

# Student Newsletter

Brought to you by  
the Students' Union  
& Student Voice

Spring Issue 2025



## Keep it up!

You have all been working so hard so far this year and your tremendous efforts are not going unnoticed by those around you! It is nearly the Easter holidays in which we hope you all get some well-deserved rest, refreshed to come back and finish the year off proudly!

In this edition of the Student Newsletter, we'll guide you through some of what your Students' Union, Student Voice and YOU have been up to. We've also got some exciting events left for you to get involved in...such as our Easter egg hunt!

We have some bittersweet news too —our current SU team will soon be stepping down as our two-year terms come to an end. But this means an exciting opportunity for those interested in joining! Our recruitment campaign is underway, so if you'd like to be part of the team, get in touch with [sbrouwer@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:sbrouwer@ucenmanchester.ac.uk) to learn more.

It's been great getting to know so many of you in this academic year and love it when you come chat to us about new ideas! You are always welcome to pop by our SU space and tell us about anything for the next and FINAL newsletter of the year! Or email us [SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

*SU team x*

In this  
newsletter  
you can expect:

New Year  
Roundup

SU Recruitment

Students &  
Course  
Spotlights

Societies  
Showcase

Future U

Upcoming  
Events

# New Year Roundup



We loved seeing you all enjoy your fortune cookies during Lunar New Year and hope you had fun attempting some lantern crafting!



We love doing these face painting events to make you smile and to return to your lessons in style! Don't worry if you missed this Valentine's one though, we'll be doing one again before the Easter holidays!



You all loved our DIY pancake stations at CCM and Openshaw! You piled up with so many toppings!



Are you eligible for the NSS? Check your emails to find out! If you haven't had chance to complete it yet, scan the QR code to do it now! Make sure to select 'LTE Group'.



# Your Students' Union is **HIRING!**

Our two year term is coming to an end in July and so we're looking for our new SU! Could you be the next President?

## **President – Full-time** - Our current SU President is Sal!

Being the SU President is an exciting and dynamic role that puts you at the heart of student life. From organising events and supporting societies to launching impactful campaigns, this role allows you to make a real difference on campus. As President, you also have the important responsibility of representing students in board meetings, ensuring that every decision made prioritises their best interests. No two days are ever the same—you'll constantly face new challenges, meet incredible people, and develop valuable leadership skills along the way. If you're passionate about creating positive change and making student voices heard, this could be the perfect opportunity for you!

## **Vice-President – Part-time** - Our current SU Vice-President is Teri!

The SU Vice-President plays a vital role in supporting all aspects of student life. Working alongside the President and other officers, the VP helps ensure everything runs smoothly. From organising events and checking in with societies, to contributing to important documentation such as the SU Handbook. This role is all about being a reliable source of support, stepping in wherever needed, and making a real impact on the student experience. Just like the President, no two days are ever the same—you'll be tackling new challenges, collaborating with different teams, and helping to shape the student community in meaningful ways. If you're looking for a role that's challenging but rewarding, and full of opportunities to grow, this could be the perfect fit!

## **Sports & Activities Officer – Part-time** - Our current Sports & Activities Officer is Jasmine!

As the Sports and Activities Officer, your role is all about bringing student life to the next level. You will plan, promote, and run events that give students a chance to unwind, connect, and take a break from their studies. Whether it's organising social gatherings, quiz nights, or wellbeing activities, You'll make sure there's always something exciting happening. You also handle all things creative—designing promotional materials, posters, and digital content for screens, as well as managing the SU Instagram. If you enjoy event planning, social media, and bringing people together, this role is an amazing opportunity to make a real impact!

Applying for one of the SU Officer jobs is a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills, work as part of a team and continue to be part of the UCEN Manchester community!

Going for President is perfect if you're graduating this year whilst the two part-time positions give current and continuing students a chance to work alongside their studies!

Email [sbrouwer@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:sbrouwer@ucenmanchester.ac.uk) for more information or if you would like to apply!

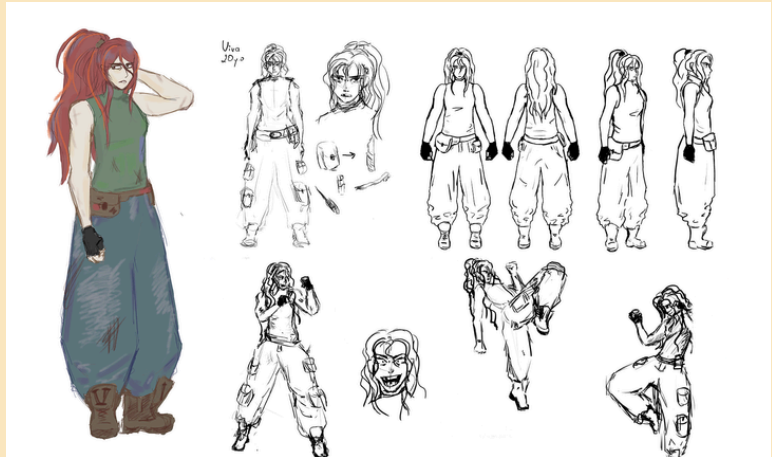


# Student Spotlight!

Here is some fabulous work created by some of our current UCEN Manchester students! We love seeing what you all get up to!



**Advertisement for Hinterland Bar by James Grota** BA (Hons) Graphic Design & Branding, Year 3  
Animated logos and an advert designed for local bar Hinterland's dry January and Veganuary.  
[@jamesgrota.design](https://www.instagram.com/jamesgrota.design) on Instagram  
Course Instagram: [@ba.graphics.branding](https://www.instagram.com/ba.graphics.branding)



**Vira Character Concept by Anastasiia Krot**  
HND The Animation Industry, Year 1  
Course Instagram: [@ucen.ani.3d.games.vfx](https://www.instagram.com/ucen.ani.3d.games.vfx)



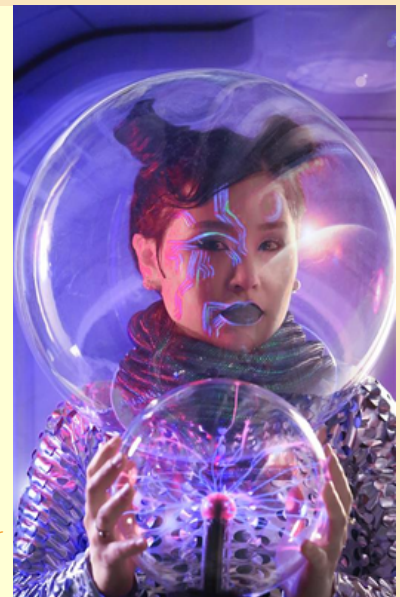
**Minotaur Sculpt by Jacob Firth**  
BA (Hons) 3D Game Art & VFX, Year 3  
Course Instagram: [@ucen.ani.3d.games.vfx](https://www.instagram.com/ucen.ani.3d.games.vfx)

## Space Makeup & Hair by Carman Ip

BA (Hons) Make-up Artistry, Year 3

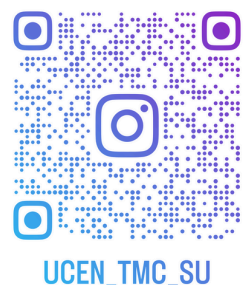
*"I wanted to create an original and innovative futuristic look inspired by space elements using UV makeup. I'm always up for trying new things with different techniques and it is satisfying to see the results."*

[@workshopdecarmnip](https://www.instagram.com/workshopdecarmnip) on Instagram  
Photographer & Retouched by Carl Pinnington  
[@carlosphotox](https://www.instagram.com/carlosphotox)  
Course Instagram: [@makeupucenmanchester](https://www.instagram.com/makeupucenmanchester)



## What are the Students' Union's FEATURE FRIDAYS?

Every Friday on our SU Instagram we share the endeavours of UCEN students on our stories! Want your work or an event you're doing to be featured? Simply tag us [@ucen\\_tmc\\_su](https://www.instagram.com/ucen_tmc_su) in your posts so we will see them, we love sharing what you all get up to!



# New Student Voice Coordinator!

Introducing Eleanor South, our new Student Voice Coordinator!

"Hello everyone, I'm Ellie, and I'm excited to step into the role of your full-time Student Voice Coordinator at UCEN Manchester. You'll likely spot me around campus, often handing out free food or cookies, so feel free to come by and say hi!

As the newest member of the Student Voice Team, I'm here to help bridge the gap between staff and students. My main goal is to ensure that your feedback is heard, valued, and acted upon to continuously enhance your experience throughout your time at UCEN Manchester. Whether it's through organising events, hosting student rep forums, or having one-on-one conversations, I'm dedicated to making UCEN Manchester a place where everyone's voice counts."



If you would like to get in touch with Ellie, email her at [esouth@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:esouth@ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

# Course Showcase

Here we are showcasing some exciting course events coming up!

## Theatre & Performance - 3rd Years

unTaPped '25

“

TAP 3rd year presents our **unTaPped '25 festival!**

This is an opportunity for us as third years to take over the Lowry, show our work to the public, and take on either admin, production, marketing or finance roles.

There will be a series of performances, with solo and group pieces of all different styles.

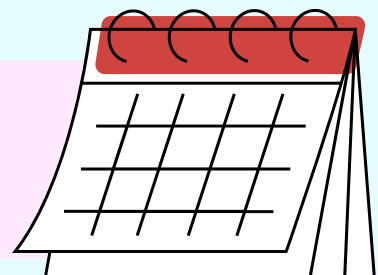
Come along and make a day of it, whilst we immerse you in our world. Celebrate with us one last time at our unTaPped '25 festival!

”



Follow their Instagram [@tap\\_third\\_years](#), TikTok [@tap\\_arden](#) and Bluesky [@taparden.bsky.social](#) for all their updates and information on the festival.

**SAVE THE DATES! - 16.05.25 and 17.05.25**



## Makeup Artistry and Makeup Artistry & Special Effects - 2nd Years

“

Makeup 2nd years present **Artistry Unveiled!**

This is a collaborative showcase of work from Makeup Artistry students and SFX students. Students will be displaying collections of their best works, showing their skills in many areas of the makeup industry with a variety of genres, from tv, film, bridal, fashion, glam, horror, and much more... along with multiple live demonstrations by the students themselves.

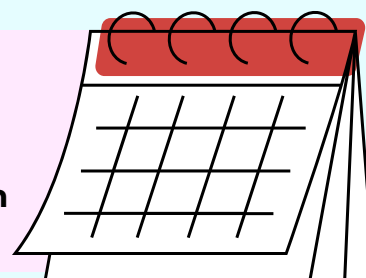
Come along to our event! There will be many creatives there which will be a fantastic networking opportunity with our talented makeup artists! What a wonderful way for them to end the year, showing what they all do best!



”

Follow their Instagram [@ucen\\_artistryunveiled](https://www.instagram.com/ucen_artistryunveiled) and TikTok [@ucenartistryunveiled](https://www.tiktok.com/@ucenartistryunveiled) for all their updates and information on the event!

**SAVE THE DATE! - Wednesday 23rd April, 4pm-7pm**  
**Hive/3rd Floor, UCEN Manchester City Campus**



## Makeup Artistry and Makeup Artistry & Special Effects - 3rd Years



“

Makeup 3rd years present **Beyond the Brushstroke!**

Come along to our end of year exhibition, showcasing the best of the MUA and SFX BA student's work!

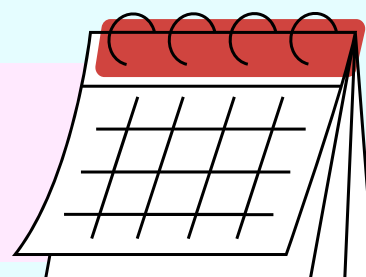
This offers a fantastic end to these students journey through makeup here at UCEN Manchester, truly bringing their work to life in a carefully curated space.

Come along and see some of the outstanding work created by these students!

”

Follow their course Instagram [@sfxucenmanchester](https://www.instagram.com/sfxucenmanchester) for any updates and information on the exhibition.

**SAVE THE DATE! - Saturday 12th April**  
**UCEN Manchester City Campus**



# Societies Showcase!

Societies are a fantastic way to meet other students with similar interests. Anything can be a society, from a napping club to a football team, or even a crocheting society!

Below are our established societies!



- **Acting Society**
- **Christian Union**
- **Creative Collective**
- **Cosy Club**
- **D&D Society**
- **Men's Football**
- **Neurodivergent Society**
- **Open Mic Society**
- **Squareball Society**
- **Ukulele Society**
- **Volleyball Team**
- **Wargames & Board games society**



## **Last few Cosy Club meetings of the year!**

This society is purely a relaxed study session where you can get help with any work from Georgia (UCEN's Student Engagement Officer).

She can help give you advice on anything you bring, and you can enjoy some free food too!

Cosy Club meetups are every first and last Thursday of the month - her next meetup is **Thursday 27th March, 4pm-5pm** in the UCEN library wellbeing area at CCM.



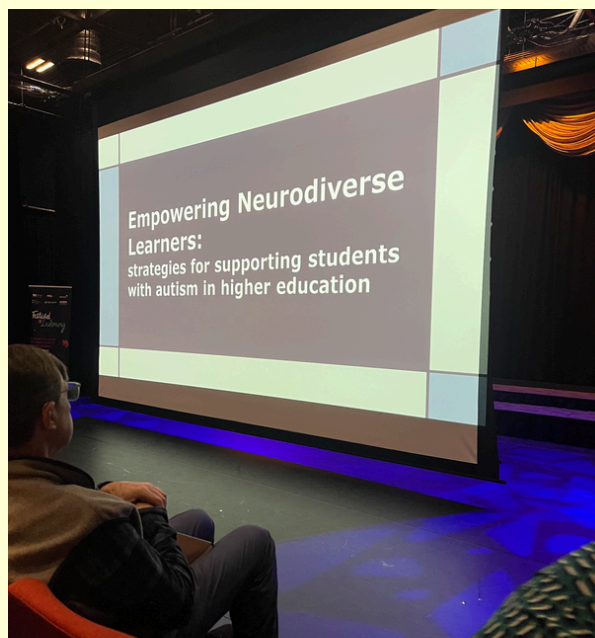
**Please get in touch with the SU if you have any questions or if you'd like to set up your own society!**  
Email [SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk) or scan this QR!

# Neurodiversity in Education

Recently **Nathaniel Dickson** our **Disability Officer** gave an interactive talk on 'Empowering Neurodiverse Learners', discussing strategies for supporting students within higher education.

He delved into the unique and often invisible challenges faced by neurodiverse students and offered practical advice for our staff to continue on creating a sympathetic, inclusive and supportive learning environment here at UCEN.

**Nathaniel emphasised the importance of clear instructions, one-to-one engagement and personalised learning plans (PLPs).**



Nathaniel is continuously striving to make sure students individual needs are listened to and catered towards.

## **You can find him to talk about:**

- Creating or reviewing your PLPs, which do the following:
  - Explain your conditions and needs to tutors and allied staff
  - Accessing the DSA that you are entitled to
  - Gathering and summarising relevant evidence of your 'disability'
  - Exploring the implications of your 'disability' and options for support
  - Enhancing your independence and confidence in voicing your needs
- Seeking a diagnosis
- Finding a support group near where you live or study
- Preparing for a meeting with curriculum or management
- Coping and adjusting to a new diagnosis or a diagnosis you did not expect
- Communicating with staff
- Joining UCEN's student run Neurodiversity Society
- Advice about assistive technology:
  - Using generative AI
  - Mindmaps and how they can help in planning assignments
  - Read Aloud and Dictate
  - Immersive Reader



**You can book a drop in session with Nathaniel via this QR code.**

**He's based at CCM most Mondays/Thursdays/Fridays and Openshaw most Tuesdays/Wednesdays.**

# Liz Hatton

**"I'm Caitlin Woodend, a student at the Manchester Film School and the Core Representative for Creative Arts and Media Industries.**

You may have seen images or articles about Liz, a 17-year-old girl who had the privilege of meeting the Princess of Wales. Liz wasn't just an extraordinary young woman - she was my cousin.

Liz was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer called **Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumour (DSRCT)**.

Tragically, she passed away just 10 months after her diagnosis. DSRCT affects children and young adults, and with only a 15% survival rate over five years, there is an urgent need for better treatments and support.

To honour Liz's memory, my family has founded **The Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumour Charity**.



*Our mission is to:*

- Fund research for more effective treatments.
- Provide support to DSRCT patients and their families.
- Compile and share critical resources for those affected by this rare cancer.

We are the only charity in the world dedicated solely to DSRCT, and we're determined to change the future for families facing this devastating diagnosis.

Please consider supporting us by donating or sharing Liz's story via her Instagram, **@Lizhatton\_photography**.

You can donate by scanning the QR code or searching **'Just Giving Liz Hatton'** on the Just Giving website.

Your contribution, big or small, can make a meaningful difference. Together, we can bring hope to others in Liz's name."



Love,

*Caitlin Woodend*

# Future U Refresher

Here's a little reminder to utilise all the helpful services that are on offer here at UCEN Manchester. Below are the members of the Future U team and what they all do. They are here to give you guidance in these areas so don't be worried about reaching out to any of them! They are all very friendly and strive to improve the quality of your learning and experience here.



**Nathaniel Dickson**  
Disability Officer  
ndickson@ucenmanchester.ac.uk



**Brett Wicks**  
Careers & Employability  
bwicks@ucenmanchester.ac.uk



**Lelo Haile-Giorgis**  
Wellbeing Officer  
lhaile-giorgis@ucenmanchester.ac.uk



**Christopher Walsh**  
Financial Support Officer  
cwalsh@ucenmanchester.ac.uk

Also don't forget about our student support portal here at UCEN Manchester - PAM Assist! It is available **365 days a year, 24-hours a day**.



## PAM Assist Wellbeing App

Positively influencing and empowering users to take responsibility for their physical and mental wellbeing through engaging features.

Your unique PAM Assist Score

Stepping Stones

Move Medicine

Self-guided interactive courses

Hundreds of expert resources

Mind Matters



**Download and Register Today**

Download the PAM Assist Wellbeing App for 24/7 employee support at [pam-assist.co.uk](https://pam-assist.co.uk)



Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Spot the PAM assist signs around campus, designed by the wonderful **Elle Landsborough**.



**TELL PAM**  
WHAT'S STRESSING  
YOU OUT!



# Permanent Swap Shop

Remember some of our Swap Shop events we've done in the past? **A new addition to the UCEN library space is a permanent Swap Shop!**

This space promotes recycling and eco-consciousness, allowing you to 'shop' for something 'new to you', in return for something you no longer want or need.

If you've got something you don't want anymore and would like to swap it for something else, bring it to the swap shop, have a look and SWAP!

## ***What can I bring to swap?***

- Clothes (no socks/underwear)
- Books
- Accessories
- As long as it's clean and in good condition, bring it along!

***Unsure if you can swap something?*** Ask our SU team!

## ***Just want to donate?***

If you have items you want to give for the swap and don't want anything in return, give it to the SU team!



This space is brought to you by the SU and library teams and will be monitored and maintained daily.

Please only swap **an item for an item** so it remains fair and enough opportunity for everyone to enjoy.

# Upcoming Events!

## MARCH

- **WED 19/03: QUIZ! (CCM)** – Join us in the Hive [12pm-1pm](#) for a chance to win some prizes!
- **WED 26/03: Recruitment Fair (CCM)** - Join us in the Hive [12pm-1pm](#) to learn all about the SU, what roles you could apply for, and get some freebies!
- **THUR 27/03: Recruitment Fair (OP)** - Join us in the Cube [12pm-1pm](#) to learn all about the SU, what roles you could apply for, and get some freebies!
- **THUR 27/03: Cosy club (CCM)** - Join Georgia in the UCEN library wellbeing area to catch up on your coursework, get any help with study skills and have some free food and drinks. [4pm-5pm](#)

## APRIL

- **WED 02/04: Easter Egg Hunt! (CCM)** – Find as many eggs around campus for the chance to trade them in for chocolate eggs! There will also be a cute easter bunny hidden somewhere...finders keepers! [All day!](#)
- **WED 02/04: Easter face painting (CCM)** – Hive [12pm-2pm](#), come get your face painted!
- **THUR 03/04: Cosy club (CCM)** - Join Georgia in the UCEN library wellbeing area to catch up on your coursework, get any help with study skills and have some free food and drinks. [4pm-5pm](#)

## MAY

- **THUR 01/05: Cosy club (CCM)** - Join Georgia in the UCEN library wellbeing area for the last Cosy Club session of the year! Catch up on your coursework, get any help with study skills and have some free food and drinks. [4pm-5pm](#)
- **Dates tbc: End of Year Celebrations! (CCM)** – These will be a chance for student reps and societies to get together and celebrate all the hard work they've put in this academic year! [Details to be confirmed!](#)



# Let us know your thoughts!

Do you have any questions?

Is there anything you really want to tell us about for our next newsletter? Or do you have an amazing campaign idea you'd love for us to run?

Scan the QR code and fill out the form!



**Don't forget to follow our Instagrams!**

**@ucen\_tmc\_su**  
**@futureuucenmanchester**

Thank you for reading our newsletter, we'll be back soon with our Summer issue!

*Students' Union &  
Student Voice teams x*