

Face Britain

 The Prince's Foundation for
Children & the Arts



The National Archives

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Face Britain: Prince's charity makes children's faces famous

The Prince's Foundation for Children & the Arts has today launched *Face Britain*, a unique art project that allows children to create self portraits which will be displayed across the country in the lead up to HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

Face Britain

The project is open to children and young people in the UK aged 4 to 16, of all drawing and learning abilities. The portraits can be produced in their choice of style and uploaded onto the Face Britain online gallery www.facebritain.org.uk.

Every portrait will provide a snapshot of how the nation's young people see themselves and their future and will attempt to establish a new Guinness World Record for the largest ever mass collaborative art installation project. Participants will also be a part of history in the making as all the images uploaded in the gallery will be archived for the nation under the guidance of The National Archives.

The portraits will be exhibited alongside contributions from a host of other famous faces including Alan Rickman, Jeremy Irons, Fearné Cotton, Amir Khan, Ade Adepitan, Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson, Tracey Emin, Quentin Blake and James Naughtie. In addition, to celebrate The Diamond Jubilee, the portraits will be combined to create a montage portrait of HM The Queen and projected onto the frontage of Buckingham Palace in the Spring, and showcased on the BBC Big Screens across the UK.

Teaching resources and support

As part of the [Archive Awareness Campaign](#), The National Archives will support classroom activities by providing access to online images from our collections to inspire and educate participants and guidance on caring for and preserving the portraits as records of achievement and participation. Additionally The National Archives will provide ideas on finding an appropriate long term home for the collection of individual artworks by the children and young people, and for the finished large-scale artworks which will be projected onto landmark buildings.

Angela Owusu, Archive Awareness Campaign said:

“Face Britain is a fantastic opportunity for all children to work on a project that enables them to create work that is fun and exciting regardless of their ability or circumstance. It is providing a platform for young people to consider their own identity and place within history. I wish I had been part of something this huge when I was at school as I lived for art!”

Taking part

Schools and pupils can create portraits of all levels and skills and in mediums such as line drawing; abstract; textiles; 3D e.g. clay model, words or symbols; painting; graphics; photography; cartoon; photo montage; silhouette or Pop art. They can also be figurative drawings; however, portraits need to be submitted digitally in portrait format at a maximum size of 1MB.

Visit www.facebritain.org.uk for further details on how to register, take part and access a growing library of online teaching resources with links and images supplied by The National Portrait Gallery, Getty Images and The National Archives www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/imagelibrary and www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/museum/.

Photos can be uploaded on the online gallery between September 2011 and March 2012.