



### **Strategic Fund Culture: Background information – Our journey so far**

Culture has long been at the heart of the Rothschild Family's philanthropy, not least in the Foundation's investment in the conservation and development of Waddesdon Manor.

In 2018 we made increasing access to culture a funding priority for our Buckinghamshire based grant-making, awarding a number of grants to organisations delivering arts activity with a social purpose. This included a particular focus on making cultural activity more accessible for young people and minority groups.

In 2019 we made a significant three year investment through our Creative Explorers programme which sought to increase pathways to creative careers for young people. Led by Resource Productions, this multi partnership approach is being piloted in Buckinghamshire secondary schools [please see our separate Creative Explorers PDF].

We continue to be interested in how we build the capacity of the local cultural sector through collaboration, including introducing new approaches and skills development. For example through our support of Farnham Maltings and Buckinghamshire Libraries [link <https://farnhammaltings.com/artists-and-makers/theatre/producing/buckinghamshire-libraries>].

We are a funding partner in the development of the Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy <https://buckinghamshireculture.wordpress.com/cultural-strategy/> and support the ongoing development of Buckinghamshire Culture <https://buckinghamshireculture.wordpress.com/about-2/>

During the coronavirus pandemic our funding was used to support local cultural organisations through financial loss and the move towards a digital offer <https://buckinghamshireculture.wordpress.com/2021/01/26/thinking-digital/>. The pandemic has highlighted the value of culture in bringing us together and the positive impact cultural engagement has on our wellbeing. It has reinforced our commitment to building a local cultural sector that is resilient and fit for the future.