

Oct Half Term Art & Music Classes

Monday 26th Oct – Sunday 1st Nov 2026

Halloween and Autumn Festivals



The
Conservatoire

Providing exceptional, welcoming
and creative music and art tuition
to South East London since 1881.

Registered Charity No: 1072627

Mon 26th October



Art & Music: The Friendly Monster Mash

09.30 – 12.00, 3–5yrs, Sue Harris & Maria José Andrade, £33

It's the week of Halloween, and it's time to get friendly with all of the neighbourhood monsters! We will design and model our own Halloween creatures, inspired by the classics, exploring scales, tales, wings and fangs! In music we will explore the sounds, dynamics and rhythms of our various chosen monsters – will you be a lumbering legato Frankenstein, a gliding glissando ghost, or a fiery fortissimo dragon? This class blends together art and music in a uniquely Conservatoire way, taught by specialists in both practices.



Hairy Hedgehogs

13.00 – 15.00, 3–5yrs, Sue Harris, £27

Using all of the beautiful Autumn colours, and colour matching in warm tones, we will use a variety of natural and craft materials to make an image of a spiky hedgehog! We will also make a 3D one out of clay and twigs to scuttle home with you... did you know a group of hedgehogs is called a 'prickle'?!



October Owls

15.30 – 17.30, 3–5yrs, Sue Harris, £27

Owls love the longer evenings of Autumn and Winter. Have you ever seen one swooping over the heath? Let's look closely at how incredible their feathers are, and experiment in portraying them with wax resist graphite and pastels. We will make our very own owl to take home, and an owl mask decorated with feathers and a pop out beak.

Festival of Light: Autumn Lanterns

9.30 – 16.30, 6–11yrs, Yukako Shibata, £78

A colourful mixed-media workshop inspired by autumn festivals and traditions from around the world. Children will design and construct their own lanterns using paper, tissue and translucent materials, exploring collage, cut-out, and decorative techniques as well as simple 3D construction. They will discover how colour, pattern and light can transform a simple structure, and create a finished lantern to take home – perfect for an autumn celebration or Halloween decoration.



Tue 27th October

Folk Costume Making

09.30 – 16.30, 5–10yrs, Fiona Berry, £78

Using natural and recycled materials evoking the small village, ominous landscape, and ancient ritual traditions we will construct masks and headdresses to use for our Halloween festivities. How will you make scary the images, figures and animals found in the ancient woods and rolling rural hills of the British countryside? Mix materials and skills by collaging, sewing and sculpting our wearable art, ready for use on Halloween itself.

Songwriting and Playing Together

09.30 – 16.30, 8–14yrs, Jacob Samuels £78

Ever wanted to learn more about composition and songwriting? This inclusive and non-intimidating class is accessible for both musicians and non-musicians to learn about composition: working together to compose, arrange and write lyrics for our own original tune. Working with a professional guitarist, band player and educator, musicians and lyricists will have a lovely opportunity to work and play together, covering musicianship, a little theory, how to groove together and respond and play to support the overall sound as opposed to isolated, solo practise. Taking inspiration from whatever is happening in the community, or whatever inspires us, the aim will be to "learn to create the music YOU love".

Uke & You

13.30 – 15.30, 3–5yrs, Jay Hammond, £27

Ukulele is a fantastic first instrument and a wonderful stepping stone to other string instruments. Your friendly tutor will help you play your first song, have fun making music with others and learn skills in rhythm, pitch and notation as part of fun musical games! All levels are welcome. Bring your own instrument or borrow one of ours.

SPECIALIST FOCUS: Paint Like a Master

09.30 – 13.00, 8–14yrs, Tash Mok, £46

There are so many amazing styles of painting. Learn what is unique about a range of styles and how to create work like the masters of Cubism, Impressionism and Expressionism.



SPECIALIST FOCUS: Casting Nature & Form: Mould-Making with Clay and Plaster

14.30 – 18.00, 8–14yrs, Yukako Shibata, £46

Explore the fascinating world of mould-making and plaster casting in this hands-on sculpture workshop. Using autumn leaves and natural textures as inspiration, students will create impressions in clay and cast them in plaster, discovering how positive and negative forms are transformed through the casting process. They will then design their own relief moulds, experimenting with shape, texture and colour to create unique plaster sculptures.

Wed 28th October

Uke & You

10.30 – 12.30, 3–5yrs, Jay Hammond, £27

Refer to Tuesday 27th.

Inspired by Aardman: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit

09.30 – 12.30, 4–7yrs, Sue Harris, £39

We all love the magic of the Wallace and Gromit films, and there is an exhibition of Aardman animation on at the Young V&A currently. We will look at this fabulous horror parody to make a spoof poster of the film, and some plasticine characters from the story. You can take them home and make your own story!



Art & Music: The Haunted Theatre

09.30 – 16.30, 8–14yrs, Clare Kendall, £78

Join us for an eerie, Halloween themed day of art and music in this collaborative workshop. The first part of the day will be focused on using techniques such as painting, collage and model making to bring to life our abandoned theatre complete with hanging ghosts, cobwebs, bats and spiders! Then we will be learning some suitably creepy tunes to perform in front of our beastly backdrop.

Perfect for children interested in singing, musical theatre, and theatre design, the course will be taught and supported by tutors and assistants with music and art backgrounds.

There will be a performance of terrifyingly terrifying tunes at 4pm.

Mushrooms & Toadstools

13.30 – 16.30, 4–7yrs, Sue Harris, £39

It's Autumn, and as well as leaves changing colour and falling, mushrooms and toadstools appear from the ground. We will make our own mushrooms and toadstools out of recycled materials and look at the differences between the two. We will also make an environment for them to live in, using leaf rubbings and painting. They will pop up all over the studio!

Thu 29th October

Uke & You

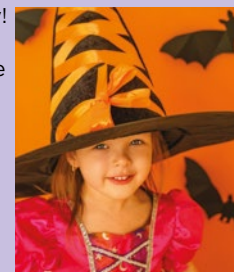
10.30 – 12.30, 3–5yrs, Jay Hammond, £27

Refer to Tuesday 27th.

That Hat Is Wicked

09.30 – 16.30, 5–11yrs, Lilly Walker, £78

It's time to get witchy! Come along to the Conservatoire to have fun in this all day art course, where we will create our very own witch hats from scratch, inspired by Elphaba's famous one from 'Wicked' and 'The Wizard of Oz'. We'll use all sorts of materials like card, tissue paper, paint, and fabrics like satin, net, and felt. You'll finish the day with your own extraordinary creation which you can wear later this week for any Halloween celebrations (although you should probably watch out for rain... and flying monkeys!)



The Deep Dark Woods: Magical Mobiles

09.30 – 13.00, 6–12yrs, Cate Chapman, £46

In tall tales and ancient stories, forests can come to life, harbour wild beasts, or lead us far from home to discover dark mysteries. We will look at depictions of forests in different stories and think about our own fantastical forest and what it might look like... and who lives there! Using real wood, twigs, leaves and paper craft, we will create a beautiful hanging mobile that transforms as it moves in the autumn breeze, perfect to hang in your window on a rainy October night. What creatures and characters might we find emerging through our trees as they hang?

SPECIALIST FOCUS: Finding Your Own Way of Seeing

14.30 – 18.00, 8–14yrs,
Yukako Shibata, £46

A painting workshop exploring how artists can look at the same subject in completely different ways. Using the autumn landscape as inspiration, students will experiment with observation, cropping (choosing what to include, what to leave out and how to frame the subject), colour, composition and abstraction before developing their own expressive interpretation in acrylic and mixed media. Along the way, students will explore different artistic approaches – from looking closely and simplifying, to exaggerating colour, using geometric structure or pushing an image towards abstraction. They are all looking at the world, but they aren't all seeing it in the same way. The focus is on encouraging young artists to develop their own visual ideas, artistic awareness and individual point of view.

Fri 30th October Ghost in a Bottle

09.30 – 16.30, 5–11yrs, Clare Kendall, £78

Imagine, you have discovered a tiny ghost trapped inside an old, decorative bottle. Where did they come from and what is their story? In this workshop, we'll be using craft, art and storytelling skills to make our own ghost in a bottle along with an illustrated booklet to describe how they came to be. First, we'll create our tiny trapped ghost! Then using a range of materials and techniques such as pen and ink drawing, mono printing and watercolour. We'll compliment our ghost in a bottle with their very own story book.

All courses
are drop off

Halloween!

Our Family Classes offer the perfect opportunity to get creative together. This Halloween we are offering classes aimed at different ages. If the description says a certain age upwards, this is an indication of the age from which it is most appropriate. Older children are most welcome to attend and our tutors will tailor the content to include everyone.

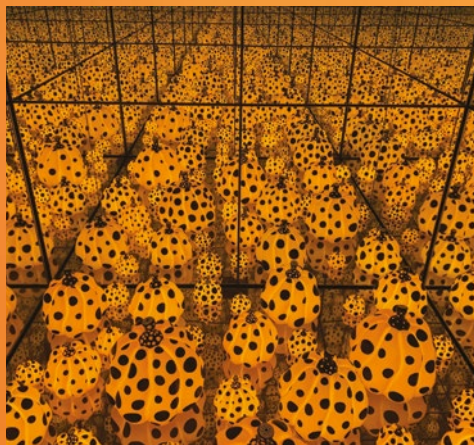
All participants need their own ticket and there is a maximum of two children per adult attending.

Sat 31st October

Family Class: Dotty Pumpkins

09.30 – 12.30, For ages 3+, Fiona Berry, £30

Today is the day of the pumpkin! Together we will look in detail at a this famous orange vegetable, and draw and paint our own. We'll then make our own pumpkins out of clay and paint them with dots based on the work of the artist Yayoi Kusama. There'll be plenty of items to decorate and put in our window to celebrate Halloween.



Family Class: Menacing Masks & Trick-or-Treat Totes

13.30 – 17.00, For ages 5+, Clare Kendall, £35

It's Halloween tonight, are you ready to terrify? Come along to the Conservatoire to get everything you need for some seasonal fun! You'll make your own mask to wear trick-or-treating, and decorate a tote bag to collect all your goodies in. After this class you'll be ready for anything!



Family Class: Halloween House Hangings

13.30 – 16.30, For ages 4+ Fiona Berry,
£30 per booker

We need to prepare the house for Halloween... it's tonight! We will be making some paintings of pumpkin faces, some ghostly models to hang in our windows and other Halloween decorations of pumpkins, cats, skeletons, witches, bats and spiders. Time for tricks and treats!





Roundabout
Six instruments. One year. A world of music.

Roundabout (5-7 years) is our unique and popular one-year introductory course to six instrument families - strings, brass, guitar, piano, flute and percussion. This is a perfect introduction to music and allows children to find which instruments they enjoy the most.

Play!

Play! (6-9 years) is our follow-on group music course, where children pick from the Roundabout instruments and spend a year with expert tutors guiding them through the foundations of their chosen instrument in a relaxed and stimulating environment.

These courses are taught across three terms, building a solid foundation for students to move on to individual or shared tuition, and giving them the opportunity to experience their very first orchestra.

At this relaxed and accessible open morning you can speak to the Conservatoire team and music tutors to get a better understanding of what we offer with our group music courses. You can ask questions, explore options... and most importantly, try out some instruments!

Sun 1st November Children's Music Open Morning: Understanding Roundabout and Play!

10.00 - 12.00

Is your child interested in learning an instrument? Come along to this free open morning to learn all about our flagship courses, Roundabout and Play!.



Gigs for Kids

**FAMILY
CONCERT**

Sunday 1st November, 2pm and 3.30

Enjoy music as a family, and unlock a special world your children can access for the rest of their lives. Gigs for Kids returns this November with seasonal songs and fun for the whole family. Our wonderful Early Years Music tutors take to the studio stage to bring you beautiful music and storytelling. You'll even get to join in and make some music yourselves! If your child is one of our littlest Young Musicians, this is the perfect way for them to see their tutors in action.

Adult

£14.00 per ticket

Child

£7.00 per ticket

* Under 2s go FREE



The
Conservatoire

To book a course call 020 8852 0234 or visit www.conservatoire.org.uk

Adult Workshops

Monday 26th May

Painting Autumn: Colour & Atmosphere

6 – 9pm, 18+, Yukako Shibata, £39

A relaxed painting workshop exploring the rich colours, changing light and atmosphere of autumn. Using autumn landscapes, leaves and other visual references as starting points, participants will experiment with colour mixing, composition, texture and expressive mark-making, moving beyond simply reproducing what they see.

The workshop will explore the question: How can colour, shape, mark and composition communicate the feeling of autumn? Participants will learn ways to transform their observations into a more personal painting, developing their own interpretation rather than simply copying a scene.



Wednesday 28th May

Earth Tones & Chiaroscuro: An Autumnal Still Life Workshop

6 – 9pm, 18+, Sophie Cook, £39

Discover how to use the 'Zorn' palette and apply it to an earth toned, autumnal still life. Taking inspiration from the still life paintings of Zorn, Velázquez and contemporary painter Ingrid Christensen, you will learn how to set up and paint your arrangement with a more classical approach. Using just Yellow Ochre, Cadmium Red, Ivory Black, and White, you will learn how to model form with temperature, create subtle neutral greys and improve your handling of transparent and opaque passages to achieve chiaroscuro light. Designed for both beginners and experienced artists seeking to expand their colour knowledge and improve their paint handling.



Friday 30th May

Drink & Draw (Halloween Special!)

6 – 9pm, 18+, Sue Harris & Lilly Walker, £39

Come along to this special Drink & Draw to let your hair down, learn some new skills, and make friends. Led by two of our expert art tutors, you'll spend a fun Friday evening mixing prosecco with paint as you tackle your very own A3 canvas. You'll come away with a wonderful piece of painted work, no matter your prior experience, and beginners are very welcome. Each of our Drink & Draw sessions takes inspiration from different artists, and explores different mediums.

Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are available, with one glass included with your ticket.

Please let our team know of any allergies at the point of booking.



So that we can ensure our holiday courses are viable, we are unfortunately not able to offer refunds. Holiday courses are also not transferable between people. Please bring a packed lunch for full day courses and a snack for shorter ones. No nuts or seeds please!

Find us at

19-21 Lee Road, Blackheath SE3 9RQ

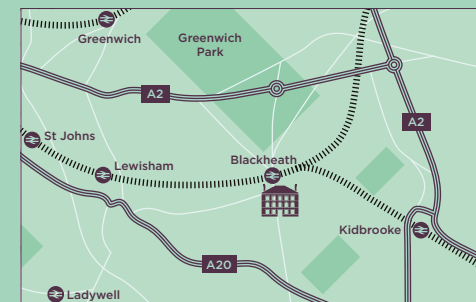
Stay in touch

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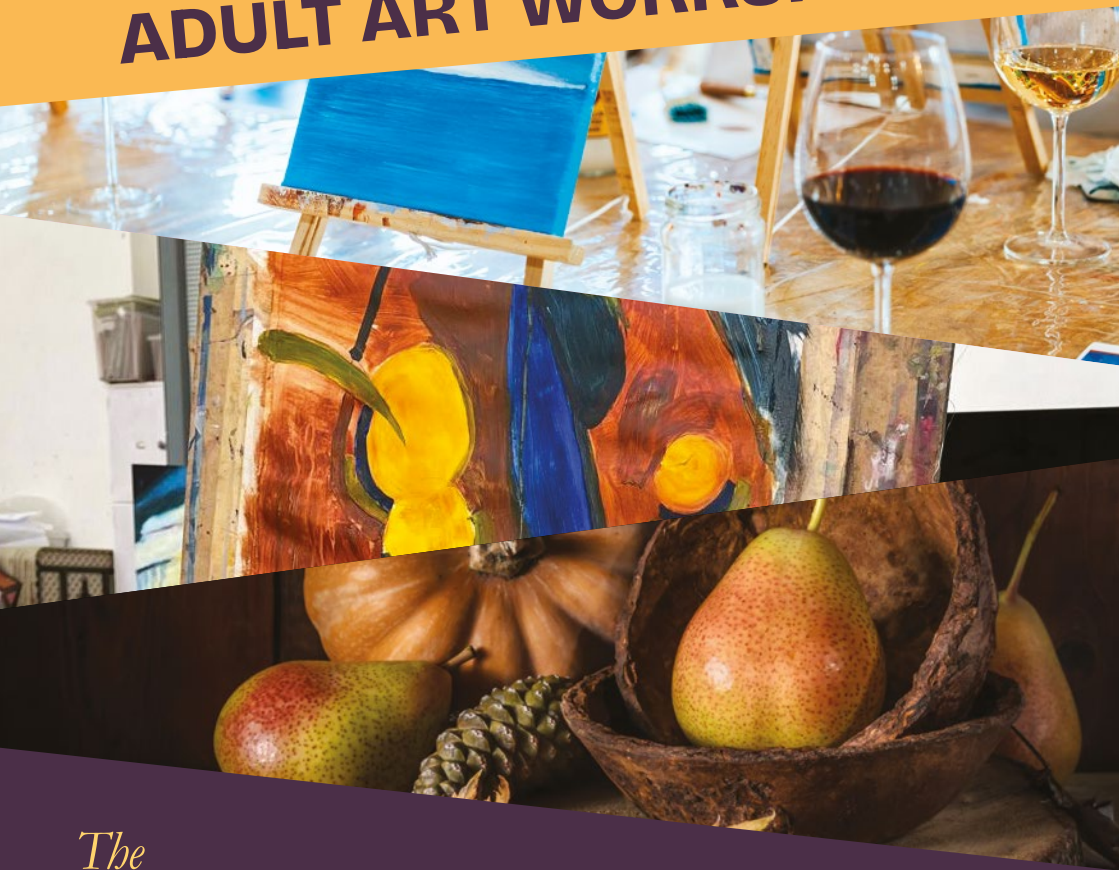


Sign-up to the newsletter to be the first to know when the new events launch: www.conservatoire.org.uk/newsletter

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ADULT ART WORKSHOPS!



The
Conservatoire

EARLY YEARS | CHILDREN | ADULT

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