



StartEast December Bulletin

Welcome to the December edition of our bulletin: a monthly one-stop shop for creative enterprises and individuals offering a raft of information on funding opportunities, networking, the latest useful reports and resources and practical support.

Please do feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues. Anyone interested in receiving StartEast newsletters and bulletins can [sign up](#) on our website.

If you would like to contact us please email stareast@norfolk.gov.uk

The StartEast Team



Creative East: Create Growth Programme

[The Creative East: Create Growth Programme](#) is a £1.275 million investment readiness and business support programme, funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, to boost growth in the creative industries across the East.

The 12-week package offers participants a bespoke programme of specialist seminars, round table events, one-to-one expert mentoring, pitching sessions and networking events, covering everything you ever needed to know to get your business in shape to take on investment and grow. Participants will be offered exclusive access to key experts in their field from the world of investment and creative industries.

To find out more and to register your interest, please visit: creativeeast.org.uk

Create Growth Programme Cohort 3: Peterborough - Open for Applications

This FREE 12-week programme of Create Growth workshops for Peterborough businesses will provide exclusive access to industry leaders, sought-after advice, and tailored guidance. Connecting creative businesses with the resources, experts, and knowledge they need to grow. The Peterborough cohort runs from February to May 2024.

[Read more.](#)

Submit your [Expression Of Interest](#) form before the deadline on 22 December 2023, and finish your application before 12 January 2024.

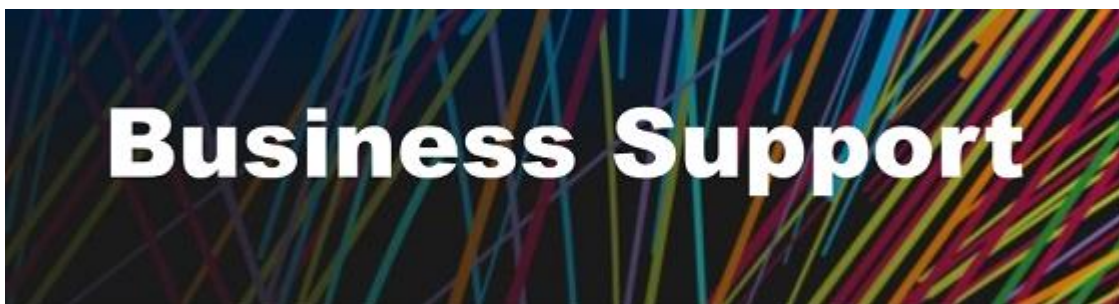
DCMS Create Growth Programme Competition 2: Investor Partnership

UK registered creative SMEs within appointed regions (including Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire), can apply for grant funding, of between £100,000 and £750,000, to provide creative business with targeted support for innovations and access to investment to unlock their potential for growth. [Read more.](#) A recording of the webinar briefing event for the fund can be [viewed here](#)

Deadline: 10 January 2024

If you are interested in applying for this fund you may be eligible for support from the **Norfolk & Suffolk Innovation Grant Mentoring Project.**

Run by Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) the free [innovation mentoring and bid writing project](#) helps small to medium business owners or managers, including micro business owners and sole traders, who are based in Norfolk or Suffolk to secure the funding they need to develop their project ideas. [Register your interest.](#)



WoMENTA Programme

Supported by [NatWest Business](#), the WoMENTA programme aims to empower aspiring female entrepreneurs in East Anglia. Providing a range of engaging training sessions

designed to cover all aspects of entrepreneurship, from business planning to marketing strategies, financial management, and beyond. [Read more](#).

Creative Enterprise Screen Sector Business Support Programmes

[Creative Enterprise: Investment Readiness Programme](#) is designed to equip screen companies with the necessary tools and knowledge for securing various forms of investment, ranging from equity to debt and grants. **Applications open on 3 January 2024.**

Help to Grow: Management Course with Norwich Business School

Help to Grow: Management is a 12-week applied course supporting managers and leaders of small and medium sized businesses. Delivered by Norwich Business School, the programme is accredited by the [Small Business Charter](#), with funding support from HM Government. The course costs £750 and will be delivered with a mix of virtual and face-to-face classes. [Register here](#) for the next course, beginning on 4 March 2024.

Visit the [Latest News](#) and [Resources](#) pages of the StartEast website for more information about ongoing support and opportunities.



DEBACE 2024 Deutsche Bank Awards for Creative Entrepreneurs

DBACE supports visionary creative entrepreneurs over 18 who are driven by a mission to build and sustain social value through their enterprise. 5 winners will share the £60,000 prize fund plus a year of tailored business support from [MeWe360](#). [Read more](#).

Applications open on 31 January 2024

East Anglia, Suffolk & Norfolk Free & Grant-Funded Digital Bootcamps

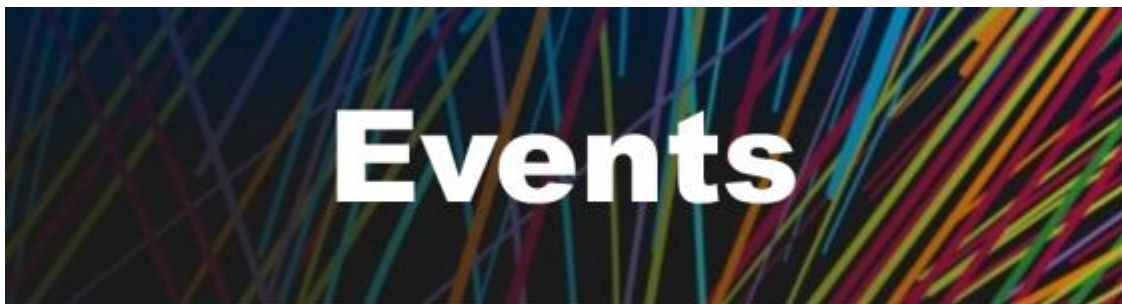
12-day Digital Skills Bootcamp in Suffolk & Norfolk delivered by Anicca Digital, leading to a Level 5 qualification from the Digital Marketing Institute. Free for unemployed & self-employed (employers pay 10-30%). [Apply Now for January 2024](#).

Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards Open for Nominations

Nominations are open for the 2024 Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards celebrating the amazing array of successful businesses in both districts. The awards ceremony will take place on 5 March 2024 at Norwich City Football Club. [Enter the Business Awards here](#) (nominations close at 11:59pm on 15 December 2023).

Head East Campaign - Promote Your Events

The [Head East campaign](#) showcases the vibrant arts, culture and heritage in Norfolk and Suffolk through an online events calendar, bespoke itineraries, and curated social media content. List your [events](#) and [attractions](#) for FREE on the Visit East of England website.



Promoting the Cultural & Creative Industries Webinar: Meeting Challenges & Building on Success

16 January 2024, 9:30 - 13:00. [Book here.](#)

New Year Business Re-boot 2024

18 January 2024, 10:00 - 14:00, Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library

Are you thinking of starting your own business in 2024 but don't know where to start? The Business and IP Centre Norfolk are working with NatWest to provide all you need to know about becoming an entrepreneur! The event is FREE but tickets must be booked in advance. [Book here.](#)

ART // TECH // PLAY Programme, Collusion

The ART // TECH // PLAY programme supports artists and creatives to build confidence and knowledge of creative technologies in a practice-led way, leading to the development of new creative practice, ideas, and networks. [Find out more.](#)

Upcoming Events

[08 February // Producers Edition: What the t*ch?! // Cambridge Junction](#)



Funding

Babergh and Mid Suffolk - Rural England Prosperity Fund Grants

Three new grant schemes providing capital grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 to small businesses, visitor economy organisations and community organisations in the district's rural areas:

[Apply to the Rural Business Growth Fund](#)

[Apply to the Rural Culture & Creativity Fund](#)

[Apply to the Rural Communities Fund](#)

UnLtd - Awards for Social Entrepreneurs

Funding and specialist support are available for UK social entrepreneurs to help them develop as social leaders, and to start up or grow their idea for a social venture.

Including: Start Up funding of between £500 and £8,000 and Scaling Up funding of up to £18,000. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 30 December 2023

BFC/GQ Designer Fashion Fund (menswear)

British Fashion Council Fund celebrating exceptional talent and creativity, and empowering businesses through bespoke high-level business mentoring and professional services. Value £100,000. [Read more.](#)

Deadline 5 January 2024, 5pm

Pleasance Theatre: The Charlie Hartill Fund

The Charlie Hartill Fund supports UK-based theatre makers in bringing their work to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe with up to £10,000. There are three awards: one for an early-career ensemble theatre and two for UK-based Black, Asian and Global Majority-led theatre shows. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 8 January 2024 (10am)

Goldsmiths' Company Business Catalyst (Large) Grants

Two grants of up to £7,000 each are available to support jewellers, silversmiths and allied industry practitioners in the UK to grow their business, develop their skills and expand their business knowledge. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 15 January 2024

Youth Music NextGen Fund

Grants of up to £2,500 are available to young creatives in the UK (18-25 year olds and under-30s who identify as d/Deaf or disabled) to help them take a step forward to participating in and changing the music industries. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 19 January 2024

ACE Project Grants: Supporting Grassroots Music

Grants of between £1,000 & £40,000 to support rehearsal and recording studios, promoters, festivals, and venues for live and electronic music performance are available until March 2025. [Read more.](#)

Grants 4 Norfolk

Looking for funding? Try the FREE Norfolk County Council search facility serving both businesses and communities. Local, regional and national funding opportunities available. [Register here.](#)

Visit the [Latest News](#) and [Resources](#) pages of the StartEast website for more information about ongoing funding support.



Creative PEC Policy Brief: Transitioning to Sustainable Production Across the UK Theatre Sector

New policy brief on how theatres in the UK have made sustainability changes to their processes and practices. Essential reading for policy makers, funders, and theatre companies with case studies showing how the whole sector could be more sustainable. [Read more.](#)



Norfolk County Council



Suffolk
County Council

NEWANGLIA
Local Enterprise Partnership
for Norfolk and Suffolk

StartEast Website: starteast.co.uk

StartEast Facebook: facebook.com/StartEast

StartEast Twitter: [@Start_East](https://twitter.com/Start_East)

Banner Design: Yellobelly