



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

PRESS RELEASE

9 OCTOBER 2014

Ready Steady Draw

The Big Draw at High House Production Park

Monday 27 October 10.30am - 4pm

Free event

High House Production Park, Vellacott Close, Purfleet, RM19 1RJ

Artists from the Royal Opera House join together with partners across the High House Production Park on **Monday 27 October** as the Park hosts the Big Draw. **The Royal Opera House, The Backstage Centre** and **Kinetika** will all be taking part in this free event to offer everyone a great day of drawing and fun.

This year's Big Draw theme is 'It's Our World' and is a celebration of the environment we live in, whether urban, rural or coastal landscapes. The High House Production Park is a beautiful place to explore and offers lots of inspiration for artists. Everyone, young or old, beginner or expert, is invited to the Park for the free Big Draw event, to draw and learn more from skilled and experienced artists.

Free paper and pencils will be available from The Backstage Centre where there will also be some costumes from the Royal Opera House for people to try on. You can draw one of the costumes and explore its design, or maybe you would rather head out to draw your favourite parts of the Park. Scenic artists from the Royal Opera House will be in the Barns demonstrating the techniques involved to turn a small drawing in to a

huge backcloth. Kinetika, in the High House Artists' Studios, will show how drawing can also be transferred on to silk.

The Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop will be open and everyone is welcome to wander through the building and find out what's being worked on. You can stay and draw there too.

The High House Production Park is a fully accessible site and very family friendly. The Coachman's Cafe will be open for light refreshments or bring your own picnic and enjoy the walled garden and the orchard. There is plenty of free parking on site too.

For more information about the Big Draw, please go to:
www.thebigdraw.org

-ENDS-

CONTACTS

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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 since 2006.

Since then, more than 40,000 people have participated in activities ranging from schools projects to teacher training, from work-based learning to fully-staged community operas. People in Thurrock have both been able to watch

special performances at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden and gain a very special insight into the behind-the-scenes process.

The Learning and Participation team runs the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus which currently has over 140 members of all ages and regularly performs across Thurrock and at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. For further information, please go to:

www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/community-chorus. RM19, a Youth Vocal Group for 11-25 year olds was started in 2012:

www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/rm19-youth-singing-group.

Details of future performances and taster session for both the Community Chorus and RM19, can be obtained by emailing getinvolved@roh.org.uk or calling 01708 891200.

Regular public 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. Please go to www.roh.org.uk/visit/tours/thurrock-tours for further details. Inspiration Days offer a more in-depth look at the work of the Production Workshop. More information can be found at www.roh.org.uk/inspiration

In April 2012, the Royal Opera House agreed to become a [Bridge](#) organisation, working to connect children and young people to great art and culture across Essex, North Kent, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

The Learning and Participation team is based at the High House Production Park in Purfleet which is supported by a unique partnership including Arts Council England, Creative & Cultural Skills, the Royal Opera House and Thurrock Council: www.hhpp.org.uk