



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Derby Diwali 2025: The City's Biggest Celebration of Light, Unity and Togetherness.**

**Derby, UK – 6th October, 2025**– Derby's most anticipated festival returns this autumn as **Derby Diwali 2025** lights up the beautifully restored New Market Hall and surrounding areas on **Thursday 16th October 2025**.

This year's theme is "*Lighting a Lamp of Hope*"; a celebration of unity, togetherness, and community spirit. The festival invites people of all ages and backgrounds to join in an unforgettable evening of culture, music, dance, food, art, and festivity.

### **Community Engagement at the Heart of Derby Diwali**

Derby Diwali 2025 is not just about dazzling performances and vibrant food stalls, it is built on **community participation**. This year, Artcore and partners are inviting the public to contribute in two exciting ways:

- **Donate a Jam Jar, Get a Chai!**  
In partnership with Derby Market Hall, we are collecting empty, clean jam jars (any size) to create a stunning light installation in Osnabruck Square. Each donated jar will form part of a magical community display. As a thank you, every contributor will receive a free cup of warming chai and on the night, they can light up their jar as part of the installation.
- **Lamp Jar making workshops:**  
Join us from 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Market Hall between 10am to 2pm for FREE fun and creative workshops where you can decorate your own jam jar to be part of a magical community light installation at Derby Diwali 2025.
- **Volunteer Opportunities**  
The festival also offers a chance for local people to get directly involved. Volunteers will help guide visitors, support performers, assist stalls, and be part of the set-up and clear-up team. In return, they will enjoy free refreshments, and valuable hands-on experience in teamwork, communication, and event organisation.

### **An Evening of Culture & Celebration**

Visitors can enjoy an exciting line-up of **live performances** featuring:

- **Priti Kaur** – Singer
- **Brij Kumar** – Singer
- **Dholi Amo** – Dhol players
- **Ash Deshpande** – Move for Wellbeing
- **Shakti Academy** – Dance
- **Shubham Tajeja** – Flautist

- **Ankita Nrityangan** – Indian Classical Dance
- **Rangoli artist** - Himadri Bhavsar

Beyond the stage, the festival will feature:

- International food stalls bringing authentic flavours
- A bustling **Diwali Bazaar**
- **Family-friendly activities** for all ages
- A breathtaking **Diwali light installation**
- Traditional **rangoli art** displays

### Event Details

**Date:** Thursday 16th October 2025

**Time:** From 5:30pm

**Venue:** The New Market Hall, Tennant Street, Derby, DE1 2DB

**Free entry – everyone welcome!**

### Jar Drop-off & Volunteer Sign-up

- **Jam Jar Collection:** Drop your jars at Artcore Gallery, 8 Albert Street, Derby DE1 2DS (until 6th October).
- **Volunteer Enquiries:** Contact Pam Sidhu at [pam.sidhu@artcoreuk.com](mailto:pam.sidhu@artcoreuk.com).

### Note to Editor:

**Derby Diwali 2025** is supported by Derby City Council, Derby LIVE, Arts Council England, and partners. Together, we are lighting up the city with **hope, unity, and community spirit**.

About Artcore:

Artcore is an international centre for contemporary art and creativity that is based in Derby, UK, and is home to Artcore Gallery, studios and work spaces as well as a shop and cafe. A vibrant hub for commissioning, production, presentation and debate, we offer opportunities for diverse audiences to engage directly with creative practices through participation and discussion.

At Artcore we believe that contemporary art and creativity are central to the development of people and places. We have an extensive exhibition and residency programme which helps support early, mid-career and established artists to create work which deals with pressing social, political and environmental issues. Each year we welcome over 5000 people from all sections of the diverse communities of Derby to experience inspiring, innovative and high-quality exhibitions and events. Working with partners all over the world cements a global creative community and helps us support the aspiring artist into this contemporary world.

For more information, interviews, or press images, please contact: Pam Sidhu – [pam.sidhu@artcoreuk.com](mailto:pam.sidhu@artcoreuk.com) **07980 24118**



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