



Folkestone Harbour

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and Partners, the Folkestone City Academy building is one of the finest in the country and specialises in art, media and European culture. The second, the Marsh Academy, in Romney Marsh, has a focus on entrepreneurship.

Newly opened in September 2007, University Centre Folkestone is a joint project between the Universities of Greenwich and Kent. With a focus on the creative arts and business it will help support and nurture the development of a thriving local arts community. This is in addition to a performing arts centre, with an emphasis on contemporary music that will be ready in 2008.

Art and culture

The town will be on the world art map in Summer 2008 when Folkestone's Creative Foundation launches the Triennial, one of the most exciting examples of urban regeneration through contemporary art ever staged in the UK.

The open air art exhibition, based on those held in Venice and Munster, opened on 14 June 2008.

As visitors wander around the town they can see the work of Turner Prize winning artists and nominees such as Jeremy Deller, Nathan Coley and Tracey Emin, as well as artists who have played a pivotal role in the development of British sculpture over the last 30 years. All of the work, from sculpture to installation, performance to film is inspired by the town, its history and people.

The exhibition will run every three years. At the end of every Triennial, pieces of art will be selected to remain as permanent works of art in the town, building into a significant volume of public art over the next decade.

Folkestone's once fashionable Victorian Lower Leas coastal park has been restored with EU and Lottery funding and is already a popular spot for over half a million visitors a year. Visitors experience summer meadows and avenues of pine which lead down to the beach, while events in an amphitheatre, overlooking the sea, keep them entertained with a summer programme of free music and drama. ▶

