education Partnership and Sure Start projects and devising 'groundbreaking' participatory movement activities on acute wards at Alder Hey Children's Hospital and numerous site responsive performances with Small Things Dance Collective. Her inclusive, person centered approach to creating arts activities has meant she has worked with a huge variety of groups and individuals aged from nine days to over ninety and people with very specific needs.

She is a movement artist and performer with a visual side to her work that is focused on working creatively in the environment. She has a regular movement and mark making practice on Pennington Flash Country Park and a studio space at New Art Spaces Leigh where she creates textiles and installation work that has been exhibited. She is currently interested in developing indoor and outdoor creative activities for groups with a focus on the environment, relaxation, health and general wellbeing yet is always open to a new challenge!

www.facebook.com/CatherineHawkinsArtist

Louise Fazackerley – Performance Poet / Facilitator

[BA \(Hons\) Theatre Studies with Creative Writing](#)

Performance poet and facilitator. Offers spoken word performances and workshops suitable for primary, secondary and community settings. This includes organising youth poetry slams and dance poetry projects. Louise has strong local networks and works collaboratively with other artists. She has appeared on BBC Radio, has blogged for The Guardian and has a keen interest in social issues, site-specific work and outside spaces.

Joy France – Spoken Word Artist, Facilitator and Creative Community Developer

After a 35 year teaching career (where I worked predominately with young people facing challenges and struggles), Joy came to creativity late in life via performance poetry. She is now involved in many art forms and has had several residencies, including currently being Creative-in-Residence at Affleck's Palace in Manchester. Whilst making sure that activities are fun and relaxed, Joy is always professional and takes seriously her responsibility to stretch people to achieve their best.