

PRESS RELEASE

Woven Hug will weave together threads of creativity and community at Flowerfield this Summer.

RELEASE DATE

Woven Hug is an exciting and innovative participatory textile project that will provide residents of the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough with the opportunity to reunite, reconnect, and reflect following the pandemic.

This unique project was initially delivered in Monterrey, Mexico during Spring 2022 by the talented artists Tere Chad and Cordelia Rizzo. Flowerfield Arts Centre are thrilled to welcome these Latin American creatives for a summer residency to deliver the second iteration of Woven Hug.

The project will employ the practice of arpillera, also known as burlap techniques, to craft a large textile embrace. This project, which is delivered in partnership Linen Biennale, Ulster University, Queen's University and the curatorial platform Conflict Textiles, and supported by using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and the Buffett Institute for Global Affairs; will use recycled materials promoting sustainability in response to fast fashion's damaging impact on the environment. Fabric donations can be made at Flowerfield from 15th May.

Residents are invited to take part in free workshops to design and embroider pieces to be attached to the outdoor sculpture, making it a true community effort. These will provide a space to reflect on various topics that will be woven into the sculpture including Northern Ireland society post-Good Friday Agreement, the textile heritage of the region, the historical role of women in society, our beautiful landscapes, and the impact of climate change upon them.

The finished piece will be two arms extending from the first-floor façade of Flowerfield Arts Centre in a welcoming embrace, which will be on display throughout the summer months. This final piece will challenge the perception of what art in the public realm might be.

Flowerfield invites everyone to play a part in Woven Hug.

From 19th June until 5th July Flowerfield will be running free textile workshops for local community groups during the week. If you would like more information on how your community group can get involved, please get in touch with amy.donaghey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk.

On Saturday 24th June and 1st July there will be drop-in sessions for the public and families. These sessions are free but must be booked in advance at flowerfield.org

If you are a student, creative, textile artist, fashion designer, or someone skilled in embroidery or sewing, you can volunteer your time to support Tere and Cordelia in facilitating these workshops. Get in touch with amy.donaghey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk to sign up, or to find out more.

There will be panel talk on Thursday 29th June reflecting our textile heritage and its political impact and we invite everyone to join us for the official launch of the final 'hug' on Thursday 6th July.

For more information on Woven Hug please visit flowerfield.org or call Flowerfield Reception on 028 7083 1400.

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