

The Culture Module

part of the South West Observatory
Research Intelligence Network

The Culture Module is part of the South West Observatory's network of independent thematic modules and local intelligence providers. It is managed by the South West Culture Agencies Network of: Arts Council England, English Heritage, South West Screen/ Creative England, Sport England with South West Local Authorities Cultural Partnership. For past issues of *Finding the Dots*, more information and news visit: <http://www.culture@sw.org.uk> or contact Jules Channer at culture@sw.org.uk

Finding the Dots - cultural research e-bulletin

Issue 30

March 2012

Welcome to the thirtieth edition of **Finding the Dots**, an e-bulletin of the latest cultural and related research and information-gathering events, of relevance to people working in south west England. **Finding the Dots** is published quarterly and past copies are available from our website at <http://culture.swo.org.uk>.

Inside this issue

1. Local and Regional Research News.....	2
2. National Research News	2
Government.....	3
Cultural Governance Public Bodies	4
Academia and Independent Research	6
Other	6
3. Forthcoming and Recent Events	6

Many thanks to those who contributed to this issue. Please feel free to circulate to colleagues and networks. If you would like to contribute information for the next issue, receive this bulletin in another format or become a regular subscriber, please email Jules Channer at culture@sw.org.uk.

1. Local and Regional Research News

Bristol City Council (February 2012) *Business-friendly Bristol Comes Top in Awards*, Bristol City Council, Bristol.

Bristol was named as the top European city of its size for international investment in the future by independent expert at FDI magazine. The award highlights the city's strong concentration of high tech and knowledge-based sectors including creative industries.

Available from: <http://www.bristol.gov.uk/press/business-bristol/business-friendly-bristol-comes-top-awards>

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (December 2011) *Creative Industries Economic Estimates – December 2011*, DCMS, London.

According to DCMS' annual statistical bulletin on the creative industries, the South West's share of all creative enterprises remains unchanged at 7.9% with the highest proportion in Music, Visual and Performing Arts. In 2009, UK creative Industries contributed £36.3 billion in GVA to the economy with Publishing, Advertising and TV & Radio providing the greatest contribution. The creative sector accounted for 1.50 million jobs in 2010, 5.1% of the UK's employment, and comprised 106,700 enterprises in 2011. NOTE: these figures do not include Crafts or non-VAT registered companies and DCMS' methodology has changed since its December 2010 bulletin. Local area figures are not available.

Available from: <http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/research/Creative-Industries-Economic-Estimates-Report-2011-update.pdf>

Office for National Statistics (February 2012) *Regional Labour Market – February 2012*, ONS, Newport.

This report shows that whilst current employment is highest in the East of England (74.6% of all England total), unemployment is lowest in the South West with 6.1% of England's total.

Available from: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/subnational-labour/regional-labour-market-statistics/february-2012/stb-regional-labour-market-february-2012.html>

South West Observatory (February 2012) *Local Profiles*, SWO, Taunton online

Latest updated profiles of 15 Upper Tier Authorities in the South West are now available, covering demographics, health, employment, skills, environment, transport, housing and planning. Click on an interactive map or download each area's PDF profile.

Available from: <http://www.swo.org.uk/local-profiles/>

Sport England (December 2011) *Active People Survey 5 – 02 Sport Participation, England Regions, Counties and Districts*, Sport England, London.

Latest survey findings on participation in sport (October 2010 - October 2011), and variation between different places and social groups, show:

- 722,400 adult respondents in the South West (16.5%) participated in sport three times a week for 30 minutes at moderate intensity (3X30 target), which means no significant percentage change since 2007/08 but an increase of actual numbers;
- variations of 3X30 rates across local authority areas show, for example, Cheltenham's rate rising from 16% in 2007/8 to 23.5% in 2010/11 whereas Mid Devon's rate falling from 12.9% to 8.4%, and a significant rise in Bath and North East Somerset to 20%;
- volunteering in the South West increased since 2007/08 from 5.5% to 8.1%, one of the highest rates of the nine English regions;
- South West region is the only area with a significant increase in organised sport since 2007/08 from 37.7% to 38.9%.

Available from: http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/idoc.ashx?docid=6dff52e3-73c3-4993-9762-a079e9f71410&version=1

and

http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/aps5.aspx

2. National Research News

Creative Industries Council (January 2012) *Creative Industries Council Urges Action to Improve Skills and Training*, DCMS and BIS, London.

The Creative Industries Council (CIC) has endorsed a report on improving the skills of people working in the sector. Presented by the CIC Skillset Skills Group, the report contains:

- 17 recommendations including: creation of an online professional learning network; reform of the ICT syllabus in schools; work placement guidelines; and establishment of a single careers resource for the creative industries.
- Creative Industries profiles on 12 of DCMS' defined creative sub-sectors with statistical data from DCMS and other sources (see Appendix 2)
- List of Local Enterprise Partnerships interested in the creative industries (see Appendix 4).

Available from:

<http://cicskills.skillset.org/goto.php?url=aHR0cDovL2NpY3NraWxscy5za2lsbHNldC5vcmcvZGF0YS90aGVfY3JlYXRpdmVfaW5kdXN0cmllc19jb3VuY2lsX3NraWxsc2V0X3NraWxsc19ncm91cF9yZXBvcnQ%3D>

Appendices at

<http://cicskills.skillset.org/goto.php?url=aHR0cDovL2NpY3NraWxscy5za2lsbHNldC5vcmcvZGF0YS90aGVfY3JlYXRpdmVfaW5kdXN0cmllc19jb3VuY2lsX3NraWxsc2V0X3NraWxsc19ncm91cF9yZXBvcnRfLV9hcHBibmRpY2Vz>

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (December 2011) *Community Action in England: A Report on the 2009-10 Citizenship Survey*, DCLG, London.

Although the Citizenship Survey is now closed, this report looks back at 2010/11 data and includes some interesting trends in volunteering (informal and formal). Not surprisingly, rates are falling with reasons given as lack of time/ work commitments. Findings show:

- adult participation in civic engagement activities at least once over the previous 12 months was highest in the South East (49%), closely followed by the South West rate of 48%.
- although trends are falling for both formal and informal volunteering across England, rates in the South West are above average - formal and informal volunteering rates in 2009/10 were: 31% and 32% respectively for once a month and 49% and 60% respectively for once in the past year;
- three-in-ten people (31%) in the South West take part in regular formal volunteering, compared with 20% of people in London or the North West.

Available from: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/2056233.pdf>

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (January 2012) *'A Future For British Film: It begins with the audience': Report on the Film Policy Review Survey*, DCMS, London.

This report by the independent Film Policy Review Panel tackles economic and cultural challenges that film producers and distributors face in the UK. With evidence from the BFI Statistical Yearbook 2011, to show successes of UK film at the box office, increased audience enthusiasm for British films and the strength of independent cinema, the Panel recommendations include:

- developing a 'brand' for UK film
- a UK-wide network for cultural film, building on existing networks and engaging new local partners
- a register of UK films
- strategic investment in archives and access to archive material
- development of more coherent film education in schools and colleges
- a strategic engagement between industry, development bodies and higher education institutions

Available from: http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/DCMS_film_policy_review_report-2012_update.pdf and

http://www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/creative_industries/8150.aspx

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (February 2012) *Broadband Across the UK: Facts and Figures*, DCMS, London.

A selection of maps and tables showing broadband provision across the UK. Top of the list is Belfast with 97% with availability at 90% for Bristol and 88% for Plymouth.

Available from: <http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/8863.aspx>

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (December 2011) *Creative Industries Economic Estimates – December 2011*, DCMS, London.

see Section 1 entry

Available from: <http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/research/Creative-Industries-Economic-Estimates-Report-2011-update.pdf>

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (January 2012) *Report 3: Baseline and Counterfactual: Meta-Evaluation of the Impacts and Legacy of the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games*, DCMS, London.

This report provides an assessment of the baseline and counterfactual scenarios, i.e. what would have happened without the Games, for the four legacy themes.

Available from: [http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/2012 Meta Evaluation Report3.doc](http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/2012_Meta_Evaluation_Report3.doc)

Department for Culture, Media and Sport (December 2011) *Taking Part 2011/12 Quarter 2: Statistical Release*, DCMS, London.

Taking Part survey provides national and regional estimates of adult engagement in the arts, libraries, heritage, museums and galleries, and sports. Latest data released for October 2010 to September 2011 show:

- high levels of adult engagement in the arts (80.2%) in the South West compared to 77.3% average for England
- high level of adult visits to a heritage site (73.3%) in the South West compared to 72% average for England
- across England, adult visits to a museum or gallery between July and September 2011 were the highest on record – with the South West's annual rate increasing from 39.8% to 42.5% (2009/10 to 2010/11)
- a significant and steady decrease of adult visits to libraries and archives across England, including in the South West where adult visits to a library in the past 12 months fell to 39.2% and to an archive of 3.3%.

Available from: <http://www.dcms.gov.uk/publications/8734.aspx>

Office for National Statistics (December 2011) *Overseas Travel and Tourism – October 2011*, ONS, Newport.

National level statistics on visits to the UK by overseas residents and visits abroad by UK residents, their development over the previous 12 months and details on earnings and expenditure. Visits to the UK decreased by 2% and earnings from visits to the UK fell by 3%.

Available from: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_246844.pdf

Office for National Statistics (February 2012) *The Supply Side of Tourism Report 2009*, ONS, Newport.

This report examines gross output and GVA of the tourism industries as well as trends and characteristics of employment, including analysis of the size of firms in the tourism industries. Narrative and datasets are all at UK-level and are not disaggregated to regional or local level.

Available from: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/tourism/the-supply-side-of-tourism/2009/rpt-supplyside2009.html#tab-conclusions>

Cultural Governance and Public Bodies

Arts Council England (February 2012) *Arts Council England Opens Consultation on the Libraries of the Future*, ACE, London.

Arts Council England is consulting with library experts on envisioning the library services of the future. In mid-March, an online consultation will be opened to gain a deep understanding of the public value of libraries.

Available from: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/arts-council-news/arts-council-opens-consultation-libraries-future/>

Arts Council England (February 2012) *Britain's Most Family Friendly Museums Announced*, ACE, London.

The longlist for the Telegraph Family Friendly Museum Award, the biggest museum award in Britain, has been announced. The longlist includes the Brixham Heritage Museum in Devon and the Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon. The winner will be announced in May.

Available from: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/arts-council-news/britains-most-family-friendly-museums-announced/>

Arts Council England (January 2012) *Creative People and Places Fund Opens for Applications*, ACE, London.

A new £37 million fund will invest in around 15 programmes to encourage involvement in communities not currently engaging with the arts based on the Active People survey. None of the eligible locations are in the South West.

Available from: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/arts-council-news/creative-people-and-places-fund-opens-applications/>

English Heritage (December 2011) *Heritage and Growth*, English Heritage, London.

This paper states how heritage is important for the UK economy and tourism industry. Research has found a high correlation between places' popularity as a destination for a day out and their number of listed buildings. It is estimated that UK Heritage directly accounts for £4.3 billion of GDP and creates employment for 113,000 people.

Available from: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/publications/docs/heritage-and-growth.pdf>

Sport England (December 2011) *Active People Survey 5 – 02 Sport Participation, England Regions, Counties and Districts*, Sport England, London.

Latest data from the Active People Survey of adult participation in sport and variation between different places and groups (October 2010 to October 2011), show 722,400 adults in the South West participated in sport three times a week for 30 minutes at moderate intensity (3X30 target), which means no significant change from 2007/08. For other findings see Section 1 entry.

Available from: http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/idoc.ashx?docid=6dff52e3-73c3-4993-9762-a079e9f71410&version=1

and

http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/aps5.aspx

Sport England (December 2011) *Active People Survey 5 – 17 English Regions Key Results KPI 2 Volunteering*, Sport England, London.

This spreadsheet highlights the significant changes that have taken place between Active People Survey 2 and Active People Survey 4.

Available from: http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/idoc.ashx?docid=e2116b7b-50e6-47c9-955b-b95abd3606e1&version=3

Sport England (December 2011) *Active People Survey 5 – 20 Local Authorities KPI 2*, Sport England, London.

This spreadsheet highlights significant changes that have taken place between Active People Survey 2 and the latest rolling twelve month period.

Available from: http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/idoc.ashx?docid=97155fdd-7196-430a-8066-361f193996f6&version=3

VisitBritain (December 2011) *FORESIGHT. Tourism Attributes – Perceptions of Britain as a Holiday Destination*, VisitBritain, London.

A report on attributes associated with Britain as a holiday destination according to data collected as part of the GfK Anholt 2011 Nations Brand Index survey. Also includes comparisons to key competitor destinations. Main perceptions of Britain are:

- it has a rich and interesting history (59%)
- 43% of respondents said Britain inspired them to visit
- only 27% believed Britain offered good value for money.

Available from: http://www.visitbritain.org/Images/Foresight%20Issue%2098_tcm29-29535.pdf

Academia and Independent Research

Arts and Humanities Research Council (February 2012) *New €18 Million Research Funding Opportunity*, AHRC, Swindon.

Organised by HERA, a new €18m research funding opportunity is available for large trans-national collaborative research projects to increase understanding of cultural encounters. Proposals must be humanities led, comprise three or more partners and be submitted by 4 May 2012.

Available from: <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/FundingOpportunities/Pages/HERACulturalEncounters.aspx>

Audiences London (January 2012) *Advice for Audience Research at Festivals and Outdoor Events*, Audiences London, London.

These guidelines provide advice on measuring and evidencing the impact of outdoor events.

Available from: <http://www.audienceslondon.org/1891/our-resources/advice-for-audience-research-at-festivals-and-outdoor-events.html>

IFACCA (February 2012) *Discover a World of Information in the IFACCA Directory*, IFACCA, Sydney.

The International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies has opened a comprehensive international listing of arts policy information including contacts for arts councils and ministries of culture.

Available from: <http://www.ifacca.org/announcements/2012/02/16/discover-world-information-ifacca-directory/>

Other

Audiences UK (February 2012) *Key Sources of Cultural and Sporting Data*, Audiences UK, Leeds.

This updated document gives key sources of cultural and sporting data and explains what they are used to measure and what other uses they might have,

Available from: <http://www.audiencesuk.org/data-and-resources/download/key-english-data-sources>

Ipsos Mori (February 2012) *Latest Official Radio Listening Figures Released*, Ipsos Mori, London.

Data shows an increase in audience and listening hours for BBC 6 Music whilst BBC Radio 1 retained a near 12 million reach of the previous quarter but dropped 10.5m hours. Digital listening continues its steady increase accounting for over 29% of total hours.

Available from: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/newsevents/blogs/mediactlightbites/1005/Latest-official-radio-listening-figures-released.aspx>

NESTA (January 2012) *12 Predictions for 2012*, NESTA, London.

A collection of 12 predictions for 2012 spanning the hi-tech, retail and entertainment industries as well as trends in business practice and public bodies.

Available from: http://www.nesta.org.uk/news_and_features/12for2012

3. Forthcoming and Recent Events

NOTE: recent events that have already taken place are listed because presentation slides, audio visual footage, and papers can often be downloaded after an event takes place, and are useful sources of information. The list includes a range of local, regional, national and international events, in descending date order.

SOUTH WEST

ICCI360 Arena: Cultural Olympiad Programme 2012

27 July 2012 (6 weeks), Weymouth & Portland

The 'Maritime Mix' programme will celebrate the 2012 Cultural Olympiad by the Sea with outdoor theatre and open-air mass choir performances, visual arts, multi-media arts festivals, panoramic video projections, participative music and dance.

More information: <http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/pages/view.asp?page=35904>

Olympic Torch Relay

19 May 2012, Lands End, Cornwall

The relay route starts in Cornwall and travels up through the South West on its way around the UK.

More information: <http://www.london2012.com/games/olympic-torch-relay/where-is-the-olympic-flame-going/locations-by-region-and-date.php>

X Media Lab Conference

16-18 March 2012, Assembly Rooms, Bath

Digital media think-tank gathering of digital media visionaries from around the world for keynote presentations on changes and developments in the media, entertainment and technology industries.

More information: <http://www.xmedialab.com/events/2012/xml-bath-2012-digital-entertainment/>

Localism and Heritage: Working together to explore what localism means for heritage

7 March 2012, The Council House, Bristol

A free joint conference with English Heritage aimed at groups, professionals and individuals involved in planning and managing change in the historic environment in the South West.

More information: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/news/bristol-conference-on-localism-heritage-and-place-making/>

LGiU Spring Conference – The Localism Act: Over to You

8 February 2012, The Council House, Bristol

A major one-day policy conference for the South West and the West Midlands bringing together Local Government Minister Andrew Stunell and Cities Advisor Lord Shipley with a range of local councillors and officers as well as senior officials from the Department for Communities and Local Government.

More information:

<http://www.swo.org.uk/events/?EventId48=46799&sDate=6346425600000000000&fDate=315537897599999999>

West of England Local Enterprise Partnership: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

7-8 February 2012, Bristol and Bath Science Park, Bristol

This event covered the background to the national Local Enterprise Partnership programme and the establishment of the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership as well as related achievements, challenges and opportunities.

More information:

<http://www.swo.org.uk/events/?EventId48=46647&sDate=6346416960000000000&fDate=63464342399000000>

NATIONAL

International Culture Summit

13-14 August 2012, Edinburgh

Ministers of Culture from nations attending the 2012 Olympic Games will gather in Edinburgh to debate the power and profile of culture in forging and fostering international relationships during the world-renowned Edinburgh Festivals.

More information: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/12/16150010>

International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport 2012

19-24 July 2012, SECC, Glasgow

This event is the 2012 Olympic Games' associated scientific convention, taking place just before the Opening Ceremonies. It will bring together sport and exercise scientists with experts and policymakers from all disciplines and include an extensive public engagement and publication programmes.

More information: <http://www.icsemis2012.com/>

AMA Conference 2012

10-12 July 2012, Brighton Dome, Brighton

The Arts Marketing Association's conference will explore whether there is a disconnect between arts organisations and the every day lives of their audiences and visitors and explore the latest thinking on arts marketing, audience development, media and public engagement.

More information: <http://www.a-m-a.co.uk/conference2012/>

Conference INTOUR 2012: The Influence of Tourism on Global Activity: Central or Peripheral?

27-29 June 2012, Putteridge Bury, Luton

A forum for knowledge exchange and debate on the role of tourism in global society, attempting to evaluate its centrality as an agent of social change.

More information: <http://www.beds.ac.uk/intour2012>

Engagement in the Arts Conference

26 June 2012, Wakefield

A conference on civic engagement and participation in the arts encompassing policy, theory and practice.

More information:

http://onlinestore.leedsmet.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&prodid=102&deptid=4&catid=2

Implementing the Youth Contract: New Initiatives to Build Youth Employment

29 March 2012, Westminster, London

Information and discussion regarding the implementation of the Youth Contract, a £1bn package to create at least 410,000 work places for 16-24 year olds over the next three years, including 160,000 six month job opportunities by providing financial incentives to employers.

More information: [http://www.westminster-briefing.com/conferences/event-](http://www.westminster-briefing.com/conferences/event-detail1700/newsarticle/implementing-the-youth-contract-new-initiatives-to-build-youth-employment/)

[detail1700/newsarticle/implementing-the-youth-contract-new-initiatives-to-build-youth-employment/](http://www.westminster-briefing.com/conferences/event-detail1700/newsarticle/implementing-the-youth-contract-new-initiatives-to-build-youth-employment/)

The Future of TV Convergence

28 March 2012, BAFTA, London

Event highlighting the opportunities and challenges in the connected TV world bringing together developers and content owners to discuss the direction of TV innovation.

More information: <https://connect.innovateuk.org/web/the-future-of-tv-convergence/overview>

The State of Play: Next Steps for the UK Video Games Industry

22 March 2012, London

This seminar will look at the future for the games industry in the UK, with sessions included on the challenging economics of game development, the role of government in supporting the sector as well as emerging options for the industry to exploit new revenue streams.

More information: <https://connect.innovateuk.org/web/5966843>

Using Arts Audiences: Insight to grow your audiences

15 March 2012, Rich Mix, London

This free workshop-style event will introduce Arts Council England's 'Arts Audiences: Insights' segmentation as a valuable resource to reach and understand current and potential arts attenders.

More information: <http://www.audienceslondon.org/3530/symposia/using-arts-audiences-insight-to-grow-your-audiences.html>

Digital London

13-14 March 2012, ExCel, London

This summit and showcase will bring together industry innovators, entrepreneurs, solution providers, business leaders, executives and investors for two days to discuss digital innovations and enabling technologies, explore opportunities in the digital ecosystem and inspire digitally connected smart cities.

More information: <http://www.digitallon.com/>

Nations & Regions Media Conference 2012

12-13 March 2012, MediaCityUK, Salford

In its 19th year, this conference explores policy, production, opportunity and creative practice in the media industries outside London.

More information: <http://www.salford.tv/conference.html>

Audiences London Connecting with Local Communities

28 February 2012, London

This practical half day seminar aimed to introduce participants to the principles of community engagement.

More information: <http://www.audienceslondon.org/3119/community-engagement/connecting-with-local-communities.html>.

State of the Arts 2012: Artists Shaping the World

14 February 2012, The Lowry, Salford

National conference for the arts and culture sector with a focus on the artist's role in contributing to a changing society.

More information: <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/jobs-and-conferences/conferences/arts-council-events/state-arts-2012/>

Audiences London De-mystifying research – five ways to get to know your audience better

9 February 2012, London

This was a half day seminar which aimed to look at practical advice about how organisations can understand their audiences better through effective audience research.

More information: <http://www.audienceslondon.org/3117/understanding-audiences/demystifying-research-five-ways-to-get-to-know-your-audiences-better.html>.

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL

6th IFACCA World Summit on Arts and Culture

13-16 January 2014, Santiago, Chile

The World Summit on Arts and Culture provides national arts councils, ministries of culture and other agencies with an opportunity to discuss key issues affecting public support for the arts and creativity.

More information: http://www.ifacca.org/ifacca_events/sixth-world-summit/

17th International Conference of Association for Cultural Economics Innovation (ACEI)

21-24 June 2012, Kyoto, Japan

The conference will have theme-related special sessions and other regular ones. Subjects include, but are not restricted to: Art Markets and Cultural Consumption; Creative Clusters and Urban Development; Cultural Entrepreneurship and Business; Cultural Heritage and Cultural Tourism; Cultural Policy and Arts Institutions; Culture, Globalization and Language; Economic of Copyright and the Cultural Industries; Economics of Marketing and Promoting Culture; Entertainment and Media Industries; and Internet Economics and Culture.

More information: <http://www.culturaleconomics.org/conference/index.html>.

Call for Papers deadline 15 January 2012: http://www.culturaleconomics.org/pdfs/ACEI_2012_CALL.pdf.

7th International Forum on Knowledge Asset Dynamics / 5th Knowledge Cities World Summit - Joint Conference

13-15 June 2012, Matera, Italy

This joint conference aims to integrate micro and macro perspectives on three critical dimensions of the development of knowledge-based organisations, namely knowledge, innovation and sustainability, at the firm, organisation and city level.

More information: <http://www.knowledgeasset.org/IFKAD/>

2nd Advances in Hospitality and Tourism Marketing & Management Conference

31 May – 3 June 2012, Corfu, Greece

Based on the assumption that success in tourism, travel and hospitality is strongly linked with the exploitation of recent marketing and management advances, this international conference explores how stakeholders in the public and private sector could exploit, manage and research those advances.
More information: <http://www.ahtmmc2012.gr/>

International Society for Markets and Development/ ISMD 12th Biennial Conference

21-25 May 2012, Casablanca, Morocco

Themed around 'development and the era of markets', Track 10 is themed 'Arts and Development' with a call for papers currently in progress.

More Information: http://www.ismd.org/2012_conference.html

Regional Studies Association European Conference 2012

13-16 May 2012, Delft, Netherlands

This conference explores the topic 'Networked regions and cities in times of fragmentation: developing smart, sustainable and inclusive places'.

More information: <http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/events/2012/May-Delft/>

Thailand International Creative Industries Forum 2012

26-28 March 2012, Bangkok, Thailand

Under the theme 'Capturing Value through a Global Network', this conference will cover a variety of issues emphasizing creativity and innovation at both a local and global level.

More information: <http://culture360.org/event/thailand-international-creative-industries-forum-2012/>

The Arts Diplomacy Festival 2012

22-25 March 2012, Berlin, Germany

The festival will explore how the arts can be used to change theory into practice and express, create and improve social awareness and diplomatic relations, comprising lectures, seminars, debates and panel discussions and featuring leading international speakers.

More information: <http://culture360.org/event/berlin-the-arts-diplomacy-festival-international-conference/>

Association of American Geographers/ AAG 2012, Opening the Black Box of Creative Policies

24-28 February 2012, New York, USA

This session at AAG's Annual Meeting aimed to open the black box of creative policies by asking questions: how, by whom and for whom creative policies and tools are discussed, designed, assembled and applied; which forms they take; what effects they produce; and how they are contested in the urban arena.

More information about proposed session: <http://old.nabble.com/2nd-CFP-AAG-2012,-Opening-the-Black-Box-of-Creative-Policies-td32237104.html>.

More information about AAG's Annual Meeting: <http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>.