

Award-winning care experienced writer joins line-up |

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[Culture Cares Conference 2021](#)

Tuesday 16 November, 10am - 5pm

In-Person at Derby Theatre or Online

Derby Theatre, Derby's Cultural Education Partnership, and partners including the **Esmée Fairbairn Young People Leaving Care** programme, are excited to announce that award-winning actor, comedian and writer **Sophie Willan** will join the line-up of speakers at the ***Culture Cares Conference 2021***.

[Secure your place today](#) to join insightful, lively and vital conversations, presentations and workshops on how arts and culture are creating pathways in the lives of care-experienced young people.



About Sophie Willan

Sophie is a care leaver, whose personal experiences are part of her life's mission; to empower, represent and advocate for care experienced young people and marginalised children and adults.

Sophie's BAFTA Winning comedy series, *Alma's Not Normal*, is currently airing on BBC Two. As an Executive Producer on the sitcom, Sophie has also instigated a paid training programme for young people from low income and Care Experienced backgrounds on the production.

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Key Note Speakers

Sophie joins the line-up of speakers at this year's conference, which also includes...

- [Arts Council England](#)'s Chief Executive **Darren Henley**

- Acclaimed BBC broadcaster and presenter, **Ashley John-Baptiste**, who grew up in the care system from the age of four and was nominated for the Young Talent of the Year award at this year's RTS Television Journalism Awards.

Ashley says: *"As a child growing up in care, music became a sacred outlet for me - it was my place of expression, safety and making sense of my trauma.*

Creativity allowed me to navigate the care system, and I think it's remarkable that this Culture Cares conference delves into that important intersection of care and culture. Whoever attends this event, will be richer because of it."



New Performance

The day will feature a brand-new performance co-created with care-experienced young people, commissioned by Arts Council England for this event.

[View Full Schedule](#)



Box Office

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Bookings can be made online, available 24/7 via our website.



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