

WEST LONDON WINTER FESTIVALS CALENDAR 2008–2009



Your guide to the fantastic
cultural events taking place
across west London from
September 2008 to
March 2009



WESTLONDON
2012 PARTNERSHIP



The Western Wedge is pleased to present the fourth edition of the West London Festivals Calendar.

The Winter Festivals Calendar features 28 fantastic arts and cultural festivals across eight west London boroughs.

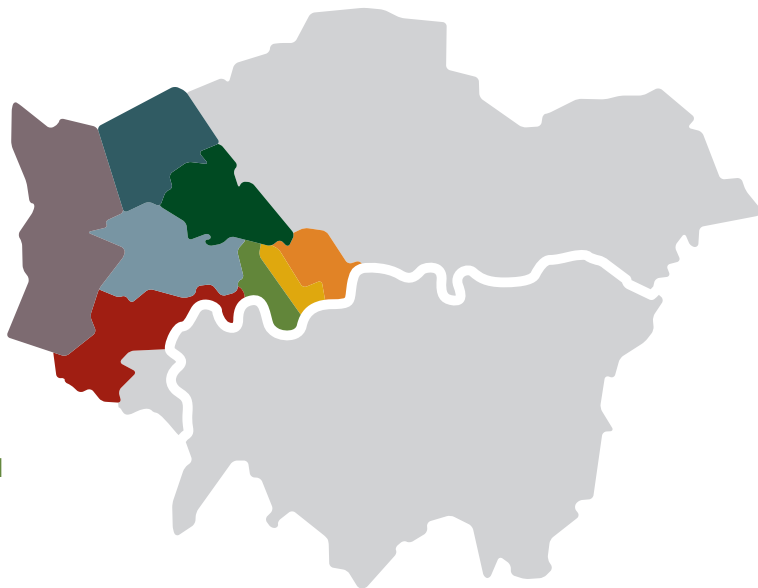
The Western Wedge is a partnership of eight local authorities, supported by the Arts Council England, who work together to enable a strategic approach to arts and culture across west London.

For further information about the Western Wedge and west London's 2012 Cultural Offer please visit: www.westernwedge.org.uk

KEY TO EVENTS

The events in the calendar are colour coded to show where they happen:

BRENT
CITY OF WESTMINSTER
EALING
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
HARROW
HILLINGDON
HOUNSLOW
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA



SEPTEMBER

September – December

ACROSS THE STREET, AROUND THE WORLD

Across the Street, Around the World is a season of exciting arts and cultural activities celebrating cultural heritage and community in Kensington and Chelsea. Events range from a Bollywood Brass Band Parade to a Moroccan photography exhibition, a showcase of black British ballet and a Japanese inspired haunted park walk. Please contact us to request a brochure.

Where: Various locations across Kensington & Chelsea

T 020 7361 3204

E arts@rbkc.gov.uk

W www.rbkc.gov.uk/acrossthestreet

September – December

RETROSPECT

A variety of evening talks celebrating writing and history in Ealing, using material from the Ealing libraries' archives.

Where: Ealing Central Library

T 020 8567 3670

W www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

28 September

CULTURES

This music, dance and sports extravaganza welcomes the 2012 Olympic Games and commemorates the 1908 and 1948 Olympic Games held in West London. Enjoy global music, dance and artistic performances; hear the world's leading beatboxer, Shlomo; watch the finalists of the West London Dance challenge; meet Olympians and sporting champions in the Sports Zone; try sports galore from skateboarding to archery. The 'Get Set London 2012' Roadshow will also be present, inspiring everyone.

Where: Wembley Arena

T 0208 782 5500

W www.westlondonmarathon.org.uk

29 September – 9 October

NAVRATRI

The largest Hindu festival of the 'nine nights' outside of India, made up of 300 colourful, social events. Attendees gather to watch or join in a traditional Indian folk dance called 'garba'.

Where: 30 venues across Brent

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals



OCTOBER

1 – 31 October

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

A Borough-wide celebration of the contribution and influence of Black culture. A variety of events, activities and workshops will take place across the Borough.

Where: venues across Hounslow

T 0845 456 2975

W www.hounslow.info

4 – 9 October

PANCHAMUKHEE DURGA UTSAV

Experience more than 35 cultural events over this dynamic six-day festival. Durga Utsav is one of the oldest and largest festivals in the Indian sub-continent that celebrates the triumph of good over evil. The modern day Durga Utsav is a cultural carnival in which people from all backgrounds actively participate together.

Where: Harrow Arts Centre

T 020 8416 8989

E harrowartscentre@harrow.gov.uk

W www.harrowarts.com

5 October

BIGFEST

A day of inspirational street art entertainment! Come to Barra Hall Park for Hillingdon's Hidden Talent and Uxbridge High Street for professional street arts.

Where: Barra Hall Park, Hayes;

Uxbridge High Street, Uxbridge

T 01895 632488

W www.hillingdon.gov.uk

4 October

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Events to celebrate Children's Book Week, including talks by authors Anna McQuinn and Ian Whybrow, and a party to celebrate Paddington's 50th Birthday.

Where: Libraries across Ealing

W www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

8 – 29 October

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

A series of talks for adults and children to celebrate Black History Month.

Talks by Alex Wheatle, MBE; Lionel Morrison; Guy Grannum; Alexander D'Great; Catherine Johnson and Malaika Rose Stanley.

Where: Ealing Central Library

T 0208 567 3670

W www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

10 October

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Mental health in our lives – drama performances, art displays, dance.

Where: Hillingdon Civic Centre

T 01895 277140

W www.hillingdon.gov.uk

11 October

EID IN THE SQUARE

Celebrate the end of Ramadan with the Trafalgar Square Eid Festival. Organised by the Muslim Council of Britain, the Eid Festival, 'Eid in the Square', is a chance for everyone to join in the celebrations and enjoy the theme of unity.

Where: Trafalgar Square

W www.mcb.org.uk

12 October

BRENT EID

An array of performances, workshops and delicious food to showcase Muslim traditions from around the world. All are welcome to celebrate this day of peace to mark the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting.

Where: Willesden Capital City Academy

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals

OCTOBER

14 – 17 October

SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The Shakespeare Schools Festival is the UK's largest youth drama festival and a unique arts-education initiative, working with 15,000 pupils in 500 schools around the UK in October 2008 to bring their interpretations of Shakespeare to the stage.

Where: Paul Robeson Theatre

T 0845 456 2975

W www.hounslow.info

16-19 October

COLOMBIAGE 08

A celebration of contemporary Colombian arts including music, literature, film, dance and visual arts. This year Colombiage also includes family workshops.

Where: Riverside Studios

W www.colombiage.com

E info@colombiage.com

18 October

BRENT DIWALI

A cultural spectacular celebrating the 'Festival of Light' in the heart of the Indian community. Come and view the stunning exhibition of Indian 'rangoli' visual art and an outstanding parade of colourful floats and costumes which will process along Ealing Road, culminating in a fireworks and laser show.

Where: Ealing Road and Barham Park

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals

18 October

DIWALI

Celebrate Diwali with an afternoon of family entertainment including Indian dance, music and crafts. Find out more about Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.

Where: Wood End Library

W www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

31 October

THE GREAT BANQUET

Transport yourself back 100 years to the closing banquet of the 1908 Olympic Games. Held 100 years to the day after the 1908 closing banquet, this charity fundraising event will recreate samples from the original menu and celebrate the centenary of the Franco-British Exhibition.

Where: Hammersmith Town Hall

T 0845 337 0314

E events@lbhf.gov.uk

W www.lbhf.gov.uk/events



NOVEMBER

22 November

SOUTH WESTMINSTER WINTER FESTIVAL

A festival with a range of music and dance performances from diverse cultural backgrounds, plus children's activities, henna make-up and massage.

Where: Abbey Centre

E sue.hannah@abbeycommunity.org

W www.southwestminster.org.uk

7 & 8 November

FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

The annual fireworks display in Ravenscourt Park and Bishop's Park.

Where: Ravenscourt Park and Bishop's Park

T 0845 337 0314

W www.lbhf.gov.uk/events

E events@lbhf.gov.uk

14 November to 18 December

BRENT CHRISTMAS

Brent's popular Christmas light switch-on will launch a host of festive celebrations taking place across the borough. The activities include Santa's Grotto harmonious carol concerts.

Where: Various locations

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals

22 November

DOCTOR WHO DAY

Come along and join in all the DoctorWho fun!

Where: Ealing Central Library

W: www.ealing.gov.uk/libraries

29 November – 6 December

DISABILITY ARTS FESTIVAL

Painting a broader picture of performing arts talent from Harrow and across London – full details of all events available from Harrow Arts & Events Team. FREE Showcase events: 1-4pm 29 November at the Gayton Library; 12-4pm 6 December at the Aspire National Training Centre.

Where: Various venues across Harrow

T 020 8424 1904

E wendy.lockwood@harrow.gov.uk

W www.harrowarts.com

29 November – 4 January

WINTER WONDERLAND

Throughout December a section of Hyde Park – between Hyde Park Corner and the Serpentine – is transformed into a Winter Wonderland. Get into the Christmas spirit at the traditional German market with wooden chalets full of gifts; listen to the carol concerts; and have a go on one of the fairground rides. Alternatively, you could try a less traditional bungy dome: it's a great way to embrace the cold – and flailing your arms around as you try to stay upright will soon warm you up.

Where: Hyde Park



JANUARY

13 January

RUSSIAN WINTER FESTIVAL

This festival marks Russia's 'Old New Year' - New Year according to the Tsarist calendar which was used prior to 1917, and which is still celebrated in Russia in mid-January. This year will see the square transformed for the day, with market stalls selling crafts and food, children's games, theatrical performances and puppets for the youngsters - something to delight everyone.

Where: Trafalgar Square

E info@eventica.co.uk

W www.eventica.co.uk/events

25 January

BRENT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

A ceremony dedicated to the remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust that marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp in 1945, and other genocides that have taken place across the world. Events include speakers, candle lighting and an exhibition focused on the Holocaust Trust theme for 2009, *Stand Up To Hatred*.

Where: Brent Town Hall

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals

26 January

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2009 – YEAR OF THE OX

Chinese New Year is the most popular celebration on the Chinese calendar and this festival provides something for everyone. Over the years the Chinese New Year Festival has grown considerably in size, profile and reputation to become one of the most recognised events of the year. Celebrate the year of the Ox with a stage programme, traditional Chinese parade, lion dances and fireworks displays.

Where: Chinatown and Leicester Square

E info@chinatownchinese.co.uk

W www.chinatownchinese.co.uk

MARCH

17 March

BRENT ST PATRICK'S DAY

A family event with live music, story-telling, craft activities and traditional Irish food. Join in the colourful parade to honour St Patrick, Ireland's patron saint.

Where: Willesden Green Library Centre

T 0208 937 3119

W www.brent.gov.uk/festivals

29 March

THE BOAT RACE FESTIVAL

Celebrate the annual Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race at Bishop's Park and Furnivall Gardens. Enjoy refreshment tents, children's activities and view all the action on big screens.

Where: Bishop's Park and Furnivall Gardens

T 0845 337 0314

E events@lbhf.gov.uk

W www.lbhf.gov.uk/events



Other initiatives taking place across west London include:

momentum

A two-year project to promote and develop dance across west London and put west London dance on the map.

www.momentumlondon.info

Emerge

A visual arts focused partnership to support networks and professional development for emerging visual artists in north and west London.

www.emergelondon.co.uk

WEST LONDON STORY

West London's exciting cultural offer as part of the London 2012 Cultural Programme. Visit www.westernwedge.org.uk for updates and to find out how to get involved.

theSeer

The **free** online directory and resource for all of London's creative individuals, organisations and venues. Nearly 4,000 artists, arts organisations and arts venues have already registered. Find out what's happening in the arts in your area at:

www.theseer.info

The information in this calendar has been compiled and checked as accurately as possible. The Western Wedge cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions caused. Information provided in this calendar is not definitive and is subject to change.

The West London Winter Festivals Calendar 2008 – 2009 is available to download from www.westernwedge.org.uk

