

rowan

Creating art. Improving lives



Hello
Summer!



Feel good!

Summer 2026

Hello and welcome

'Welcome to our Summer Newsletter. It has been a busy time since December when we had a student Christmas party. I really enjoyed the party. I think it's good to get all the students together for a chat, to play games, have a karaoke. It's good fun!'



'We had our canvas art exhibition at the Guildhall in March.' This event was a huge success, raising £4000. Thank you to everyone who took part.

'I helped out with supporting the Cambridge Half Marathon runners with a good luck message.' Thank you to all of the runners who took part in this amazing event. Together, we raised an impressive total of £7,411 to benefit our arts centre and forest school.

In April, we introduced our 'Rowan on the Road' initiative, where we will visit various community groups, allowing our students to share their knowledge and skills. With a few successful visits already completed, Frank is thoroughly enjoying this experience. 'Well, I've been showing people in the community how to make stuff and teach them lessons. I was showing younger children how to make crowns. Making and creating patterns. I helped them with that. I like sharing my skills with the community.'

Over the past six months Frank, along with other students, has been making regular visits to The Fitzwilliam Museum and the Welney Fen Wetland Centre. 'I've helped Alison, Rowan's print tutor, showing people round the exhibition at The Fitz. It was the Egyptian exhibition. I really enjoyed showing people the jewellery and everything they made and had on display.'

'I enjoy coming to Rowan. I am now coming three days a week and have started in sewing and print on a Wednesday. I have been learning how to use the sewing machines.'

On his other days, Frank immerses himself in the wood and ceramic workshops, concentrating on the floral theme that is currently the focus throughout the workshops. This is all in anticipation of an exhibition scheduled for September at The Painted Church. Stay tuned for more updates soon!

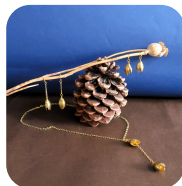
Frank Kerridge, Student Artist

Inspire and create!



At Rowan, we constantly seek new ways to inspire our students to create. With funding from John Lewis Partnership Foundation in 2025, we engaged Lydia Hartshorn as our Art in Residence and ventured into the world of jewellery design. We are now pleased to share our range of unique handmade jewellery called 'Made This Way' which is available for purchase on our website with a limited range at Kettle's Yard gift shop in Cambridge.

Several students participated in this project, contributing from the initial sketches to the final products. Working with Anna, Rowan's Student Skills Development support, and collaborating with Lydia, jewellery maker, the pieces have truly come to life!



Student Artist Sasha's Creative Journey

Student artist Sasha, was involved in the project from the start. She kept a weekly diary of her work with Lydia, including researching jewellery styles and sketching concepts. This journey involved making models with paper, wire, and jump rings. A highlight was visiting the Botanic Gardens in Cambridge for inspiration. Sasha envisioned a ring connected to a bangle by a chain. Her drawings show the evolution from sketches to models to the final piece. "I loved the jewellery project. I found it relaxing and it really shows what Rowan is all about." Explore all the Rowan jewellery available for purchase on our website.



Movement for Wellbeing



Movement for Wellbeing

In April 2025, we were thrilled to secure £15,000 in National Lottery Funding from Sport England for our Movement and Arts for Wellbeing project. This grant enabled Rowan to offer regular sessions featuring music and movement, such as chair yoga, dance, and various sports activities. We are delighted to share that it has been warmly embraced by all our students, who have enjoyed the opportunity to engage in something fresh and exciting.

Rowan tutors Lima and Lindsey, who enthusiastically organised this new venture, shared their thoughts...

'Witnessing the joy in the students when using their bodies, the growing confidence to move their bodies and dance, the shift of low energy and challenging emotions to places of calm and content, the easeful connections growing between the students, the laughter that has been shared, has been so wonderful and moving for me.

'I have absolutely loved running these dance/movement/yoga workshops for the students. We teach and learn from each other each week. The benefit these workshops bring the students is so liberating and honestly transformational for them.' **Lima**

'I have thoroughly enjoyed running the Movement to Music sessions over the last year; the students never fail to amaze with their creativity and energy as well as their positive attitude and unfailing support for each other. Their enthusiasm towards the weekly sessions has highlighted to me how invaluable it is to use the body as a form of communication and a powerful alternative means of expression as well as witnessing student confidence grow in telling stories through gesture, shape, and motion, without always relying on the spoken word.' **Lindsey**

We are happy to announce that our Movement and Arts for Wellbeing program will be continuing at Rowan. If you are interested, or would like to know more, then please get in touch.

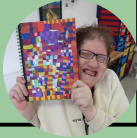
Student Artist Spotlight

What insights did our students share regarding the Movement for Wellbeing project?

“

“Moving makes me happy, I feel graceful. I like being energetic and lively.”

Indra



“

“Movement helps me feel good and it keeps me active.”

Eloise



“

“Movement is relaxing. I like stretching all my limbs. It’s fun. When I do yoga I feel alright. I feel fine. Yoga is good for my mental health. When I go for a walk I get good energy.” Joel



“I like moving my body as it helps me release emotions. When I do yoga I feel happy and calm. When I dance I feel happy and really enjoy this.” Ushka



”

CAN YOU HELP?



HELP US REFURBISH OUR TOILETS

After years of loyal service, our loos are looking a little worse for wear. Cracked tiles, leaky taps, outdated fittings — they are in desperate need of replacing.

We want our building to stand the test of time and be a place the whole community is proud to use.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



- Donate online. Visit our website or scan the QR code
- Share this campaign with friends, family, and your local network
- Organise a fundraiser: Bake sales, quiz nights, even a sponsored “Toilet Paper Run”!

Every pound will go directly towards improving our facilities and creating a more welcoming space for everyone.

Want to know more, come knock on the door!



01223 566027



ROSE@ROWANHUMBERSTONE.ORG.UK



**40 HUMBERSTONE ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE, CB4 1JG**

WWW.ROWANHUMBERSTONE.ORG.UK

CHARITY NO. 1099555

Welcome to Julie

Student artist Louis had the opportunity to interview Julie Brophy, our new Chair of Trustees. It was a delight to see Louis in his element as he asked all his well thought out questions.



I'd like to say hello to you, Julie. Thank you. And welcome as the new chair of Rowan. It's lovely to have you here. The first question I'd like to ask you is, how did you find out about Rowan?

I found out about it because I worked with another charity in Cambridge called Cambridge Community Arts. And sadly, it had to close because it ran out of funding. Cherie got in touch with Cambridge Community Arts about the new role available and after finding out more about what Rowan does, I expressed an interest.

Rowan is linked to the Rowan tree, and we have one in our garden. If you could be any tree, which tree would you be?

I would like to be a palm tree on the beach. I love the sun and I love the sea. And at night, when it gets really dark, you would be able to see the stars lit up in the sky.

What specifically drew you in about Rowan?

I just think coming here and seeing the art that was being produced and everyone's smiles, the atmosphere, the team and all the student artists. I walked in and just thought this feels like a really lovely place to work.

What sort of activities do you like to do in your spare time?

Well, going to London, and going to art galleries and theatres and things like that. I also read a lot. I do Japanese Flower arranging. I'm trying to learn Spanish, but my brain does not like learning languages, but I try. I watch the rugby. I swim nearly every day; I get up in the morning and do some exercise. I also like to see my friends and family. Gosh, I sound busy, don't I?

If you came to Rowan for the day, what would you do and which workshops would you like to try?

I'm a terrible gardener. I kill plants really easily. I've got lots of sculptures in my garden, so I don't have to have any flowers. I would want to do something that I could take home and put in my garden. Probably woodworking or ceramics. I think those are the two I would give a go.

What kind of music lifts your mood?

Anything that makes me want to dance in the kitchen. I really love David Bowie; he has a couple of tracks that make me want to dance. I really like 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams.

What is your favourite TV show or film?

I love going to the cinema. I was trying to think have I got one favourite film, but I don't. I have lots of different films that I like, for different reasons. My guilty pleasure TV show is 'Death in Paradise'. Especially when it comes on in the winter, when it is dark and gloomy outside, as I get to sit down and watch a bit of the Caribbean.

Thank you for being with us today Julie it was great to chat!

To discover more about Julie, including her bowling skills and what her perfect day would be, be sure to visit our website for more interview questions.



Become a volunteer

Volunteers are essential to Rowan, contributing across various areas such as our creative workshops, the forest school Rowan Rangers, fundraising events, and office support.

"It is the happiest place" shares volunteer Mark.

Contact us to find out more

 info@rowanhumberstone.org.uk  01223 566027



Dates for your diary

Community evening classes

We offer community classes two evenings a week. Check our website for details. To get updates on new classes, email NEWS to communications@rowanhumberstone.org.uk to join our newsletter.

STARTING

Sept
2026

Drama and Music Showcase

On **Wednesday 23rd September** our drama and music students will be taking to the stage once more. Stay tuned for more updates and information about ticket availability coming soon!

Let the show commence!

Walk for Rowan

Our annual student fundraiser at Midsummer Common is scheduled for October this year. Each year, our students do a fantastic job, and we are confident that this year will be no different. For more information and to learn how you can contribute, please visit our website!

Rowan's Christmas Fair

Join us at Rowan HQ for our annual Christmas celebration! Enjoy live music, mulled wine, a raffle, and, of course, our Rowan shop. Explore our workshops and the latest projects by our students.

2nd December, 5pm-8pm
6th December, 11am-3pm

Rowan events

Visit the Rowan website for the most up-to-date events list and how you can get involved!

Scan the
QR code



Or visit the website on
www.rowanhumberstone.org.uk/latest-events/

Sign up for our monthly **Feel Good Friday** to receive all our latest news, events and more.
Email NEWS to communications@rowanhumberstone.org.uk.

Let's be friends!

Become a regular donor today and make a difference



Provides
day-to-day art
materials



Supports trips
to local
museums



Helps fund
specialist
equipment



Choose your
own amount!

Benefits for you

- Regular updates about Rowan events and activities
- A personal tour of Rowan studios
- Invitation to our special events including drinks receptions at our Art Exhibition Preview
- 10% discount in our shop

Scan the QR code to
sign up today and
claim your FREE gift



Or email rose@rowanhumberstone.org.uk





rowan

Creating art. Improving lives



/RowanCambridge



@rowancambridge



01223 566027



40 Humberstone Road,
Cambridge, CB41JG

info@rowanhumberstone.org.uk

www.rowanhumberstone.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1099555