**Arts, Creativity and Health: A Special Issue for the Journal Public Health**

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*Public Health* is an international, multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal. It publishes original research papers, reviews (up to 3000 words in length) and short reports (up to 1500 words) on all aspects of the science, philosophy and practice of public health. It is aimed at all public health practitioners and researchers, and those who manage and deliver public health services and systems. It is also of interest to anyone involved in provision of public health programmes, the care of populations or communities and those who contribute to public health systems in any way.

The special issue will welcome submissions from across the spectrum of arts and culture to include: performing arts (incl. music, dance, theatre), visual and creative arts (incl. painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, crafts, design, photography, film), museums, libraries (including reading and creative writing), archives and other types of heritage, such as archaeology and natural heritage, where creative tasks and activities have been invoked to support health and wellbeing. Through a mix of commissioned articles and a dedicated call for papers, we will seek to attract submissions that cover original research and reviews across a diversity of topics including, but not limited to: intervention studies; programme evaluation; longitudinal studies; applied arts and health; arts-based methods, co-production and participatory methods and methods development; social prescribing; health humanities; topical papers (e.g. creative responses to the COVID pandemic).

Our aim is to publish rigorous original research, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, short reports and methodologies addressing public health issues and research in the context of arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement. We seek high-quality contributions from across health, arts, humanities and social sciences that will appeal to an international audience of public health practitioners and researchers, those who manage and deliver public health services and systems, educators, policy makers, and those developing, delivering and researching arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment interventions. Articles reporting original research questions that generate new and impactful knowledge on the contribution of arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement to health promotion, recovery and prevention, or evaluation of regional, national or international programmes or interventions in arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement relevant to public health will be prioritised. Perspectives encompassing lived experience are very welcome.

Potential topic areas include (but are not exclusive to) the following:

* Primary level interventions aimed at promoting mental health and wellbeing, and resilience; community level activities – public art projects, community allotments, community orchards; individual – social prescribing (arts on prescription, museums on prescription etc.)
* Secondary level – e.g. interventions for specific conditions: singing for breathing, dance for Parkinson’s etc.
* Tertiary Level – rehabilitation and recovery – e.g. post stroke, mental health; impact of variations in funding systems and sustainability for arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment programmes; evaluation of cost effectiveness and value for money in arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement (including: cost-benefit analyses, social return on investments, health economics as applied to arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment); outcome and quality measurement and improvement in arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement, relevant to public health; evidence of effectiveness of collaborations between arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment engagement and the public health sector; policy reviews and translational research as applied to arts, cultural, heritage and natural environment (e.g. developing effective social prescribing referral models).

Further information about submission requirements can be found at [ees.elsevier.com/puhe/default.asp](https://ees.elsevier.com/puhe/default.asp). Authors should select the ‘SI: Arts, Creativity & Health’ article type when uploading their article. For any additional information, please contact the Editorial Office: publichealth@rsph.org.uk

The deadline for submission to the special issue is 30 September 2020.