

Claire Malcolm

Doctor of Letters

Durham Cathedral, 5 January 2023

Claire Malcolm is the founding CEO of New Writing North, the development agency

The first in her family to attend University, Claire has long championed equality of access to, and diversity within, the Arts. In 2018, New Writing North commissioned the landmark report *Common People: Breaking the Class Ceiling in UK Publishing*. Claire has advocated in the national and the trade press as well as in Parliament and to local government for better access to opportunities in the cultural industry for people from working-class, BAME and Northern communities; she is also a passionate advocate for the role that literature and reading can play in addressing the climate crisis. Claire is a trustee of Booktrust, Bookworks, the Tyne and Wear Community Foundation and the Northeast Cultural Partnership. She was awarded the CBE in 2018.