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Walthamstow Garden Party announced as one of the World's Top Green Events

Walthamstow Garden Party, produced by the Barbican in partnership with London Borough of Waltham Forest, Create and local residents and organisations in the borough, has been announced as one of the 37 recipients of the [Greener Festival Award](#) 2019.

Awarded to those events and festivals that have demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainability and a reduction of environmental impacts, Walthamstow Garden Party won a "Commended" Award at a ceremony held at Eurosonic Noorderslag, Netherlands on Friday 17 January 2020.

Set to return for a seventh time in July 2020, Walthamstow Garden Party first took place in 2014 and, every year since over 30,000 people have visited Lloyd Park to enjoy east London's biggest community-powered festival, showcasing music, dance, performance, arts and crafts as well as food and drink from the borough and around the world. In 2019, the festival was presented as part of Waltham Forest's year as the first-ever Mayor's London Borough of Culture.

In addition to Walthamstow Garden Party's continued commitment to involving residents at all levels of decision making and creating platforms for local arts, the festival has committed to improve its sustainability through policies and pledges including:

- Initiating a reusable cup scheme in 2019 which saved almost 27,000 single use plastic cups from going into landfill and recycling 75% of the waste from the site.
- Banning single use plastic across the site.
- In 2019, 60% of bar stock was sourced from within two miles of the festival site.
- In 2019, more than half (53%) of traders were serving vegetarian/vegan food.
- Signing the Festival Vision 2025 pledge, which aims to achieve a 50% reduction in festival-related annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2025.
- Joining the Association of Independent Festivals, who provide sustainability training days for festivals.

In 2019, 2,873 performers and participants were involved over the weekend, of which 72% were from the borough. In total, 174 local organisations were involved in the co-creation of the festival.

This award follows Waltham Forest Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in April 2019. Since the declaration the Council has formed a Climate Emergency Commission made up of experts from across the energy, waste and environmental sectors to help shape a local response to the global challenge of climate change.

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Barbican press room

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at www.barbican.org.uk/news/home

Press Information

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About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](#) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

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About Waltham Forest Council

Waltham Forest Council is a local authority in north east London named in June 2019 as the Local Authority of the Year at the prestigious Municipal Journal Awards. Bursting with energy and opportunity, it is a place changing rapidly with business growth up and employment at its highest rate ever. It is a place people want to live, raise a family and start a business. We are creating liveable neighbourhoods, where people have access to quality housing and the services and facilities that they need, along with vibrant town centres that have thriving shops, restaurants and entertainment.

If you would like to contact the press office call 0208 496 4521. Email enquiries can be directed to media@walthamforest.gov.uk

[For more information on cultural events and activities taking place in Waltham Forest, please visit \[wfculture.co.uk\]\(http://wfculture.co.uk\)](#)

About Create London

Create London is a charity that exists to explore the ways artists can contribute to the lives of people in cities. Its work is primarily focused in east London, home to more artists and art organisations than anywhere in Europe, and one of the most economically deprived parts of the UK. Create helps artists to connect more closely with communities through an ambitious programme of projects. Unlike a gallery or theatre, Create has no fixed public space, preferring to work in the places people encounter every day.

About A Greener Festival (AGF)

A Greener Festival (AGF) is a not-for-profit company committed to helping events, festivals and venues around the world adopt environmentally efficient practices.

AGF provides information, education resources and facilitates the exchange of good ideas. They share information about how environmentally efficient methods are currently being employed at events and how their impact on the environment can be limited at future events. They offer independent assessment and verification of events sustainability claims.

The Greener Festival Awards is an A Greener Festival-led scheme, which has operated since 2007 assessing over 600 festivals worldwide. A list of previous winners can be found [here](#).