

Uppskera

Arts, disability, culture

The Cultural Festival of Disability Studies and Artists with Disabilities is taking place in Reykjavík from 8 February to 8 March 2025. The festival is held to celebrate 20 years of disability studies at UI. The programme includes symposiums, exhibitions, workshops and conversations across the city, focused on the art of people with disabilities. Events will have sign language interpreters and be held in accessible venues.

The festival is free and open to everyone.

Universal accessibility

The festival programme has been written using plain language and events are held in accessible venues.

All events will have sign language interpreters and the events in Harpa will have sign language interpreters, transcription services and audio descriptions in both Icelandic and English.

Plain language

Plain language is helpful for people who find it difficult to read texts. For example, people with developmental disabilities or dyslexia or people who

are learning Icelandic. Plain texts are written using clear, simple language. Pictures are often used to support understanding.

Sign language interpreting

Sign language interpreting is the interpreting of real time communication between two or more people where at least one is a sign language user.

All Uppskera events will have sign language interpreters.

Transcription

Transcription is helpful for everyone who is hearing impaired or deaf as well as people who are learning Icelandic. A transcriber sits next to the service user and writes down everything that is said. The service user can read the information in real time and is able to follow what is being said.

Transcription services in Icelandic will be available at Uppskera events in Harpa.

Audio description

Audio description is used to express visual information in words, describing what is happening for people who are unable to see with their own eyes.

Audio description services will be available in Icelandic and English at Uppskera events in Harpa.

Programme

Key events

20 years of disability studies - A symposium with an artistic twist

What? A symposium about disability studies and disability culture.

The symposium will also explore how people with disabilities take part in society.

The symposium will include discussions and lectures.

The symposium will also include artistic events.

Where? University of Iceland Ceremonial Hall, Main Building,
Sæmundargata 2, 102 Reykjavík.

When? 21 February between 1 pm and 3 pm.

Language: Icelandic, Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

Many bus routes stop on Suðurgata and Hringbraut.

Cultural festival in Harpa

Opening ceremony

What? Art exhibition and performance.

The exhibition is called Bjartast á annesjum.

The theatre company Fjölleikahúsið will give a performance.

Where? Norðurljós recital hall, 1st floor of Harpa, Austurbakki 2, 101 Reykjavík.

When? 22 February between 6:30 pm and 8 pm.

Performing arts festival

What? Theatre performances.

Several theatre companies will perform extracts from their plays.

Madame Tourette will host the evening.

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Several theatre companies will perform extracts from their plays.

Madame Tourette will host the evening.

You can read more about the plays by clicking on the names below.

Where? Norðurljós recital hall in Harpa, Austurbakki 2, 101

When? 22 February between 8 pm and 10 pm

Extracts from the following plays will be performed:

Fúsi, aldur og fyrri störf

A play about the life of Fúsi.

Fúsi tells his story with the help of Agnar Jón Egilsson.

Agnar is Fúsi's cousin.

The play has won multiple awards.

Taktu flugið, beibi

A play about life with disability.

Kolbrún Dögg Kristjánsdóttir tells her story.

Eden

Eden is a play based on Genesis.

Genesis is the story of Adam and Eve in paradise.

In the play, Embla and Nína are in paradise.

They ask:

What would paradise be like for queer and disabled people?

Dúettar

A dance performance about pairs.

2 pairs will talk about their dances.

They will also perform the dances.

Svartir fuglar

A dance performance based on poetry.

Elísabet Jökulsdóttir wrote the poems.

Lára Þorsteinsdóttir is the dancer.

Lára says:

Svartir fuglar is a performance about how people with disabilities can dance.

Hjálpum þeim

Music video

About how people with disabilities make our society better.

Er bara svona!

Performance.

Hjördís and Nóel will perform this piece.

Languages

- Icelandic
- Sign language interpreting
- Transcription in English
- Audio descriptions in Icelandic and English

Bus routes

Many bus routes stop at Lækjartorg.

Other events

Stories

What? Art exhibition.

The artists will introduce their work.

The event will also be accessible in sign language.

Where? Menningamiðstöðin Gerðuberg 3-5, 111 Reykjavík

When? Opens 8 February at 2 pm. The exhibition will be in place until 8 March.

Languages

Icelandic and sign language interpreting

Bus routes

3, 4, 12 and 17 (bus stop: FB)

Performance Evening by R.E.C. Arts

Reykjavík

What? Artists perform all kinds of pieces on stage.

All artists belong to minority groups.

This means that some of the artists are disabled.

Where? National Theatre of Iceland Cellar Club, Hverfisgata 19, 101 Reykjavík

When? 8 February at 9 pm.

Languages

English and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

2, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 103 (bus stop: Þjóðleikhúsið)

Salt & Pepper

What? The film Salt & Pepper will be shown.

After the screening, there will be a discussion about the film.

Where? Bíó Paradís, Hverfisgata 54, 101 Reykjavík

When? 9 February between 7 pm and 8:30 pm

Languages

Icelandic sign language with Icelandic subtitles

Bus routes

Many bus routes stop on Hverfisgata.

Gleðin að vera og gera

What? An exhibition about Virknimiðstöð Reykjavíkur, a centre providing resources for people with disabilities.

The exhibition will include pictures from Virknimiðstöð Reykjavíkur.

The exhibition will also include art by people with disabilities.

Where? Spöngin City Library, Spöngin 41, 112 Reykjavík

When? Opens 12 February between 1 pm and 3 pm. The exhibition will be in place until 1 March.

Languages

Icelandic and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

6, 15, 18 and 24

RVK Poetics #17

What? Poetry evening.

Marginalised poets perform their poems.

Marginalised means people who are left out in our society.

For example due to:

- Disability
- Gender

Where? Mannréttindahúsið, Sigtún 41, 105 Reykjavík

When? 13 February at 07:30 pm

Languages

- Icelandic
- English
- Transcription services
- Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

Many bus routes stop at Suðurlandsbraut.

Lecture about plain language

What? Lecture and discussion

The lecture will explore the issue of plain language.

Plain language makes culture and information more accessible for everyone.

Where? Spöngin City Library, Spöngin 41, Grafarvogur

When? 17 February between 04:30 pm and 5:30 pm

Languages

Icelandic and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

Bus routes: 6, 15, 18 and 24

Audio tour of Reykjavík Maritime Museum

What? A guided tour around an exhibition in the Reykjavík Maritime Museum.

The exhibition will be described.

This is so that people with visual impairments can experience the exhibition.

Where? Reykjavík Maritime Museum, Grandagarður 8, 101 Reykjavík

When? 20 February between 01:30 pm and 3:30 pm

Languages

Icelandic

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Bus routes

3 and 14 (bus stop: Grandagarður)

Sign language tour of Reykjavík Maritime Museum

What? A guided tour around an exhibition in the Reykjavík Maritime Museum.

The tour will be in Icelandic sign language.

Where? Reykjavík Maritime Museum, Grandagarður 8, 101 Reykjavík
When? 23 February between 2 pm and 3 pm

Languages

Icelandic and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

Bus routes: 3 and 14 (bus stop: Grandagarður)

Books and Mad studies

What? A symposium about Mad studies.

„Mad studies“ is an emerging field of study, focusing on lived experience, history and politics of people who identify as „Mad“, psychiatric survivors, users of the mental health services and more.

The symposium introduces Icelandic researchers and authors who will present their work.

Where? Nordic House, Sæmundargata 11, 102 Reykjavík
When? 1 March between 03:30 pm and 5 pm

Languages

Icelandic and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

15 (bus stop: Íslensk erfðagreining) OR 1, 3 and 6 (bus stop: University of Iceland)

ARTIVISM

What? A workshop and discussion about art and rights campaigning.

Participants create works of art.

Materials will be available.

Where? Nordic House, Sæmundargata 11, 102 Reykjavík

When? 1 March between 1 pm and 3 pm.

Languages

Icelandic, English and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

15 (bus stop: Íslensk erfðagreining) OR 1, 3 and 6 (bus stop: University of Iceland)

Symposium about accessibility and representation of disability in films and TV

What? A symposium about how people with disabilities are represented in films and TV.

The symposium will also explore the accessibility of films and TV for people with disabilities.

Where? Nordic House, Sæmundargata 11, 102 Reykjavík
When? 8 March between 1 pm and 3 pm.

Languages

Icelandic and Icelandic sign language

Bus routes

15 (bus stop: Íslensk erfðagreining) OR 1, 3 and 6 (bus stop: University of Iceland)

Accessibility

University of Iceland Main Building

- Wheelchair ramp
- Disabled parking spaces
- Lift
- Accessible toilet on the first floor

Spöngin City Library

- Disabled parking spaces
- Wheelchair ramp

- Automatic sliding door
- No doorway thresholds
- Accessible toilet on the first floor
- Gender neutral toilets
- Guide dogs welcome

Gerðuberg

- Disabled parking spaces
- Sliding doors at both entrances
- No doorway thresholds in the building
- Lift
- Accessible toilets
- Gender neutral toilets
- Good acoustics and quiet environment
- Guide dogs welcome

Harpa

- Good accessibility for wheelchair users
- Disabled parking spaces
- Lifts
- Accessible toilets on all floors

Mannréttindahúsið

- Raised parking spaces for people with mobility impairments by the pavement outside the building
- No doorway thresholds
- Tactile guide paths and blocks for blind and visually impaired people

- Navilens navigation system
- Lift
- Accessible toilets

Nordic House

- Wheelchair ramp
- Lift
- Accessible toilets on the main floor
- Gender neutral toilets
- Sensory room for resting

Reykjavík Maritime Museum

- Parking spaces for people with mobility impairments
- Lift
- Accessible toilets
- Assistance dogs welcome

The National Museum

- Sliding door at main entrance
- Disabled parking spaces
- Wheelchair ramp
- Lifts
- Accessible toilets on 1st and 2nd floors

National Theatre of Iceland Cellar Club

- Two disabled parking spaces
Drive in from Hverfisgata to access the spaces
- Wheelchair ramp
- Lift
- Accessible toilet

Partners

Uppskera is held in collaboration with the University of Iceland and Harpa.

Uppskera is sponsored by:

- The Ministry of Culture, Innovation and Higher Education
- The Ministry of Labour
- ÖBÍ Rights Association
- City of Reykjavík
- Icelandic Organisation of the Visually Impaired
- Association for Disability Research
- Landsbanki

The festival was organised by: the Department of Disability Studies at the University of Iceland, the Centre for Disability Studies, the Association for Disability Research, ÖBÍ Rights Association, Throskahjalp, Átak - félag fólks með þroskahömlun, the Icelandic Organisation of the Visually Impaired, the Icelandic Down's Syndrome Association, the Icelandic Autistic Society, the Icelandic

Association of the Deaf, Geðhjálp, Hlutverkasetur, Art Without Borders, Listvinnzlan, Hugarafn, R.E.C. Arts, Sjálfsbjörg the National Confederation of Physically Disabled People, Tabú Feminist Disability Movement, Reykjavík City Library, Reykjavík City Museum, Bíó Paradís and the Nordic House.

Follow us

Uppskera is on Facebook and Instagram

This event is organised as part of the cultural festival Uppskera, taking place in Reykjavík from 8 February to 8 March 2025. The festival is held to celebrate 20 years of disability studies at UI at the University of Iceland. The festival is designed to raise awareness of how academics, disability organisations and disabled artists contribute to Icelandic culture.

There are two key events: a symposium at the University of Iceland on 21 February and a cultural festival in Harpa on 22 February. There will also be other events across the city providing all kinds of opportunities to enjoy art created by disabled people, including art exhibitions, a film screening, a literature evening, a performance evening, a poetry evening, workshops and museum events.

The programme will be accessible in plain language and all events will have sign language interpreters. Events in Harpa will also offer transcription services in English and audio descriptions in Icelandic and English. The festival is free and open to everyone.

Welcome to Uppskera!

hi.is/uppskera