

Many objects in the Ashmolean were made, cared for and used by people living in faith communities, in different times and places. Performances and activities this weekend bring these objects from around the world to life.



Suggested  
programme  
donation £6  
per family

Left: Saucer and spoon with astrological decoration, Iran, early 19th century, Gallery 31;  
Right: Plaque depicting the Buddha with a goose, Kashmir, 9th century CE, Gallery 32

# ONE WORLD FAMILY FESTIVAL

Celebrating Oxfordshire's diverse communities and faiths with free activities, performances, talks, and crafts for all ages.



## Credits

The One World Festival Committee and Partners including: Asylum Welcome, Dialogue Society, MUZIM-Art4Connect, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford Civic Society, Oxford Council of Faiths, Oxford Hindu Temple and Community Centre Project, Oxford Interfaith Forum, Oxford Jewish Congregation and The Oxford Foundation.

Follow us @AshmoleanMuseum  
[Ashmolean.org/oneworld](https://www.ashmolean.org/oneworld)

Photographs will be taken at this event.

## Access Information

- A quiet and prayer room space is available in the Family Lunch Room in the Learning Centre, from 10–4:30pm both days, for meditation, rest, prayer or personal reflection.
- There is BSL interpretation 🗣️ for some events on both days.
- There is level access throughout the Museum, with ramps into the building, lifts to all floors. Wheelchairs are available.
- If you need any assistance, please ask our Visitor Experience Assistants for help.

**A** ASHMOLEAN  
MUSEUM  
OXFORD

**PROGRAMME**

SAT 22 – SUN 23 FEB 2025

# Sat 22 February

## Welcome 🌍

**Time:** 11 AM

**Place:** Atrium

The opening of the One World Family Festival led by Ashmolean Director of Audiences and Content, Gina Koutsika.

## Open Africa 🌍

**Time:** 11 AM–12:30 PM

**Place:** Gallery 21

A celebration of African identity and a showcase of the rich heritage of the African continent.

## Community Rangoli 🌍

**Time:** 11 AM–1 PM

**Place:** Gallery 31

Create beautiful rangoli patterns together, drawing inspiration from the gallery. After the workshop, you'll take home the vibrant dal from your design, along with a recipe card to turn it into something delicious! *Please note this activity includes dal, a legume which can be an allergen.*

## Ney Music Performance 🌍

**Time:** 11 AM–12 PM

**Place:** Gallery 44

Offering a deep, meditative experience rooted in Sufi tradition. The Ney, a traditional wind instrument made from reed, has a rich history in Turkish, Arabic, and Persian music, often symbolising the soul's longing for the divine.

## Unity in Diversity 🌍

**Time:** 11:15 AM–1:15 PM

**Place:** Lecture Theatre

Udayan will celebrate the richness of Bengali culture highlighting the theme of 'Unity in Diversity' through a vibrant medley of Bengali songs, Indian classical dance, sitar recital, and poetry. English translations of the poetry and songs will be projected to enable deep connection with the artistry.

## Time Capsule Workshop 🌍

**Time:** 11:15 AM–4:00 PM

**Place:** Gallery 22

Create your own time capsule for 2025 where you can keep some of the ephemera

and sentimental that you are collecting over the year. Create a beautiful box and decorate it as you wish, and top it with your name in Arabic calligraphy.



## Youth Forum: Young Eyes on Museum Treasures 🌍

**Time:** 11:15 AM–1:15 PM

**Place:** Gallery 11

Join young Chinese researchers as they transform the Ashmolean Museum into a hub of history and creativity. Discover their fascinating findings and stunning artworks from a global dragon research project. See how children and youth connect with the museum's treasures, offering fresh perspectives on historical narratives through art and imagination.

## Hindu Invocation – Bhajan and Chanting

**Time:** 11:30 AM | **Place:** Atrium

Come and share in the spiritual kirtans and the expression of devotion.

## Henna 🌍

**Time:** 12–3 PM | **Place:** Gallery 35

Experience the art of Henna.

## Adhan, Islamic Call to Prayer Zuhr and Asr

**Times:** 12:30 PM; 3:45 PM

**Place:** Atrium

Listen to the Adhan, the melodious Muslim call to prayer, which is said five times a day by a mu'adhin. Traditionally, the mu'adhin would stand atop of the mosque roof. It is now often said within the mosque, with speakers carrying the mu'adhin's beautiful voice outside into the neighbourhood.

## The Ashmolean Conversations 🌍

**Time:** 1–2 PM

**Place:** Gallery 44

An interactive workshop, part of Rootical Folklore. Celebrate Africa and the Caribbean through art, folklore and plants with items that the museum holds. The Indigo Dialogue is based on *The Blue Roofs* by Picasso. The Sorghum Dialogue, features *The Taharqa Shrine*. The Cinnamon Dialogue references a Raphael drawing.

## The Whole World Is One Family

**Time:** 1–3 PM

**Place:** Gallery 21

Join Oxford Hindu Temple for a presentation of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'—meaning 'The Whole World Is One Family.' An exciting mixture of dance, drama, poetry, classical dance and spiritual group chanting, whilst keeping the above wisdom in mind. Come and participate in a dance of Peace & Togetherness at the end.

## A Taste of Poland 🌍

**Time:** 1:45–3:45 PM

**Place:** Lecture Theatre

A showcase of Polish heritage through two key aspects: Polish food and science, focusing on the contribution of Jan Heweliusz. Discover the Polish community by collecting favourite recipes along with personal stories from Oxford residents.

## Sacred Sounds from the Past 🌍

**Time:** 2:15–4:15 PM

**Place:** Gallery 44

Indulge your aural senses in this multilingual performance, organised by the Oxford Interfaith Forum. It features sacred songs, devotional melodies, and poetic readings of ancient civilisations united by the worship of the Divine, performed by members of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Classics, Medieval and Modern Languages, and various communities.

## Christian Handbell Ringers

**Time:** 2:30 PM

**Place:** Atrium

Listen to skilled ringers from the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers and Christ Church Cathedral ringing changes using handbells. Originating in 17th-century England, these melodic instruments have evolved into a cherished form of calling people to worship.

## Chinese Fashion Show

**Time:** 3:15–4:15 PM

**Place:** Gallery 21

Celebrate Chinese tradition and culture with a vibrant showcase of Hanfu, Tang suits, Qipao, and ethnic fashion. Enjoy live Guzheng and Erhu music, Peking Opera, Tang poetry recitals, and a family fashion show. The event concludes with a group performance of 'Unforgettable Tonight,' honouring China's rich heritage and artistry.

## Afro-fitness 🌍

**Time:** 3:50 PM

**Place:** Atrium

Join us for music, dance, and cultural storytelling, as we honour African traditions with wonderful baskets, colourful fabrics, heart-felt greetings and songs of unity, resilience, and pride. Embrace a joyful, inclusive experience of togetherness and appreciation for African heritage while keeping fit and managing our mental health.



# Sun 23 February



## Turkish Water Marbling ●●

**Time:** 11 AM–1 PM

**Place:** Lecture Theatre

The Ebru workshop offers a hands-on experience of 'painting on water', a Turkish tradition from the 13th century. Witness the mesmerising process of creating marbled paper. See colourful pigments swirled into beautiful patterns floating on water, before being transferred to paper to create a vibrant masterpiece.

## Scribal Art – Beauty in Diversity ●

**Time:** 11 AM–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 6

Set amongst breathtaking scribal artefacts, this multiscriptal and multilingual event, organised by the Oxford Interfaith Forum, explores the past through the ancient art of calligraphy and languages. After introducing scripts of the Eastern and Western civilisations, you are invited to write their chosen words in multiple languages and beautiful calligraphies.

## Crafting in Celebration of Trees ●

**Time:** 11 AM–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 22

In the Jewish Calendar, the 15th of the month of Shevat is considered the new year of trees. In this crafting session, you'll use varied tactile materials to illustrate trees through the seasons, while learning about the respect given to trees in the Jewish faith and tradition.

## Create a Postage Stamp ●

**Time:** 11 AM–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 31

Think of a Middle Eastern country you love, wish to visit, or have already visited. Then, design your own oversized postage stamp for the country, adding a touch of Arabic calligraphy.

## Refugee Art Display

**Time:** 11 AM–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 30 and Learning Studio Lobby (-1)

Asylum seekers and refugees share their stories through art. A new animation reimagines artworks from the 'Windows' exhibition created for Refugee Week in 2024. See original artworks in Gallery 30 and watch the film in the Learning Studio lobby to witness their journey of creativity and transformation.

## Fun with Fragments! ●

**Time:** 11 AM–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 35

See a showcase of embroidery pieces which incorporate a range of techniques, with design inspiration from fragment shapes. Join a craft activity to produce collages with fragment shapes, or follow a trail to find fragments and sherds on display across the lower floors of the museum, beginning in Gallery 1.

## Traditional Chinese Dancing

**Time:** 11:15 AM–12:15 PM | **Place:** Gallery 21

Join a spectacular performance of Chinese dance, blending traditional elegance with modern choreography. Enjoy solo pieces sharing ancient tales and dynamic group dances celebrating contemporary life. This breathtaking showcase offers a vibrant journey through China's cultural heritage. Don't miss this celebration of artistry, tradition, and community spirit!

## Jewish Storytelling and Music ●

**Time:** 11:30 AM–12:30 PM | **Place:** Gallery 44

The Jewish festival of trees often falls in February. Tu B'Shvat is a time to renew and deepen our relationship to nature. Adele Moss tells surprising Jewish stories of humans, trees and the land, while musician, Matthew Faulk, weaves in Jewish songs of delight in the natural world.

## Adhan, Islamic Call to Prayer

### Zuhr and Asr

**Times:** 12:30 PM; 3:45 PM | **Place:** Atrium  
Listen to the Adhan, the melodious Muslim call to prayer, which is said five times a day by a mu'adhin. Traditionally, the mu'adhin would stand atop of the mosque roof.

It is now often said within the mosque, with speakers carrying the mu'adhin's beautiful voice outside into the neighbourhood.

## Becoming – Stories and Songs

**Time:** 1–2 PM | **Place:** Gallery 21

Join a captivating story, delving deeper into a young girl's journey, both physical and metaphorical, at the intersection of two distinct cultures. The focus is on the idea of names and identity, and how they evolve as she navigates new landscapes and internal challenges.

## Refugee Art Talks ●●

**Time:** 1–2 PM | **Place:** Gallery 44

Hear refugee artists discuss their art.

## Embossed Printmaking Workshop ●●

**Time:** 1–4 PM | **Place:** Gallery 11

Join the workshop to create an embossed print, layering stencils on paper and using the press to create a raised artwork. Experiment with patterns and depth to create a unique tactile artwork that combines technique with creative freedom.

## Hindu Invocation – Bhajan and Chanting

**Time:** 1:30 PM | **Place:** Atrium

Come and share in the spiritual kirtans and the expression of devotion.

## Unlocking Ancient China: Rituals for Teens

**Time:** 2–3:30 PM

**Place:** Lecture Theatre

Experience a live re-enactment of Chinese Coming of Age ceremonies—Guan Li and Ji Li—from the Xia, Shang, and Zhou dynasties. Enjoy an English introduction, a Book of Rites recitation, classical music, and instruments like the Gu Qin and Gu Zheng, celebrating 3,000 years of cultural heritage.

## Jewish Melodic Prayer

**Time:** 2:30 PM

**Place:** Atrium

Hear the Jewish melodic payer, Etz Chayim.

## Dances of Universal Peace ●

**Time:** 2:30–3:30 PM

**Place:** Gallery 21

Come and learn songs and circle dances that celebrate the core essence of world religions and nature centred spirituality. The simple songs and Dances are easy to learn, child friendly and accompanied by gentle live music. The Dances are meditations that celebrate life and connection to the Spirit of Guidance, whatever that means to you!

## Panel Discussion: Healing our Planet and Ourselves ●●

**Time:** 2:30–3:30 PM

**Place:** Gallery 44

To celebrate this year's theme of 'In Unity', listen to a panel discussion of faith and cultural leaders (Chinese, Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim) discussing how we might explore healing our planet and ourselves.

## Closing of One World Festival ●

**Time:** 3:45 PM

**Place:** Atrium

The closing of the One World Family Festival led by Ashmolean Director, Xa Sturgis.

## Nepalese Dancers

**Time:** 3:50–4:05 PM

**Place:** Atrium

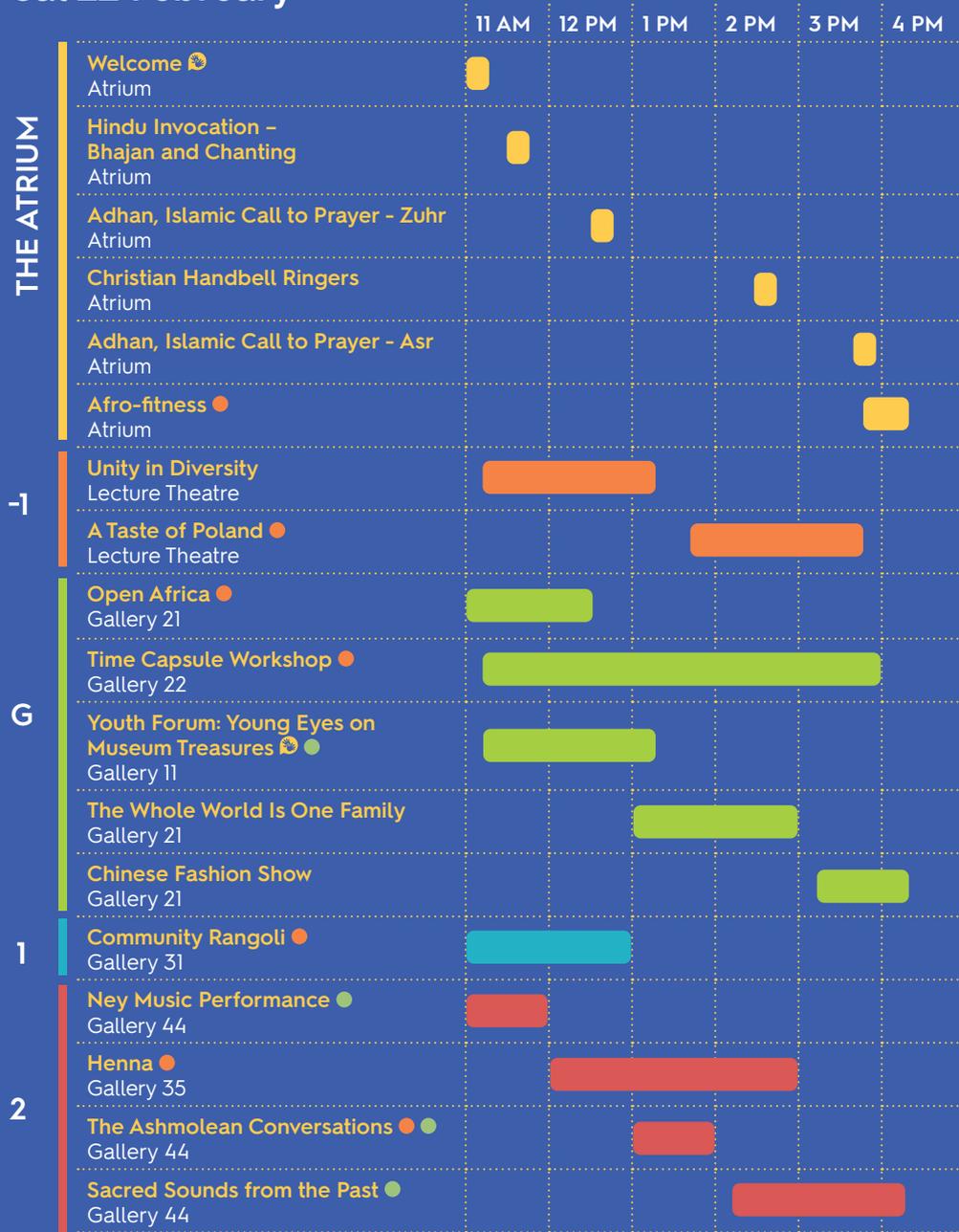
Watch traditional Nepalese dancers in costumes. Dance is fundamental to Nepalese culture, used not only to entertain but also preserve the heritage and connect people across generations.

● BSL Interpreter

● Interactive events

● Events with limited capacity, allocated on a first come, first served basis.

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