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Dear Sadiq/Mayor Khan,

I'm writing on behalf of the Tricycle Theatre to throw our full weight and support behind Brent's bid to be named London Borough of Culture 2020.

The Tricycle Theatre is the only theatre in Brent, London's most diverse borough, and is a local venue with a national and international reputation.

The Tricycle showcases new writing, engaging with diverse artists and bringing new voices to the theatre ecology. It currently presents six shows a year attracting 92,000 people to its work annually. Indhu Rubasingham is the Tricycle's Artistic Director and since her arrival the Tricycle has been nominated for nine awards including two Olivier Awards in 2015, an exceptional feat for a theatre company of this size. The Tricycle has established itself as one of London's leading theatres, producing award-winning theatre showcasing diverse talent.

The Tricycle works quite closely with Brent council to create engagement opportunities to support future artists and audiences from all backgrounds and remove the obstacles that prevent the arts from being accessible to all. The Tricycle's Creative Learning projects deliver this vision through its work with 2,000 local children and young people each year, providing over 27,000 creative engagement opportunities through workshops, performances and festivals.

The Tricycle has now reached a pivotal period in its history, embarking on a £7 million capital project to transform the building whilst simultaneously developing work that will inhabit the new spaces. During its redevelopment there will be an exciting period of research and development in preparation for a new artistic programme on reopening.

In pledging our support, I speak on behalf of the wider artistic and independent cultural sector throughout Brent.

We have come together as a cultural sector not only to back Brent's bid, but to actively shape it.

More than that, I'd like on behalf of the sector to pledge our shared ownership of the commitment to deliver a year to truly remember, as well as a positive and lasting legacy.

We hope that the energy, excellence and creativity reflected in this bid captures your attention, and we'd like to congratulate you on your initiative in launching this competition that has set fire to our imaginations.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Tricycle and to Brent again soon, as well as for the many visits we know you'll be making in 2020.

Yours

Bridget Kalloushi

Executive Producer

Liam Shea

Creative Learning Director



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