

Manchester City of Literature

আন্তর্জাতিক
মাতৃভাষা
দিবস

اليوم الدولي للغة الأم

International
**Mother
Language**
Day 2022

Día
Internacional
De La Lengua
Materna

আন্তর্জাতিক
মাতৃভাষা
দিবস

مادري زبان کا عالمی دن

Journée
Internationale
De La Langue
Maternelle



A UNESCO City
of Literature



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

#MCRIMLD22

17th Feb - 8th March 2022

manchestercityofliterature.com

International Mother Language Day 2022

UNESCO's International Mother Language Day is celebrated globally each year on 21st February. This event aims to enhance awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity. It has been observed globally since 2000 and has important historical roots: In Bangladesh, the 21st February is the anniversary of the day when Bangladeshis fought for independence and recognition for the Bangla language.

Manchester is the UK's city of Languages. A study by Multilingual Manchester at the University of Manchester in 2013 revealed that there are up to 200 languages spoken in Manchester at any one time.

Public celebration of language diversity began in Manchester in October 2015, when Multilingual Manchester - a research unit based at the University of Manchester's School of Arts, Languages and Cultures organised Levenshulme Language Day.

In October 2016, Multilingual Manchester sponsored a resolution, calling on the city council to adopt IMLD as an official annual celebration. The first public event to mark International Mother Language Day was then held in February 2017, when Multilingual Manchester hosted a panel discussion at Central Library with contributions from myself and others.

International Mother Language Day in Manchester has since grown to become a celebration of the

languages spoken in Manchester, and of our city's great strength in cultural diversity. The events involve libraries, cultural venues, community groups, universities, schools, poets and writers.

Almost half of school pupils in Manchester have a home language other than English. Multilingualism is part of our urban landscape of public signs, posters, and banners. Many among Manchester's work force have excellent foreign language skills, enabling them to communicate directly with business partners around the world. The city's commercial sector includes services that specialise in international customer services, translation and interpreting, and consultancy and advertising in other languages.

Communities cherish and cultivate their language heritage. Languages are an asset to our community and we are committed to supporting our communities in maintaining their languages through the work of supplementary schools and others, and our excellent Interpreting and Translation service. This work and IMLD celebrations add to the strong sense of belonging, identity, and shared community spirit that is found throughout the city.

Join us in this range of events across the city; in welcoming the brand-new Manchester City Poets to their roles; and a new initiative for 2022, Manchester leads globally: other

UNESCO Cities of Literature around the world are putting on IMLD events for first time, from Kuhmo in Finland to Dunedin in New Zealand, following the lead of Manchester City of Literature.

I would like to thank all partners including UofM and MMU for their continued support for IMLD. The energy, ideas and events you bring to the table each year make this such a unique occasion.

I am delighted that IMLD continues to celebrate our people, our communities and our languages.



Cllr. Luthfur Rahman
Deputy Leader
of Manchester
City Council

Join in the conversation
with us **@MCRCityofLit**,
using the hashtag
#MCRIMLD22 and
#MotherLanguageDay.

Introducing the new Manchester City Poets

The City Poets will work across our partnership network, acting as ambassadors for Manchester's residents, communities, and literature organisations.

The City Poet roles carry a civic responsibility, much like conventional Poet Laureate designations, and the appointees will be commissioned to produce five original poems on behalf of the City.

These poems will respond to Manchester Day, World Poetry Day and the Festival of Libraries; other commissioned poems will be delivered to respond to more exciting public events, projects and community outreach programmes coordinated by Manchester City of Literature and its partnership network. The poets will also translate other poets' writing.

Manchester has a rich literary tradition, as home to some exceptional and high-profile poets, a thriving poetry and spoken word scene, awarding-winning publishers and writing development agencies and libraries which place writing and community outreach at the heart of their work. This heritage is represented in Manchester's designation as an UNESCO City of Literature in 2017.

The three appointed City Poets will occupy the role for a period of one year (and we will be appointing another three City Poets in 2023).



Ali Al-Jamri

Ali Al-Jamri is a poet, translator and writer in Manchester. He is a member of Young Identity and his Arts Council-funded project 'Between Two Islands' brought together poetry workshops to Britain's Bahraini community. His work has appeared in Modern Poetry in Translation, Consilience and anthologies. When not writing poetry, he works in a school in Salford.

"Like so many people raised between cultures, I didn't have the opportunity to nurture my bilingualism and celebrate my mother tongue. Manchester is the city that honed me into a poet and translator, so I am excited not only to represent the place I call home, but to also share my passion for multilingualism."

– Ali Al Jamri



Anjum Malik

Anjum Malik's first languages were Urdu, American English and Panjabi, born of Pakistani parents in Saudi Arabia, she was multilingual and international before she could walk. An established scriptwriter, poet, and performer, a senior lecturer in creative writing at Manchester Metropolitan University. She has written several much-acclaimed original plays for BBC, ITV and theatre. With her poetry performed and published in UK and overseas. Anjum uses fact to fiction, food, real hidden stories, and pure creativity for inspiration. Over 80 of her scripts have been produced, her poetry is in numerous anthologies and her own collection. Her previous jobs include police officer, interpreter, business owner and classical Indian Kathak dancer.

"To be a City Poet for Manchester with Manchester City Of Literature partnered with UNESCO is huge honour, exciting, to be doing it in our fantastic city of Manchester. Celebrating Multilingualism through poetry working across communities and be at the heart of the literary scene in the coming year is absolutely amazing and ever so representative of the incredible creative work going on in our city."

– Anjum Malik



Jova Bagioli Reyes

Jova Bagioli Reyes is a queer, neurodiverse immigrant hailing from Colombia and Chile. As a poet and musician, they are heavily inspired by the long history of struggle of Abya Yala (so-called Latin America) and so their work deals with themes of decolonization, autonomy, and liberation. For Jova, poetry and music are not just forms of self-expression but ways of connecting with people and communities through solidarity.

"For me being a city poet means having my reality as a queer immigrant in Manchester be acknowledged. My voice is one of hundreds of thousands that make up this city and it feels both cathartic and intimate to have it be heard."

– Jova Bagioli Reyes



Saturday 19th February

Little Bridges: A celebration of poetry for International Mother Language Day

Manchester Poetry Library

Saturday 19th February, 11am, 1pm and 3pm

Manchester Poetry Library at Manchester Metropolitan University is delighted to invite you to celebrate poetry at an open day for International Mother Language Day 2022. View special displays of books from our co-curated languages programme. Contribute to the multilingual 'Made in Manchester' poem, which so far features verses in over 70 languages. We have also invited local and international guests for three free events:

11am: Poet Lydia Hounat discusses the curation of Manchester Poetry Library's Imazighen poetry collection. The discussion will centre around the orality of Imazighen literature and representations of Imazighen symbology and history.

1pm: Debjani Chatterjee, Simon Fletcher and Basir Sultan Kazmi celebrate the 25th anniversary of the publication of their book, *A Little Bridge* by Pennine Pens. As Mini Mushaira writers they have toured multilingual poetry performances and run poetry workshops throughout the country and we look forward to welcoming them to Manchester Poetry Library for this special celebration.

3pm: Readings from *No, Love Is Not Dead: An Anthology of Love Poetry from Around the World* edited by Chris McCabe. Chris will be in conversation with contributor and special guest the poet, writer, librettist, scholar of Indigenous American Literature and Navajo Nation Poet Laureate, Laura Tohe.



Sunday 20th February

International Mother Language Day Songs with Z-Arts

Sunday 20th February

Session 1: 10.30-11.15am

Session 2: 11.45am-12.30pm

Join multi-lingual singer, the wonderful Madeeha as she teaches song in a different language. To celebrate International Mother Language Day we are offering you the opportunity to explore a global language through music. The sessions will be creative, fun and focus on sounds through words and how music can lift your heart and soul, together as a family.

Please note that this event runs twice on the same day and that the sessions are 45 minutes long.





Sunday 20th February

Cooking with words

Zouk, Oxford Road

Sunday 20th February, 4-6pm

Working with local restaurant Zouk, writer Anjum Malik will work with the chefs and their recipes to cook up new multi-lingual poetry with responds to experiences of South Asian culture.

Join us for the afternoon at Oxford Road restaurant Zouk, where the head chefs are crafting some very special dishes for us to reflect International Mother Language Day and its uniqueness.

Anjum Malik will perform the new writing during the event, where you can get a ticket to dine and be an audience member for the evening and immerse yourself in the tastes and cultures of International Mother Language Day in Manchester. This event promises to leave bellies and hearts equally full.

Booking information will be available soon, please note that there will be a limited number of 45 tickets available to the general public.

"Food brings us together like nothing else. It is truly multilingual. Our differences are forgotten as we sit together, and this is what 'Cooking with Words' is all about. Eating together, celebrating all that we have in common through the pleasure of food as human beings with poems we can relate to like eating with loved ones in the present and in the past. It's about bringing together our senses of taste, hearing, seeing, taste, the aromas and feeling the pleasure of it all."

- Anjum Malik

Monday 21st February

International Mother Language Day at Powerhouse Library

Moss Side Powerhouse Library

Monday 21st February, 11am-7pm

Come and help Paddington Bear prepare for his travels and learn some new words in Spanish along the way!

What goes meong – meong? A South Korean dog. In Iceland a dog goes voff-voff, while in Russia dogs say gav-gav. Let's have some fun discovering and comparing animal sounds. You might be surprised to see how different they can be from one language to another.

Somali Advice Link ESOL learners, staff and volunteers will lead some help yourself language activities.

The Powerhouse Library will also be featuring dual language story sessions of the Eric Carle story The Very Hungry Caterpillar throughout February on Tuesdays at 11am. Library opening hours are 11am – 2pm & 3pm – 7pm.

German tasters with Deutsch Central International

Online

Monday 21st February 12-1pm

Join us for a fun language taster to find out what it is like to learn a language online!

German, the mother tongue of over 100 million Europeans, is being widely recognised as a valuable language in business now more than ever. Furthermore, on a more emotional level, sharing and understanding the language of our families, neighbours and colleagues makes us and them feel part of something so much bigger.

Come and have the chance to experience a practical and hands-on approach to learning German online. This informal and interactive session will be delivered by one of the native Deutsch Centre teachers, who are highly experienced in delivering lessons via Zoom. You will leave the session having learned some useful phrases to introduce yourself in German and some fun words that show beautifully the descriptive nature of the language.



Monday 21st February

IMLD Celebration at Forum Library

Forum Library, Wythenshawe

Monday 21st February, 2-4pm

We will be celebrating International Mother Language Day at Forum Library, all ages will be able to enjoy an afternoon of workshops, crafts and performances.

Here's a couple of highlights to get you excited:

- You will be able to make an African dancing belt with Afro-Tots
- Put your new dancing belt to use by joining in a traditional music and dance performance
- Enjoy our chatterbooks children's parade of traditional costume and language!
- Be part of a creative lettering workshop with Caroline Coates
- Enjoy music from the ancient civilisations of the Americas with El Condor, be entertained by traditional instruments and costumes – it will be breathtaking.



Family Fun Day for International Mother Language Day

Central Library and Manchester Libraries

Monday 21st February, 1-3pm

Communities across Manchester will come together to enjoy an afternoon of celebration for all the family. Sharing their stories, language, music, dance and food, it is sure to be a joyful gathering.

Confirmed for this year are members of the Lithuanian Community, and the first time in our event history, members of both the Libyan and Moroccan Amazigh community will be joining together to share their cultural heritage with everyone.



Monday 21st February

International Mother Language Day at North City Library

Monday 21st February, 2-4pm

We all love to dance, chat and chill, whatever language you speak! Join us at North City Library for a family friendly afternoon of games, fun and activities for International Mother Language Day 2022.

Help us weave an amazing giant sculpture featuring Ghanaian kente patterns and multilingual messages, we have traditional Roma storyteller Richard O'Neill, Lithuanian Storytime for little ones, plus fantastic live merengue music and dance workshop from July Julay trio and lots more!

Messenger Mobiles - make and take home our easy colourful bird mobile decorated with messages of love in your favourite languages.

LinguaGM multilingual activities for mental health & wellbeing, plus Multilingual crafts, games, jigsaws and play for everyone.

Suitable for all ages - particularly families and children 0-13 yrs. Free event - no need to book but come early! Free drink and snack for children.

Longsight Library International Mother Language Day

Monday 21st February, 2-4pm

Join us at Longsight library for our favourite event of the year, International Mother Language Day! There will be performances, music and great activities for all to enjoy.

Jamsalana will be hitting the tunes on their steelpanns and you'll even get a chance to do a workshop with them. Anamika Cultural Group will be there with their young people performing. Rethink Rebuild, Stanley Grove Primary Academy and our Library of Sanctuary Volunteers will be delivering activities. Come with a message of hope that can be contributed to our ever-growing Multi Language Bunting. Our Human Rights portraits will be on display.



Manchester City of Languages: Implications for policy and practice

Online

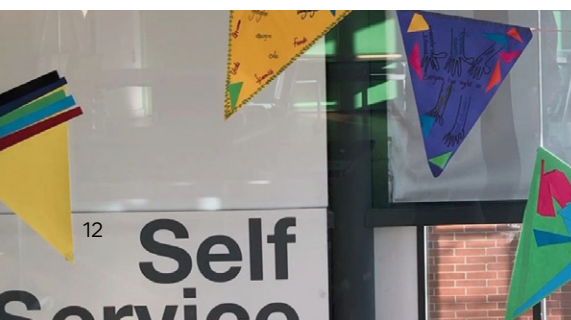
Monday 21st February, 6.30-7.30pm

In person and live streamed

Over the past decade, Manchester has risen to prominence as 'Britain's City of Languages', where over 200 languages are spoken. The city has been celebrating its language diversity, bringing together communities and cultural institutions to flag language skills as an important cultural and economic asset. It has also adopted UNESCO International Mother (and Father) Language Day as an official annual celebration.

On the occasion of Language Day 2022, we invite you to join academic experts, policy makers and representatives of cultural institutions for a conversation on the role of cities in harnessing and fostering multilingualism. As more cities in the UK and worldwide recognise the value of multilingualism for protecting tolerance and countering discourses of suspicion and hostility, we will explore how Manchester's experience can be replicated more widely, and how we might work toward promoting a global network of 'cities of languages'.

The event is co-hosted by Manchester's UNESCO City of Literature and the Manchester City of Languages initiative. The event will also be livestreamed from Manchester Central Library.



Manchester in Translation Comma Press

Tuesday 22 – Thursday 24 February

11am-5pm

Online

Hosted by Comma Press, Manchester in Translation will be a series of free online workshops and talks offering advice and insight into the world of translation. The event will be an opportunity for budding translators – or those with a passion for languages – in the North of England to develop practical skills for literary translation in particular, learn about the life of the translator and discover ways of getting themselves published.

The online conference will run over three days from the 22nd to the 25th of February and will include a keynote from an award-winning translator, two panel events and three workshops focusing on literary translation from Turkish, Portuguese and French into English.

The individual event details are as follows:

Keynote with Lawrence Schimel: On the dual practice of translating and being translated between mother and stepmother tongues

Tuesday 22nd February, 11am-12pm

Writing and translating from and into his 'stepmother tongue' of Spanish, Lawrence will offer insights from his career and share advice to emerging translators. He will discuss how being translated, as well as translating the work of others, informs his dual practice as both writer and translator.

Lawrence Schimel is an award-winning bilingual American writer, translator, and anthologist.

Portuguese-English workshop led by Rahul Bery

Tuesday 22nd February, 2-4.30pm

Rahul Bery translates from Portuguese and Spanish to English, and is based in Cardiff, Wales. His latest book translation is Kokoschka's Doll by Afonso Cruz, and his debut translation, Rolling Fields by David Trueba, has recently been nominated for the 2021 Translators' Association First Translation Prize. He was the British Library's translator in residence from 2018-2019 and he does outreach work with the Stephen Spender Trust and the Translation Exchange at Queen's College, Oxford University.

Fight between the lines: translation as literary activism

Wednesday 23rd February, 11am-12pm

A panel discussion with three professional translators on how translating becomes a form of resistance.

While opening doors across languages, can translated texts be a tool for societal transformation? From words untouched to the radical manipulation of texts, translation is an intrinsically activist act. This panel discusses the role of the translator and how, with the help of the wider industry, we can carve out new spaces for literary expression as a form of resistance. With Alireza Abiz, Alex Valente and Katharine Halls.

Turkish-English workshop led by Feliz Emre

Wednesday 23rd February, 2-4.30pm

Feliz Emre is a Turkish translator based in London. She has translated numerous children's books from English to Turkish and works closely with Turkish speaking communities in London as a public sector interpreter. She delivers workshops with the education initiative Shadow Heroes, and regularly volunteers for various community projects.

There are many ways to translate a given sentence, but how do we know which one works best? Groups will work on collaborative translations of texts across different genres, guided by experienced translators. This is a great opportunity to take your translating to the next level, hone your creative writing skills and meet like-minded people.



Found In Translation: Translation as an autonomous creative practice

Thursday 24th February, 11am-12pm

Is translation a form of creative writing? Does the act of translation have the potential to strengthen, support and ultimately expand the creative writing process? Can tackling the creative challenges posed by translating texts expand the parameters of a writer's work? This panel features literary translators who are also writers, poets and publishers, and asks how being a translator can ultimately inform their creative practice; with Saskia Vogel, Meena Kandasamy and Jen Calleja

French-English workshop led by Sarah Ardizzone

Thursday 24th February, 2-4.30pm

Sarah Ardizzone is a translator from the French-speaking world with some fifty titles to her name. Her work spans picture books, graphic novels and travel memoirs, as well as children's, YA and literary fiction.

Tuesday 22nd February

Mother language(s) from my field site

Creative MCR

Tuesday 22nd February, 2-4pm

A Linguistic Diversity Collective (LEL) activity for International Mother Language Day, led by Dr Serge Sagna.

Staff and student fieldworkers will present video recordings and photos from their field sites; followed by a discussion of the sociolinguistic setting in which children learn to speak their mother language(s). This will be an opportunity to contextualise and problematize the concept of mother language.

Online

Virtual roundtable discussion on (heritage) language learning during and after a global pandemic

Creative Manchester

Tuesday 22nd February, 7-8.30pm

A Linguistic Diversity Collective (LEL) activity for International Mother Language Day led by Dr Leonie Gaiser.

The roundtable will bring together language teachers and learners from mainstream school and higher education settings, supplementary school initiatives and other organised activities set up to encourage (heritage) language learning, to talk about their perspectives on and experiences of language learning and teaching during the pandemic.

The panellists, who are from a range of language backgrounds and are all based in Manchester, will address questions such as:

- How have Covid-19 regulations shaped the ways we use (heritage) languages in the multilingual setting?
- (How) have home schooling and working from home impacted on heritage language use and maintenance?
- How has increased use of online spaces during the pandemic created challenges, as well as opened up new opportunities in terms of heritage language use and learning?
- What strategies can be adopted to support language learning and maintenance post-pandemic?



Wednesday 23rd February

Kathputli Utsav - A Festival of Traditional Indian Arts

University of Manchester - Creative Manchester and the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Unit

Wednesday 23rd February,
15.30-17.00

University Place 3.204,
The University of Manchester,
Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 3PL

Join us as we celebrate International Mother Language Day with Kathputli Utsav – A Festival of Traditional Indian Arts.

Kathputli Utsav celebrates the skill, talent and culture of the Kathputli Colony, a colony of street performers in Delhi, India. The event will celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity of the colony, and showcase some of its great artists, with performances of traditional Indian arts.

These performances will be followed by an 'in conversation' with Ruth Daniel (CEO, Artistic Director, In Place of War) and Vijay Maitri (community leader and a theatre artiste), with more to be confirmed.

Presented in partnership by The University of Manchester's Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute and Creative Manchester. This event can be attended both in-person and virtually.



Thursday 24th February

Explore your own language – talking about time and space

Creative MCR

Thursday 24th February, 4-5.30pm

A Linguistic Diversity Collective (LEL) activity for International Mother Language Day led by Professor Eva Schultze-Berndt.

This online activity will actively involve speakers of different ages and proficiencies of languages spoken in Manchester – the intended audience are teachers and students at supplementary schools, those attending community centres, and anybody interested in exploring their own language / heritage language from a cross-linguistic perspective.

Online

Every language has expressions of time and space, but the same spatial arrangement might be described in very different ways across languages – or even within a single language, sometimes leading to miscommunication (“Do you mean left from your perspective, or at the left of the house??”). Regarding time, it is noteworthy that we often speak about time in spatial terms (“We are getting closer to the holidays”).

This topic will be explored with a brief presentation using examples from different languages. Participants can then explore the spatial and temporal expressions in their languages in breakout rooms (a room per language) using interactive games and pictures of different arrangements, with one linguist facilitator per breakout room and the event will last approximately 60-90 minutes.

Celebrating Poetry and IMLD

Thursday 24th February, 6-7.30pm

MACFEST

Join the Muslim Arts and Culture Festival for an exciting event with young people from the UK and around the world, on a literary and poetic journey. Young poets will recite or perform their poetry in English or their mother tongue.

Three young poets from a school in Salford, two poets from Loretto College and Withington High School:

Online

Sabkhat Un-Nisa
Alyamama Issa
Syeda Zainab Mazhari – talking about Indian Urdu literature

They will be introduced by their teachers or headteachers.

Hosted by: Sidra Choudhury, English teacher, Withington High School.

Chief Guest: Yaron Matras



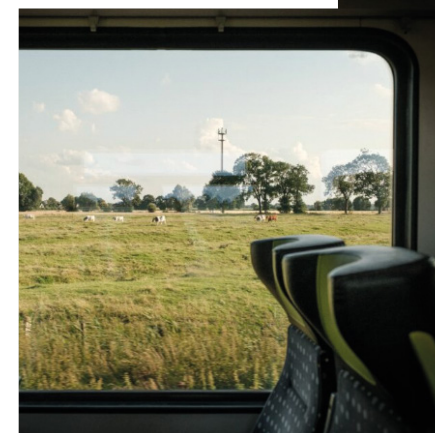
Tuesday 1st March

Languages as a traveller – Exploring German(y) by train

Tuesday 1st March 6.30-8pm

There is no better way to immerse yourself in a language than travelling to the place and meeting the people that speak it. Deutsch Centre International takes part in the International Mother Language Day celebrations by inviting you on a virtual train journey through parts of Germany with travel-blogger Sandra Wickert. Join us for this Deutsch Centre Talk and hear Sandra talk about those hilarious language-related misunderstandings you encounter in foreign countries and the use and meaning of signs that you would spot along the way. We will ‘take’ you on some scenic train routes and talk about words you would use to express your emotions about them. Let’s see if they are much different to those English expressions!

Online



Tuesday 8th March

Mother Tongue Other Tongue: CPD launch/teaching resource

Manchester Poetry Library at
Manchester Metropolitan University

Tuesday 8th March, 5.30-7pm

Join the Manchester Poetry
Library team and special guests, at
Manchester Metropolitan University,
to launch the 10th Anniversary of
'Mother Tongue Other Tongue', our

annual competition for 8-18 year olds
that invites pupils to share poems or
songs from their Mother Tongue or
from a language they are learning.

With input from poets and teachers
who have supported this Queen's
Anniversary Prize-winning project,
an evening of lively discussion about
poetry, multi-lingualism and teaching
will send you away inspired with
practical ideas and resources to take
back into your classrooms.

Did you know?
**manchestercity
ofliterature.com**
can be translated
into over 90
languages
using the "Site
Assist" button!



A UNESCO City
of Literature



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



The University of Manchester

#MCRIMLD22

17th Feb - 8th March 2022

manchestercityofliterature.com