



## Centrestage Founder, Fiona McKenzie Awarded Honorary Degree from Glasgow Caledonian University.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 our Founder, Fiona McKenzie, will be recognised with an Honorary Degree from Glasgow Caledonian University for her outstanding contribution to leadership development in young people through the arts and community.

The annual winter graduation takes place within the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall as the University brings together students from across the campus to celebrates the individual and collective achievements from the academic year. The graduation also provides the platform to recognise individuals who champion positive activity within their chosen profession.



Since 2006, Fiona and co-Founder Paul Mathieson have continuously developed the Centrestage activity portfolio based on the needs and aspirations of people of all ages and backgrounds across the community, using the arts to bring people together across Ayrshire. This will culminate in 2020 when all current activities will be relocated to the Centrestage Village, on the site of the former Kilmarnock Academy, the largest asset transfer in Scotland to a community organisation to date.

We are incredibly proud of the honour bestowed to Fiona by the University.

Eleanor McLaren, Chair of Centrestage Communities said, "All of us at Centrestage are so proud of both our Founders, Fiona McKenzie and Paul Mathieson, for their vision in setting up Centrestage thirteen years ago and for their hard work in making that dream a reality. There is no more worthy a recipient than Fiona for the award of this Honorary Doctorate which is a testament to her commitment to developing people of all ages from all backgrounds and experience and using the arts to help them to become the very best version of themselves."

Fiona McKenzie said, "It is a true honour to receive this award. I accept it with sincere gratitude on behalf of our team; past, present and future and I am thankful to everyone who has supported, guided and advised us on our journey so far. Centrestage is about to embark on another new chapter and I am excited to share the story in the weeks and months ahead."

Find out more about the graduation:

[www.gcu.ac.uk/student/study/graduation/graduationday/](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/student/study/graduation/graduationday/)

#artsattheheart | #funfoodfolk | #HonoraryDegree



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