



3 JANUARY 2014

Bringing Books To Life

Free Community Workshops to Create Literary Landscapes

The Royal Opera House needs Thurrock residents to get creative and help create fantastic scenes from popular children's stories. Free community workshops run from Saturday 1 February at the ACME Artists' Studios on the High House Production Park in Purfleet to design and build interactive installations for the **Pop-Up Literature Festival** which comes to Thurrock in May 2014.

Have you ever wanted to jump inside a book and make its world a reality? Do you fancy creating a jungle, designing outfits for heroes and villains or making a life-size gorilla? Then join professional artists and designers and help to make 12 interactive installations based on popular books for children and young people. You can meet the authors, discover more about the exciting stories and try your hand at prop, set or costume making. You do not need any previous experience in any art form, just enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved.

The workshops run each Saturday from 1 February to 22 March, beginning at 10am and ending at 5pm. You can sign up for just one workshop or come along to all. The workshops are free but registration is essential as places are limited. The workshops are suitable for anyone aged eight and above and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

For all Royal Opera House press releases visit www.roh.org.uk/press



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

To register your interest in attending the workshops, please email getinvolved@roh.org.uk or call the Royal Opera House Learning and Participation Team on 01708 891200.

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Notes for Editors

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock has been offering innovative and creative projects and programmes in schools, colleges and across communities in the Thames Gateway for the past six years. In 2010, more than 1000 people from Thurrock, young and old, took part in creating and performing the spectacular Purfleet Opera: *Ludd and Isis*, the third large scale ROH performance created with communities in Thurrock. As a result of this work a Thurrock Community Chorus has been created with over 140 members of all ages and a new Youth Vocal Group for 11-25 year olds.

Local schools and teachers are benefiting from Royal Opera House projects which enable collaboration with creative professionals, the learning of new skills and the nurturing of creativity

Public and educational tours of the state-of-the-art Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop where the sets and scenery for the Royal Opera House stage in Covent Garden are built are now available.

The High House Production Park is supported by a unique partnership including Arts Council England, Creative & Cultural Skills, the Royal Opera House and Thurrock Council.