



# Community chance

Meet the three collectives funded by the City of London Corporation to participate in this year's Show

## Heba Women's Project

Anne Wilding, Manager

"Heba is a women's training centre, well known and loved in the community as a hub where isolated and disadvantaged women can come to learn skills, meet new people and increase self-esteem. Heba supports women into training and employment and helps integration into UK society.

Our float is about women's role in holding society together. The centrepiece is a bobbin with three embroidered panels representing the tools of women: strength, respect and balance. The Strength panel is grey, to represent steel, and tells of the World Wars when we women took on new jobs and adopted a 'make do and mend' attitude. The Respect panel is purple and green – Heba's colours – in memory of the suffragettes whose struggle still continues in the home countries of many Heba women. The Balance panel is red, representing the urgency in women's lives now. The panel shows women balancing the many activities and roles of every day."



## Vision Housing

Adrian Gains, Chairman

"Thousands of people are released from prison each year with no home, no job, no money and no hope. Vision Housing was set up to deal with this problem and we provide housing and ongoing support to homeless people across London, working with some of the poorest communities in the city. We've now supported more than 550 people, many of whom have moved away from a life of crime and have turned their lives around. The Lord Mayor's Show is a great opportunity to highlight and celebrate their achievements and the idea behind our float is very simple: there are hundreds of thousands of derelict properties in London. We are training up homeless people to refurbish them and turn them into homes again. Our float has been designed and built by ex-offenders. Look out for us. See what we can do if we are given a second chance."

## Say it Loud

Dr Gyles Morrison, CEO

"Since 2009, Say it Loud CIC (Community Interest Company) has been inspiring creativity in the younger generation as a means to combat youth crime. We have worked with hundreds of children and young people, providing free music workshops in schools, youth clubs, community centres and parks around London. Sessions primarily involve the hugely versatile African jembe drum, fusing it with classical violin playing to turn music on its head. Expect to hear unique, original music with the help of young people from The BRIT School, Toynbee Hall and Raine's Foundation School on our float."

