

# Student Newsletter

Brought to you by  
the Students' Union  
& Student Voice

New Year 2025



In this  
newsletter  
you can expect:

Winter  
Roundup

Core Reps

Student  
Showcase

Societies  
Showcase

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## Welcome back!

We hope you are all well rested and had a wonderful holiday! As we gear up once again for classes to resume, we wanted to share some more of the exciting things you can expect from your Students' Union this semester!

Whether it's our monthly swap shops, craft events, cooking sessions, giveaways, quizzes and BINGO, there's plenty to get involved in this year!

In this edition of the Student Newsletter, we'll guide you through all upcoming events, societies you can join and much more!

It's been great getting to know so many of you in the first term and we 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 newsletter! Or email us [SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:SU@ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

*SU team x*

# Your Core Reps!

Meet your new Core Rep for **the Faculty of Higher Technical and Professional Courses!**



Get in touch with Ellen via email  
[1519149@stu.ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:1519149@stu.ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

Hi, I'm Ellen, a 2nd year Business Management student.

In my role as Core Rep, I'm actively involved in the decision-making process by attending key stakeholder meetings to ensure student perspectives are heard. I'll also be attending termly representative meetings and connecting with students to gather feedback. My goal is to make sure student voices are valued in the changes happening here.

#### **What can I help you with?**

- Feedback on course content or delivery
- Suggestions for improving student life or learning resources
- Any ideas or issues you'd like raised at a higher level

Hello, I'm Caitlin, a 3rd year student at the Manchester Film School.

As a Core Rep I work closely with the Students' Union, feedback the voice of my peers, and ensure your feedback is being heard and acted upon!

#### **What can I help you with?**

- I can help bring any issues within the course, school, faculty or wider experience as a whole to key stakeholders.
- I can raise positive feedback to the relevant people!

Meet your new Core Rep for **the Faculty of Creative Arts and Media Industries!**



Get in touch with Caitlin via email  
[1468679@stu.ucenmanchester.ac.uk](mailto:1468679@stu.ucenmanchester.ac.uk).

# Student Adventures!

The Theatre & Performance 3rd years took their performances far beyond the walls of UCEN last term in two expeditions that celebrated international collaboration and cultural exchange! They enjoyed workshops, immersed themselves in the local cultures and put on some amazing performances!



The first group went to Iași, Romania and worked with a variety of groups, including MA English & American Studies students and students from two international high schools.

They designed and facilitated workshops focused on playfulness and building confidence, and attended a choreography session at the National University of Arts George Enescu to observe students in action!

They also got to perform their show 'Echoes and Here and Now' in an arts cafe called Negru Zi. The show explored the colour green; looking at themes of nature, hope and how there can be light amongst darkness.

Their host Lotus Havârneanu helped organise all these remarkable experiences and collaborations. Sounds like this was an unforgettable trip!



The second group went to Porto, Portugal and got to experience the beautiful culture, taste the delicious food and see the sites!

They had the opportunity to participate in an improvisation night with other students at Esmae Drama School, and watched a dress rehearsal performance by their 2nd years. They also got involved in facilitating workshops at the drama school, masterclasses and presentations.

They also got the opportunity to share their work with other students by performing their piece which explored different types of conversations and interactions people could and should be having.

Sounds like such an amazing time, connecting with others and exploring the beauty of new ways of working and seeing such a rich culture!



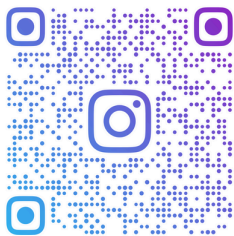
# Student Spotlight!

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



**Fed 5C Camera  
Render by Abdur-  
Rahman Nagi**  
BA (Hons) 3D Game  
Art & VFX, Year 3  
@nagi\_3d\_art on  
Instagram

**Character Concept by  
Nick Bell**  
HND The Animation Industry,  
Year 1  
@xzeroqx on Instagram



UCEN\_TMC\_SU

## 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!

# 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**



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!



## Creative Collective

We are a society that aims to connect UCEN creative students together from across courses. We have an abundance of film makers, makeup artists, performers, designers and more all under one roof with great potential for collaboration! Lets connect and work together!

If you'd like to get involved in running this society (by organising meetups, socials, events etc), or would like to join the teams channel, please [contact Jasmine England via Teams](#). Also follow our Instagram!

## Cosy Club

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 Tuesday of the month](#) - her next meetup is **Tuesday 28th January, 4:30pm-5:30pm** in the UCEN library wellbeing area at CCM. There will be pizza!



## D&D Society

Are you interested in Tabletop RPGs, or do you just like rolling dice? If you're just otherwise curious about the game, then you're in luck! The D&D society is currently looking for members.

No experience is needed, we will help teach the game and run a session specifically focused on character creation. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come along!

For more details (and to be added to the Teams chat), please [contact Joe Woodward via 1539510@stu.ucenmanchester.ac.uk](#).

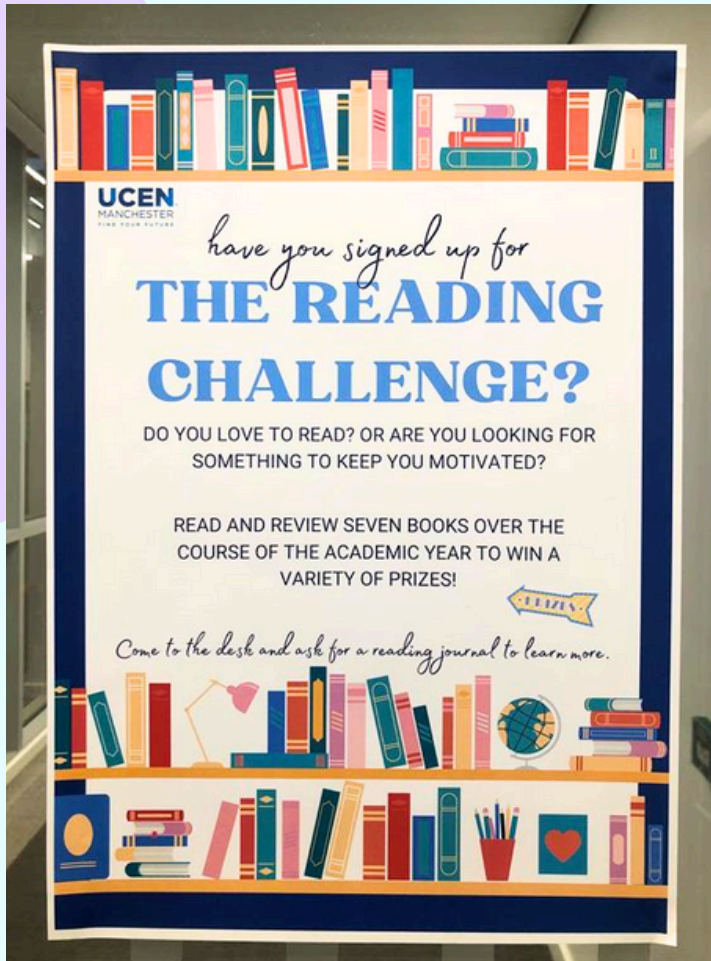
## Squareball Society

Squareball is a ball game involving a 2x2 grid on the floor, 4 players playing at a time with each of them taking up a square on the floor. The aim of the game is to hit the ball into another person's square and get them out. To win you need to finish in the King square. It's hard to explain so just come along and give it a go! Our society is definitely beginner friendly and anyone can join!

[We meet up every Monday at CCM at 5pm-6pm in room 452!](#)



# Library Lowdown



## Do you know about the Library's reading challenge?

The challenge is to read 7 books, eBooks or articles etc and win prizes!

Collect a review booklet from the library and each time you read a book, write a little review in your booklet, bring it to the library and get a little prize each time!

The more you read, the more you'll win! After you have read three books, you will receive a Starbucks voucher. If you have read 7 books, you will get a certificate and be put into a prize draw to win a £10, £15 or £20 voucher!

Get reading! Their challenge is on until May!

Also keep on the look out for their 'Blind Date with a Book' displays in February!



Follow UCEN's Library Instagram!  
**@ucenlibraries**



You can find more information on how to access the library's services by scanning the QR code above!

# Winter Roundup



We enjoyed seeing you create masterpieces at our canvas painting session. What a lovely bit of artistic mindfulness to help you take it easy during such a hectic time!

You loved our DIY hot chocolate station! Your drinks were overflowing with whipped cream, marshmallows and festive sprinkles! You also enjoyed some mulled wine and mince pies! Everything went!



We also decorated some beautiful festive ornaments together! It's wonderful doing something handmade for your tree!



You took part in our Christmas quiz and won such cool prizes like the cute reindeer plushie (take good care!). The Heinz beans are also still the prize everyone dreams about!



You got bedazzled with glitter and gems at our festive face paint stall and fashioned some pretty snowflakes, candy cane eyeliner, holly and loads of Christmas lights...that stayed somewhat together in dance class!



# 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**.



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# Upcoming Events!

## JANUARY

- **W/C 20/01: Food4Thought (CCM)** - Come along and get some free food in exchange for giving us some feedback!
- **WED 22/01: Refresher's Fair (CCM)** - Join us in the Hive to get a refresher on everything Students' Union, events, societies and get some freebies! [12am-2pm](#)
- **THUR 23/01: Refresher's Fair (OP)** - Join us in the Cube at Openshaw to get a refresher on everything Students' Union, events, societies and get some freebies! [12am-2pm](#)
- **TUES 28/01: 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. [4:30pm-5:30pm](#)
- **WED 29/01: Lunar New Year!** - Come along to the Hive at CCM during lunchtime and get a fortune cookie!

## FEBRUARY

- **TUES 04/02: Pancake Day DIY Station (CCM)** - Come along to the Hive from [12pm](#) and create your own mini pancake stack with syrup, sauces, icing sugar and more! Better be quick though, first come first served!
- **TUES 04/02: 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. [4:30pm-5:30pm](#)
- **WED 05/02: Swap shop (CCM Canteen area)** - Got any clothes/books or other items you don't need anymore? Here is your chance to trade them in for something else! [12pm-2pm](#).
- **THUR 06/02: Swap Shop (OP Cube)** - Got any clothes/books or other items you don't need anymore? Here is your chance to trade them in for something else! [12pm-2pm](#).
- **MON 10/02 – FRI 14/02: ANONYMOUS VALENTINE'S (CCM)** - Leave a loving note in our Valentine's box in the Hive and we'll showcase them on our Instagram at the end of the week!
- **WED 12/02: Give a Flower to a Friend (CCM)** - Yellow is the colour of friendship! Come get a flower from the Hive from [12pm](#) and give it to someone you appreciate!
- **WED 12/02: Rom-com Film Night! (CCM)** - Join us in the library wellbeing space 4pm-6pm for a film night with friends and popcorn! (Can come and go anytime!)
- **TUES 25/02: 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. [4:30pm-5:30pm](#)

# MARCH

## SU March Giveaway!

Know where your SU team is located?  
Take a selfie in our Students' Union  
space at CCM for the chance to win a  
prize!  
Tag our Instagram or message us your  
photo! @ucen\_tmc\_su

- **TUES 04/03: 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. 4:30pm-5:30pm
- **WED 05/03: Swap shop (CCM Canteen area)** - Got any clothes/books or other items you don't need anymore? Here is your chance to trade them in for something else! 12pm-2pm
- **THUR 06/03: Blind Date with a Book! (CCM)** - It's World Book Day! Come along to the Hive and take part in our FREE raffle and win a mystery book! 12pm-1pm
- **FRI 07/03: Wear Purple for International Women's Day! (CCM & OP)** - Although the actual day is on Saturday 8th, we want you all to come onto campus wearing something purple in celebration of women!
- **W/C MON 10/03: Ramadan Celebrations! (CCM)** - Come along to the Hive to break fast with friends by enjoying a selection of foods and desserts (bring your own too to share!) We'll also be doing lantern crafts and learning how to write your name in Arabic!
- **WED 12/03: Feel Good Film Night! (CCM)** - Join us in the library wellbeing space 4pm-6pm for a film night with friends and popcorn! (Can come and go anytime!)
- **MON 17/03: Wear Green for St Patrick's Day! (CCM & OP)** - Celebrate Irish culture by coming onto campus wearing something green!
- **WED 19/03: BINGO! (CCM)** - Join us in the Hive 12pm-1pm for a chance to win some prizes!
- **TUES 25/03: 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. 4:30pm-5:30pm
- **WED 26/03: Creative Collective Networking Fair (CCM)** - Are you a creative student looking to make connections and collaborate with other creative students, showcase work you've done in our fair! 12pm-2pm in the Hive.

# APRIL

- **TUES 01/04: 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. 4:30pm-5:30pm
- **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: Canvas Painting (CCM)** - It's National Rainbow Day, come and unwind by painting a colourful work of art! 12pm-2pm in the Hive.



Got an event that you'd like to see on campus? Let us know by scanning the QR code!



# 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 Spring issue!

*Students' Union &  
Student Voice teams x*