

# Combining science and the arts to act on climate change

## University of Chester, UK

An interdisciplinary team from the University of Chester, partnering with a charity 'Storyhouse' hosted a day of performances, practical workshops, presentations and discussion panels to inspire our community to act to reduce their carbon footprint and protect the environment.



*Undergraduates perform The Secret Garden*

The University of Chester is city-centre based located across a number of sites in the north-west of England. Storyhouse, is one of the UK's foremost cultural charities, which incorporates a library, theatres and a cinema. Interdisciplinary research and public engagement are University priorities for engaging with climate change and sustainability.

Colleagues collaborated to organise a day focussed on inspiring action; inviting students, staff and community members to participate. Several members of the university's Sustainability and Environment Research and Knowledge Exchange Institute (SERKEI) presented their research. Topics included collaborative community designs for flood risk management to imagining the city without cars. A special adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*, was performed by university undergraduates. In addition, community members presented details of practical local initiatives, including rooftop gardens on multi-storey car parks and improving access to the city centre.

There was an excellent turnout with purposeful discussions and valuable connections.

<b>400+</b> attendees including local schools	<b>35</b> scheduled talks, workshops, performances	<b>25</b> staff and students delivered sessions throughout the day
--	--	--

*"I liked the idea of finding out more about possible actions – particularly local to Chester – lots of variety of activities to choose from"* Participant at the event

### Find out more

University joins Storyhouse Climate Event <https://www1.chester.ac.uk/news/university-joins-storyhouse-climate-event?list=6800>

Storyhouse Climate <https://www.storyhouse.com/storyhouse-climate>