EDINBURGH Deaf FESTIVAL

A celebration of deaf culture, language and heritage.





To view the brochure in BSL, or to book tickets, scan the QR code or visit edinburghdeaffestival.com



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Welcome to EDINBURGH Deaf FESTIVAL 2024

We're thrilled to be bringing Edinburgh Deaf Festival back for another year. We are dedicated to promoting deaf arts in Scotland and are committed to ensuring deaf people continue having access to the festival season.

Our team has worked hard to overcome funding challenges this year, and we're proud to be returning with another inclusive festival. Budget constraints mean our festival programme looks slightly different this year, but we promise this year's programme will be every bit as vibrant and engaging as before.

You can still expect a diverse range of events, including comedy, theatre, workshops, and more. We're particularly excited to present our original performance, 'The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood', a festival first. All performances will be accessible to deaf and hearing audiences. Thank you to everyone who has supported our festival. Your letters, messages of encouragement, and generous donations have played a pivotal role in ensuring Edinburgh Deaf Festival continues. We're also grateful to our festival partners for their ongoing collaboration, ensuring deaf people can access events across the city.

Explore the programme to discover deaf-led talent and interpreted events from our accessible partners. We're sure you'll find something you love.

Book your tickets at edinburghdeaffestival.com



EDINBURGH *Deaf* **FESTIVAL** *Schedule*

Fri 9Sat 10Sun 11Mon 12Tue 13Wed 14Thu 15Fri 16Sat 17Sun 18AugustAugustAugustAugustAugustAugustAugustAugustAugust

10am Edinburgh Deaf Heritage Tour - Alexander Blackwood	9am Portobello Parkrun 10am Edinburgh Deaf Heritage Tour - Alexander Blackwood 11am An Irish Impressionist – Lavery on Location National Galleries of Scotland 11am Deaf History Scotland workshop	10am BSL Heritage Tour 11am Deaf Photo Walk & Workshop 11am BSL Tour Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh	11am Scottish Inventors and Innovators BSL Tour National Museums Scotland	11am Teo & Talks: Giraffes Edinburgh Zoo	10am Social Running Club 11am BSL Tour Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh	10am Not Far from the Forest Dance workshop 11am Karol Radzisewski 'Filo' BSL Tour <i>Edinburgh Arts Festival</i> 11am Bingo	10am Edinburgh Deaf Heritage Tour – Alexander Blackwood 11am Ancient Egypt BSL Tour National Museums Seotland 11am Mental Health & Laughter Workshop with John Smith	9am Holyrood Parkrun 10am Edinburgh Deaf Heritage Tour – Alexander Blackwood 11am BSL Tour National Calleries of Scotland 11am Gavin Lilley	10am BSL Heritage Tour 10am BSL Science Show 11am Slow Flow / Gentle Yoga 11am Deaf Photo Walk & Workshop
12pm Edinburgh Castle BSL Tour	12:30pm Harry Potter BSL Tour 1pm BSL Craft Club 2pm BSL Zone panel discussion 3pm The Outrun Part of Edinburgh International Festival Church Hill Theatre 4pm There Is No Me Without You	2pm BSL Tour Fungi Forms <i>Rayal Botanie</i> <i>Gardens Edinburgh</i> 3pm Debate: Funding Deaf Arts 5pm BSL Zone Screening		1pm Film Screening: Take One Action 2pm Harry Potter BSL Tour 3:30pm Edinburgh Castle BSL Tour 4pm Solar Hub	2pm Style and Society: Dressing the Georgians BSL Tour The Kings Gallery	4:55pm Chatterbox Part of Edinburgh Festival Fringe Pleasance Courtyard 5pm John Smith	12pm Edinburgh Castle BSL Tour 3:30pm The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood 5:30pm John Smith	12pm D&D Session 12:30pm Harry Potter BSL Tour 1pm BSL Craft Club 2:30pm Hamlet Part of Edinburgh International Festival The Lyceum 4:30pm The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood	1pm Gavin Lilley: International Sign Workshop for BSL/ English Interpreters 1pm There Is No Me Without You 3:30pm BSL Science Show 5pm The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood
	7pm The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood 10:30pm Deaf Karaoke Ub and family events runnin ion, go to pages 12 & 13.	7pm The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood g each day from Friday 9 to	7:30pm Pub Quiz Monday 12 August.	7:30pm BSL Book Club	6:30pm There Is No Me Without You		7:30pm Life is a (Deaf) Cabaret 8pm The Outrun Part of Edinburgh International Festival Church Hill Theatre 9:30pm Gavin Lilley 10:30pm Deaf Karaoke will be held at Deaf Action, inburgh, EH1 3QY unless high		7pm Life is a (Deaf) Cabaret 9pm Gavin Lilley



Edinburgh Deaf Festival is proud to present our original performance, 'The Ghost of Alexander Blackwood', developed by an all-deaf team.

BSL En 🔊 🖗 CC

Step into the haunting presence of Alexander Blackwood. Join us on this intimate and insightful journey as he shares his life story, from childhood to becoming a pastor at the world's first deaf church, right here in Edinburgh. Produced by and starring a deaf cast, witness Blackwood's profound

impact on the deaf community. Meet other famous deaf figures from Edinburgh's history along the way, and discover how these interactions shaped deaf society and language. A tale both curious and enlightening, let's follow his journey through the city that influenced deaf culture around the world.

Theatre 10-18 AUG



GAVIN LILLEY

Renowned deaf comedian Gavin Lilley brings his hilarious stories about his experiences as a sign language user, traveller, and a weary father of three - his embarrassing moments throughout his eventful life will make you chortle. Gavin has performed across the UK and Europe, and has performed alongside John Bishop. Grab this opportunity for a unique perspective of our diverse cultures.

BSL (En 🔊 🔊







LIFE IS A (DEAF) CABARET

A showcase of emerging deaf talent. Join us for a fresh and exciting night of cabaret, as performers take to the stage to showcase their talents. Featuring an exciting blend of dance, sign songs, comedy, drama, and monologues, performances will be a mix of English and BSL.

> Theatre 15-18 AUG



LISTEN TO THE FOREST

Deaf 2

Have you ever wondered if forests carry a message which needs to be shared? This is the place to ask these questions and listen to the voice of the Forest. The Forest team will take you on a journey melting movement improvisation, music, creative writing and BSL. A showcase of a piece created from a workshop on the same day.

BSL En 🖉 🔊

JOHN SMITH

BSL En 🔊 🔊

BSL En 🔊 🔊

John Smith draws on his personal experiences and uses real-life observations to inspire his work. He offers an amusing insight into what it can be like as a deaf person navigating in a hearing world.

> Comedy 15 & 16 AUG

Dance

15 AUG



BSL CRAFT CLUB

Join us for coffee, chats and crafts. Bring along current projects, exchange ideas and advice, and have fun while you craft. This accessible craft club is open to all.

💷 🔊 🔊 10 & 17 AUG



SOLAR HUB

Solar Bear

Solar Hub is coming to Edinburgh Deaf Festival! A networking event for professional and emerging artists, open to deaf, hard of hearing and hearing artists. Connect with like-minded artists including theatre makers, actors, photographers, filmmakers and more. A chance to develop professional relationships, discuss exciting ideas, and plan new collaborations.

851 En 🔊 🄊



DEAF KARAOKE

Our famous Deaf Karaoke is back! Join us for a fun filled night of signing and singing. Everyone is welcome.

? ?



THERE IS NO ME

A heartfelt journey of two

challenges, growing apart

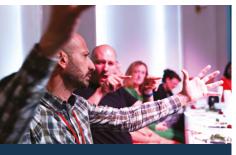
and rediscovering the true

meaning of family. Short

sisters navigating life's

WITHOUT YOU

10 & 16 AUG



DEBATE: FUNDING THE DEAF ARTS

BSL En 🖉 🖻

Our panel will discuss funding in the arts sector, and the funding barriers presented to deaf artists.

11 AUG



PUB QUIZ

Orange Tree

Sign,

A Night in {

Capewell,

by Ph

9

Come along to Deaf Action for a pub quiz! Mingle with Edinburgh's deaf community and test your knowledge. Accessible for both deaf and hearing people.

851 En 🔊 🦻



BINGO

N

Deaf 🔊

Join us for a game of bingo! Mingle with Edinburgh's deaf community, win cash prizes, and enjoy friendly competition. Over 18s only.

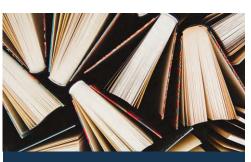


12 AUG

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS GAME SESSION

Have you played D&D before? We'll be playing a full session, taking you through combat, roleplaying, puzzles, and much more.

🖭 🗊 🖉 🔋 17 AUG



BOOK CLUB Sign Between the Lines

Join us for an evening of literature where we'll be hosting a talk with authors and illustrators to find out more about their experiences in the world of books. Grab your chance to ask questions, participate in meaningful conversations and mingle with fellow bookworms.

85L En 🔗 🕅

13 AUG

CLOSING PARTY

Join us for Edinburgh Deaf Festival's closing party! Get into the groove with renowned deaf DJ, DJ DefBeatz, as he guides you through a set of specially mixed house tracks to get the party started.

⑦ ⑦ 17 AUG

9

13 AUG

15 AUG

8

WORKSHOPS, TOURS, EXHIBITIONS

Join us for a variety of events throughout the festival. Detailed information can be found at edinburghdeaffestival.com

WORKSHOPS

CAREER PATHWAYS INTO FILM & TV BSL Zone

Panel discussion on pathways into media.

10 AUG

DEAF HISTORY SCOTLAND

Carrie Skinner

Join Deaf History Scotland for this fascinating exploration of the rich history of the deaf community in Scotland.

10 AUG

DEAF PHOTO WALK Scott Campbell

Explore the cityscape and landscape of Edinburgh and learn how to take better photos. Review and discuss your photos with the deaf photographer.

11 & 18 AUG

TEA & TALKS: GIRAFFES

Edinburgh Zoo

Enjoy a morning talk and brew at the zoo! Led by Royal Zoological Society of Scotland staff, learn about giraffes in this Tea & Talks session. 13 AUG

NOT FAR FROM THE FOREST – DANCE WORKSHOP

Valeria Levi

Inspired from the approach and methods used to develop the dance-theatre show "Listen to the Forest", the team will take you on a journey melting movement improvisation, music, creative writing and BSL in an all-day workshop. **15 AUG**

SLOW FLOW GENTLE YOGA Sasha Malinsky

Led in BSL and English, this accessible yoga session is suitable for all abilities and bodies.

BSL TOURS

EDINBURGH DEAF HERITAGE TOUR – ALEXANDER BLACKWOOD

Discover the remarkable life of Edinburghbased deaf pioneer, Alexander Blackwood, in this brand-new deaf heritage tour.

9, 10, 16 & 17 AUG

EDINBURGH CASTLE

Set in the heart of Scotland's dynamic capital city, Edinburgh Castle is sure to capture your imagination. 9, 13, 16 AUGUST

HARRY POTTER TOUR

Visit landmarks across Edinburgh which inspired the famous Harry Potter books.

10, 12, 17 AUGUST

AN IRISH IMPRESSIONIST – LAVERY ON LOCATION

National Galleries Scotland

Explore the extraordinary life of Belfast born artist, Sir John Lavery as he went 'on location', from Scotland to New York via Paris and Morocco. **10 & 17 AUG**



Ryszard Kisiel, 1985/1986. Courtesy the Queer Archives Institute and Karol Radziszewski.

EDINBURGH DEAF HERITAGE TOUR

Explore Edinburgh's incredible deaf history as you discover stories and sites of the deaf pioneers that left their mark on the city's landscape.

11 & 18 AUG

SUMMER GARDEN TOUR

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Explore the changing seasons, diverse Living Collection and inspiring stories and history of the Garden in this BSL tour.

11 AUG

FUNGI FORMS

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Discover the diversity of fungi, mushrooms and toadstools.

11 AUG

SCOTTISH INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS BSL TOUR

National Museum of Scotland

Join this tour exploring Scottish galleries and learn more about the stories of some of Scotland's greatest inventors and innovators. 12 AUG

STYLE AND SOCIETY: DRESSING THE

GEORGIANS

The King's Gallery

Discover what the Georgians wore, from servants to members of society, and learn what fashion can tell us about life in the 18th century.

14 AUG

ANCIENT EGYPT BSL TOUR National Museum of Scotland

Discover more about the remarkable culture and achievements of the ancient Egyptians in this tour led by Barbara Brown.

16 AUG

KAROL RADZISZEWSKI 'FILO' Edinburgh Art Festival

This BSL tour of Karol Radziszewski's first Scottish solo exhibition explores the unknown histories of LGBTQ+ communities beyond the US and Western Europe. A creative making workshop to reflect on themes or mediums of the show.

15 AUG

EXHIBITIONS

DEAF HISTORY SCOTLAND ARCHIVES

Discover the vibrant heritage of the deaf community in Scotland as you explore collections from the Deaf History Scotland archives.

9-18 AUG

IMAGINING DEAF SPACES

Created by interior and communication design students from Heriot-Watt University, we explore the concept of deaf spaces in this open exhibition. 9-18 AUG

FILM SCREENINGS

BSLZONE TV SCREENING

A screening of a 30 minute BSL Zone programme. Introduced by the deaf media professional who made it, with Q&A.

11 AUG

FILMING OUR WORLD: QUEER ECOLOGIES AND REWILDING BSL Take One Action / Scottish Queer International Film Festival (SOIFF)

How can we celebrate wildness within intertwined struggles? This lunchtime showcase of short films explores the intersections between Deafness, queer ecologies and climate justice - and celebrates the power in collectivity. Plus food and networking with Take One Action and SQIFF. 13 AUG



YOUTHCUB@ EDINBURGHDeaf FESTIVAL

YOUTH CLUB & FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS

There's something for everyone at Edinburgh Deaf Festival, with fun events for all ages! Join us for our family friendly events and youth workshops.

ACCESSIBLE

ALL EVENTS ARE



SPORT FUNFAIR

Age: 7+

Come and join us for our mini sport funfair! Chock-full of competitive and messy games. 12PM

SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST

HANDS-ON ART WORKSHOP *Age: 0-8*

For younger children, experience the power of creating art with our hands. **10AM**

HANDS-ON ART WORKSHOP *Age: 9-18*

For older children and teens, experience the power of creating art with our hands. **12PM**

SENSORY PLAY

Age: 0-3, with parents Interactive storytelling for babies and toddlers, using picture books, toys, and puppets.

2PM

INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING

INTRODUCTION TO

Aae: 13+

5PM

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Always wanted to play D&D? Now's your

beginners, so we'll explain how the game

chance! This is designed for absolute

works, and play a short session.

Age: 4-8 and families Interactive storytelling for children, using

picture books, toys, and puppets.

EXPRESSIVE ARTWORK

Age: Open to all ages This artwork exhibition explores the world of deaf mythical creatures and monsters. **5PM**

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS GAME Age: 13+

Have you played D&D before? Today we'll be playing a full session, taking you through combat, roleplaying, puzzles, and much more!

5PM

SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST

INTRODUCTION TO CHARACTER DESIGN *Age: 1-9*

A fun illustration workshop with a deaf children's book illustrator. Learn how to draw your own unique characters. **10AM**

INTRODUCTION TO CHARACTER DESIGN

Age: 10-18

A fun illustration workshop with a deaf children's book illustrator. Learn how to draw your own unique characters. 1PM

FAMILY BSL CLASS

Age: Open to all ages Join our BSL tutor to learn the basics of BSL in this family-friendly session. 1PM

TELEVISION PRODUCTION WORKSHOP *Age:* 10+

A fun and practical introduction to the world of television production from the people behind BSL Zone. Learn about career pathways. 3PM

Book your tickets at edinburghdeaffestival.com

MONDAY 12TH AUGUST

FAMILY FRIENDLY YOGA

Age: 2+

A fun, accessible yoga class for kids and families. No experience needed 11AM

PRESENTER TRAINING WITH DANNY'S SKITS

Age: 9-18

Dive into an adventure with Danny Murphy, the creative genius behind Danny's Skits, at our Kids Presenter Training session! 12PM

FAMILY BSL CLASS

Age: Open to all ages Join our BSL tutor to learn the basics of BSL through objects, pictures, and books, in this family-friendly session.

1PM

BEST of the **FESTS**

ACCESSIBLE EVENTS ACROSS EDINBURGH

There are more accessible events throughout the month of August than ever before. Here are just some events happening across the city and other festivals and venues.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

FRINGE ON THE HIGH STREET

At The Fringe street events, you can catch incredible acts from world-class street entertainers, and preview hundreds of Fringe shows for free. 11. 17 & 22 AUG, 10AM - 6PM

BSL

There's plenty of accessible events to enjoy at the Fringe this summer.

For full information, visit: www.edfringe.com

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

ASSEMBLY

HALL

Festival

Theatre

23 AUG.

7:30PM

CC

HAMLET

BSL CC

The Lyceum

17 AUG, 2:30PM

FAMILY

3PM

BSL CC

CONCERT

Usher Hall

25 AUGUST,

THE OUTRUN Church Hill Theatre 10 AUG, 3PM 16 & 24 AUG, 8PM

BSL CC

PIFASE RIGHT BACK The Studio **9 AUG. 7PM**



For full information and to book, visit: www.eif.co.uk



EDINBURGH ART FESTIVAL

EAF ART TOURS: KAROL RADZISZEWSKI 'FILO' City Art Centre 15 AUG, 11AM

BSL

For full information and to book, visit: www.edinburghartfestival.com

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

MARGARET ATWOOD: PRACTICAL **UTOPIAS: AN**

EXPLORATION OF THE POSSIBLE 10 AUG, 3:15PM

BSL CC

RAYMOND **ANTROBUS & EVELYN GLENNIE:** TRANSCENDENT SOUND

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL

15 AUG. 8:45PM BSL CC

www.edbookfest.co.uk

BSL CC For full information and to book.visit:



NATHAN THRALL:

IENNI FAGAN & IONA

LEE: CALLING TO MIND

ANATOMY OF A

TRAGEDY

CC

CC

16 AUG, 5PM

17 AUG, 4PM

SARAH MARSH:

20 AUG, 11AM

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UG, 3:15PM	20 AUG, 5PM				
	BSL				
r full information an vw.scottishstorytell EASANCE THEATRE					
EALLY DO THINK IS WILL CHANGE UR LIFE asance Dome UL-26 AUG, 12:15PM	TARTAN RIBBON COMEDY BENEFIT Pleasance Courtyarc 13 AUG, 7:30PM				
UFFED asance Courtyard UL-26 AUG, 2:25PM)	CHATTERBOX Pleasance Courtyar 15 AUG, 4:55PM				

PLEASANCE COMEDY RESERVE Pleasance Dome 12 AUG, 8:20PM

CC

For full information and to book, visit: www.pleasance.co.uk

BSL

BLUE BADGE BUNCH

Pleasance Courtyard

17 & 18 AUG. 2:25PM

BSL L'ADDITION - HERE & DIFFERENCE **NOW SHOWCASE** Old Lab

20. 22. & 24 AUG

11:30AM

BSL

SUMMERHALL

CATAFALQUE

Tech Cube Zero

8 AUG, 12:25PM

JUNE CARTER CASH:

THE WOMEN, HER

The Dissection Room

8, 17 & 22 AUG, 4:20PM BSL

MUSIC AND ME

BSL

A BRIEF HISTORY OF Former Womens Locker Room 22 AUG. 4:15PM BSL

THROUGH THE MUD

Main Hall

QUEENS

Main Hall

BSL

14 AUG, 5:55PM

20 AUG, 9:15PM

For full information and to book, visit: www.summerhall.co.uk



FIFTEENTH EDITION 1 - 4 MAY 2025 HAWICK, SCOTLAND







** **Blackwood Bar** by Deaf Action

Open every day during the festival.

Enjoy delicious food and a wide selection of hot and cold drinks.

INTERPRETERS AND CAPTIONERS on demand

If you want to see a performance at any of the other Edinburgh festivals but it isn't yet accessible, ask us. Deaf Action will aim to source an interpreter or captioner to make sure you can see the performance you want, when you want.

HOW IT WORKS

- You find a performance you want to see
- Ask Deaf Action to request a communication professional
- We try to match the show with the right interpreter or captioner
- You go to the show and enjoy yourself!

* please note this service is subject to availability

Deaf Action

Edinburgh Deaf Festival is brought to you by Deaf Action. We are a deaf-led charity with headquarters in Edinburgh, supporting and celebrating deaf people. We were established in 1835 and work with deaf people across Scotland and the South of England. Our work is geared towards empowering all deaf people to achieve their potential and fully participate in society, with equality of rights, access and opportunity. Find out more about Deaf Action by visiting our website at: www.deafaction.org

Support the **FESTIVAL**

Help us secure Edinburgh Deaf Festival for the future.

Donate online at: edinburghdeaffestival.com or text FEST to 70490 followed by your chosen amount, up to £20.



THANKS TO OUR Funders & **Supporters**

SignLive A S L I Ł





Baillie Gifford

Accessible Tours

ARTS COUNCIL

FESTIVAL Information

Tickets available to buy 24/7 online at: edinburghdeaffestival.com

Box office

Open every day during the festival, 9-18 August, 9am to 5pm 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh

Refunds

All Edinburgh Deaf Festival tickets are non-refundable, unless an event is cancelled.

Accessibility

- Deaf and hearing audiences welcome
 - 🔥 Wheelchair access throughout
 - (iii) Lifts to performance areas
 - Hearing loop in performance areas

Get in touch

- festival@deafaction.org
- S 0131 556 3128
- 97775 620 757 07775 620 9



Where to find us

Deaf Action, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QY

Some events may take place in other venues, these will be noted on each event.



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www.edinburghdeaffestival.com

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