



ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

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CABINET SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE HUMZA YOUSAF MSP

I've seen first hand the positive contribution arts and creativity can make to our local communities. Earlier this year, I was delighted to be invited to Impact Arts' Craft Café programme in Govan – a service providing up to 100 older people in my constituency with free arts and crafts workshops with expert, high-quality tuition. Many of those I spoke with had never been involved in art earlier in life, but looking at their paintings, drawings and tapestry, you would think they were professionals. More than that, they told me Craft Café offers them a life-line; that without the programme, they would be sitting at home doing nothing, and more often than not, alone. Of course, social isolation and loneliness can affect anyone, at anytime, no matter what stage of life. That's why our Government are developing a new national strategy – one of the first in the world – to tackle loneliness and isolation and I look forward to hearing of Craft Café's continued success.

As Scotland's new Cabinet Secretary for Justice, I am pleased to see that Impact Arts are also making a valuable contribution to our criminal justice agenda. Whether it's through their schools-based programmes, tackling anti-sectarianism and teaching children to positively embrace diversity, their CashBack to the Future programme that diverts young people from anti-social behaviour, or their COCO Music Project inside HMYOI Polmont, Impact Arts are using the arts as a powerful tool for change and having a lasting influence on those individuals in or at risk of offending.

It is therefore my pleasure to introduce to you, Impact Arts' 17/18 Annual Report. My sincere thanks to the Board, staff team, volunteers, partners and funders who continue to change lives through creativity and the arts.



OUR MISSION

At Impact Arts, our mission is to help people and communities transform their lives through creativity and the arts. Through using creativity in a socially-conscious way, we aim to be recognised as Scotland's leading community arts charity.

Established in 1994, Impact Arts is a forward-thinking community arts organisation which uses the arts and creativity to enable and empower social change. We consider the arts as a positive tool for change, helping people to:

- **Build confidence and attain new skills;**
- **Get back into work or education;**
- **Source work in the creative arts; and**
- **Enjoy better health or simply improve quality of life**

We work collaboratively with children, young people, older people and communities to achieve our aims. We work predominantly, but not exclusively, with vulnerable groups. Impact Arts places innovation, enterprise and creativity alongside outstanding delivery, sound management and a strong ethos of partnership to tackle society's big issues.

Our talented in-house and freelance artists in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Ayrshire and beyond ensure that our artistic programmes, exhibitions, performances and events are of the highest quality. We exist to inspire creativity in people and regenerate our communities through a deep, rewarding relationship with the arts.
#artchangeslives





“We value the people and communities we work with above all and will continue to embrace them as partners and as the experts in their own lives.”

OUR CHAIR THERESA SHEARER

It is a privilege to present my first Annual Report as Chair of Impact Arts. This report puts forward the outstanding results – both artistic and social – of an ambitious charity in the process of change, and the results of an enormous amount of work by Impact Arts staff, volunteers, participants and Board. Within these pages, you will find inspiring examples of how arts and creativity are being harnessed to tackle society’s big issues and help support individuals and communities on their journey towards a positive futures. We value highly the artistic quality which permeates our work, and it’s always a pleasure to have these collated in one document.

In my four years as a Trustee for Impact Arts it has been an illuminating and rewarding experience to be given a better understanding of how tirelessly the charity works to change lives through arts and creativity every single day. It has been a year in which we have seen significant changes in our staff team and Board. On my part, I would like to offer huge thanks to outgoing chair Tony McElroy whose many achievements include overseeing a re-invigorated and passionate Board boasting a wealth of talent, experience and expertise.

The strong financial position of the charity we present should be fully commended and is testament to phenomenal efforts from a dedicated and skilled team. Our Development

staff have worked incredibly hard to identify and secure vital new funding streams, while our Delivery team’s creative expertise continues to ensure Impact Arts’ reputation stands up as an organisation that successfully marries social impact and artistic invention.

It is important, however, to remain realistic and vigilant. Impact Arts shares the challenges most in Scotland’s charitable sector are facing - as well as some unique to us as a community arts organisation. We must identify and tackle these challenges head on in order to remain in a position for further growth and development.

We operate in an environment in which arts funding continues to be at threat - and the realm of community arts is particularly vulnerable, often being seen as the “poor relation” of the arts world. Our team must continue to produce work that challenges these stereotypes, and ensures that a balance of social impact and artistic quality exists as the hallmark of the charity’s work.

Another significant challenge is how we navigate the conclusion of a decade-long core funding relationship coming to an end. Inevitably the pursuit of a greater number of short-term funding solutions to fill this gap puts pressure on our fundraising team. However, we must remain a flexible organisation that is able to react quickly and appropriately to new opportunities. The

continual reinforcement of the extraordinary level of professional skill within the organisation will help us achieve this.

At times of significant change, we must remain mindful of our reputation, our core values and the standards we set ourselves. We take our work as a charity, and the position of trust that places us in, extremely seriously, and it is important that Impact Arts, like all charities, is working to ensure our safeguarding is at the highest possible standard.

We value the people and communities we work with above all and will continue to embrace them as partners and as the experts in their own lives. I hope you enjoy reading these examples of how arts and creativity is a driving force of change for communities and find it an inspiring model of we can face the challenges of the future.



“We will continue to focus on quality creative engagement while offering creative solutions to tackle society’s most pressing issues.”

OUR DIRECTOR **FIONA DORING**

I am delighted to present Impact Arts’ 2017/18 Annual Report, showcasing the demonstrable difference our work is having on the lives of the 5000 people we engage each year.

Over the last 3 years leading Impact Arts, I have been committed to strengthening the base of the organisation, ensuring we have a solid foundation to see us grow our social impact and reach into the future. On that basis, I am pleased to report a further positive year end result and a turnover which has continued to increase, despite the ongoing challenging external climate.

The last two years have seen significant change amongst both the Leadership Team and the Board of Impact Arts and with this refreshed team driving the organisation we have ended 2017/18 with an extremely positive financial position for the year ahead. Our fundraising efforts are performing well against a challenging economic backdrop, and we have developed diverse funding relationships and sources of income to support our work, successfully securing a number of large scale, multi year delivery contracts.

Impact Arts launched 2020: Our Strategic Plan in July 2016 and set out bold ambitions for sustainable growth coupled with strengthening the base of the organisation. Two years into delivery of this Strategy, we are on track to achieve the stretch targets set out in the plan. We are ambitious for the future though and looking to 2021, will focus on the challenge

of keeping our existing successful services sustainable while responding to changing social needs and opportunities. All of our work is delivered in partnership with a diverse, supportive and innovative range of partners who bring local knowledge, referrals and added wrap around support to our projects. I would like to thank those partners who have supported our delivery throughout 2017/18 and who share our commitment to creative engagement positively transforming lives.

Impact Arts has a clear mission: to help people and communities to transform their lives through creativity and the arts. Equalities and inclusion are key drivers for all of our work and now, in 2018, the demand for our programmes has never been greater. We will continue to deliver across our key thematic areas of delivery children, young people, older people and communities, tackling issues as diverse as social isolation and loneliness, youth employability, mental health, homelessness, environmental issues, regeneration and criminal justice. Currently delivering in 9 local authority areas, we will aim to enhance delivery in more marginal areas and explore potential in new areas.

Mirroring our commitment to achieving a parity of esteem between quality creative engagement and social impact where we place artist training at the heart of achieving this balance, I am delighted that Impact Arts successfully secured a large Creative Industries employability contract with Invest in Renfrewshire in early 2018 to

deliver a Creative Mentoring Programme and Advanced Digital Creative Pathways programme for 20 young people in Renfrewshire. Bringing 20 employees, all paid a Living Wage, onto the Impact Arts staff team, we will be offering an exciting opportunity to upskill a range of arts graduates and unemployed 16-19 year olds in how to achieve a meaningful social impact through quality creative engagement, broadening our reach and supporting Paisley’s ambitions to be a cultural hub for Scotland.

Our people continue to be top priority and reflecting this we have continued to invest in training and learning opportunities for all employees. We take our responsibilities as an employer of up to 100 freelance artists each year very seriously and in 2017/18 we offered contributory pensions to all as well as increasing our commitment to building training and reflection time into all contracts.

Moving into 2018/19, we will continue to have a strong focus on quality creative engagement and while we will continue to offer creative solutions to tackle a range of society’s most pressing issues, we will strive for a balance that ensures those offers are robust, impactful and enduring.

4,764

PEOPLE ENGAGED
IN OUR PROJECTS

97%

OF CRAFT CAFE MEMBERS
FELT MORE SOCIALLY
CONNECTED

67

PROJECTS DELIVERED

36

EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS

83%

OF PARTICIPANTS FELT
AN INCREASE IN
CREATIVE/ARTS SKILLS

78%

OF PARTICIPANTS
REPORTED AN INCREASE
IN THEIR CONFIDENCE

100%

OF ART THERAPY
PARTICIPANTS FELT AN
INCREASE IN CONFIDENCE
& COMMUNICATION SKILLS

90%

OF SCHOOL-AGED
PARTICIPANTS
RE-ENGAGED AT SCHOOL

2017/18 IN FIGURES

87%

OF CRAFT CAFE
MEMBERS REPORT HAVING
MORE STABILITY

12,000

SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

114

ARTISTS & CREATIVES
EMPLOYED

85%

OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON
CREATIVE PATHWAYS
PROGRAMME RECEIVED
SQA ACCREDITATION

12

LOCAL AUTHORITIES
WORKED IN

524

POSITIVE DESTINATIONS
ACHIEVED FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE



OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

Creative experiences are absolutely vital to a child's development. This is at the foundation of our Young Gallery programme, which has now been running for over a decade. While originally a gallery venue in Glasgow's East End dedicated to showcasing children's talent, creativity and imagination at curated exhibitions, The Young Gallery now refers to a model for Impact Arts tutors to engage with local primary schools and nurseries; a method for giving children access to high quality artistry and materials in the classroom setting.

This year, the Young Gallery programme continued to find new ways of using the arts to explore complex cultural and societal issues. In summer 2017, for instance, we worked with three primary schools in the East End of Glasgow as part of our Festival in the Park project. A partnership with Sense Over Sectarianism, our artists worked with the children to create artwork inspired by looking at the culture and customs from around the world. This was then showcased in a high-profile community festival in Alexandra Park, which brought all the children together with the intention of promotion tolerance and diversity while celebrating the children's artistic achievements.

We also piloted creative play programmes in Glasgow and East Renfrewshire. This will be a growing area of priority in our children's work, as we explore how our creative team's expertise can further diversify the service we offer to children.

"It has given them a boost in confidence to work with specialists and have their artwork praised - particularly for children in the class who struggle to take part in art activities due to lack of confidence or fear of making a mistake."

CLASS TEACHER, BARMULLOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL



419

CHILDREN ENGAGED IN
OUR YOUNG GALLERY
PROGRAMME

86%

SAID THEIR
CONFIDENCE IMPROVED

87%

SAID THEIR
CREATIVE/ART SKILLS
IMPROVED

82%

SHOWED IMPROVED
COMMUNICATION SKILLS

THE YOUNG GALLERY: ART THERAPY

Our art therapy programme for vulnerable children in the East End of Glasgow harnesses arts and creativity to vital ends. Our art therapists work with children in some of Scotland's most deprived and socially challenged communities, offering one-to-one and specialist therapeutic art group programmes. These sessions offer a safe space for children to express, understand and work through difficult thoughts and feelings, and help develop coping mechanisms and emotional resilience. Many of the children engaged have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the therapy aims to mitigate against the life long impacts on their health and behaviour.

This year saw growing prominence attached to the programme and improved processes in evaluating the work. This culminated in us receiving recognition the Scottish Government's Improving Quality category at the UK wide Advancing Healthcare Awards. We are committed to continuing to achieve impressive outcomes and showing how access to arts and creativity can bolster and galvanise results in the healthcare world.

Our 3 year funding from Corra Foundation (previously Lloyds TSB Foundation)'s Partnership Drugs Initiative came to an end in Oct 2017 and we are delighted to have received 2 year Continuation funding based on the strong outcomes achieved.

2017/18 also saw us receive funding from Scottish Whiskey Action Fund to pilot Dyadic Art Therapy – an approach which brings a child together with their parent/ carer for art therapy sessions.

Art Therapy: a form of psychotherapy using a variety of art media as the primary mode of communication and expression.



Our Art Therapist Alison Peebles in our dedicated art therapy room at The Factory in Glasgow



OUR WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Work with young people accounts for over 60% of what Impact Arts does and remains a huge part of our identity. We work with young people on the basis that creativity can be a vehicle for change. We value innovation on our programmes – giving our artist team the opportunity to design the content of their own programme according to their speciality - while remaining committed to the interests of the young people first and foremost.

This year we continued to bring creative education programmes to areas of deprivation across Scotland. Employability remained a key focus, but we also expanded our work in the area of criminal justice and mental health.

It was an ambitious year of delivery for Creative Pathways employability programme, with 12-week programmes taking place throughout the year in Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Edinburgh, Glasgow and West Lothian. We achieved outstanding numbers of positive destinations, while our artist teams brought a fantastic level of variety to the content of each course. Our young people designed public art inspired by their community and environment, produced beautiful abstract sculptures in north Glasgow, produced thoughtful and moving spoken word and poetry pieces for a theatre project, and planned and delivered a furniture auction to raise money for local causes. The Creative Pathways programme was also shortlisted for a SURF Award in Youth Employability.

We were also delighted to deliver the second year's block of our Coco Music Project in Polmont Young Offenders' Institution. Our music tutors worked throughout the year with young men in the facility, teaching instrumentation while also offering songwriting workshops to explore difficult emotions. Our visual artists also worked with the participants to design posters for a music festival in the prison in January 2018, where the young men performed music and songs they had written to the wider prison population.

"It was a great experience. It really gives you a sense of accomplishment. The mock interviews also helped through getting an insight into what employers are looking for."

CREATIVE PATHWAYS PARTICIPANT



524

POSITIVE DESTINATIONS
ACHIEVED BY OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE

414

ACCREDITATIONS GAINED
BY OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

87%

OF YOUNG PEOPLE SAY
THEIR CREATIVE/ART SKILLS
IMPROVED

87%

OF CREATIVE PATHWAYS
PARTICIPANTS SAID THEIR
CONFIDENCE IMPROVED

CREATIVE PATHWAYS **LAURA'S STORY***



“Fashion was something I was interested in but never something I thought I could do professionally. Impact Arts showed me that it could be a career path.”

LAURA

Laura lives in Glasgow with her mother. She dropped out of school at 16, and found it very difficult to re-enter education to pursue her interest in photography. She had little to no structure or framework for working towards her goals.

In September 2017, Laura joined Creative Pathways in Glasgow - a ten week Employability Fund Stage 2 course focusing on the creation of environmental themed sculpture in North Glasgow. When the tutors first met Laura, she was distant, guarded and had confidence issues. She did however express a desire to go to college, and said that she needed a course to help her develop a portfolio. She was also keen to get help finding employment.

Laura struggled most with having confidence in her own creative ideas. In concept generation and prototyping workshops during the first weeks, she sat and stared at the floor. Her inability to move past her own mental barriers and trust her creative process was palpable. She was extremely frustrated, and would regress dramatically during these workshops.

However, Laura slowly began to trust her own process and generate work confidently. Eventually, she came up with a beautiful concept for the final series of sculptures - an inverted urban grid cast out of concrete. She ultimately

created the city out of boxes of tea, clay and toothpaste, secured these “buildings” with hot glue, and then poured concrete over these to create the final sculpture.

Although Laura had always been drawn towards photography, through Creative Pathways she was able to develop and cultivate more creative interests. Her natural interest towards fashion was always evident and through learning how to think like an artist she began to consider this more seriously as a career option.

Through her employability based work with Impact Arts, she undertook her SQA Steps to Work Award – which involved community engagement sessions with people in north Glasgow. She also gained her Employability Award, completing the Responsibilities of Employment unit (covering workers’ rights and employers’ expectations), the Preparing for Employment unit (looking at her skills and weaknesses and how her life experiences translate to the work environment) and the Building Own Employability Skills unit (involving CV-building, job searching, interview skills and goal-setting). She discovered the different career paths someone with an interest in fashion can pursue, and was ultimately successful in securing a job at a high street clothing shop and a college place in Fashion for when she finished the course.

*NAME CHANGED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

CASHBACK TO THE FUTURE

This year, we launched CashBack to the Future – our new large-scale summer holiday programme for young people aged 12-19, inspired by the successes of Impact Arts' long-running Gallery 37 programme.

In summer 2017, more than 150 young people engaged in in-depth creative workshops led by accomplished creatives who offered masterclasses in visual arts, music, performance and digital work. Funded by CashBack for Communities – the Scottish Government's initiative for backing youth projects using the seized proceeds of crime – the programme engaged those who may not ordinarily have had the chance to take part in such activities.

Referrals came from a wide range of valued partners and support agencies, including projects for unaccompanied asylum seekers, local community centres, social care charities and the NHS's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Support teams (CAMHS). These workshops offered truly free, safe and creative spaces for participants to be inventive and imaginative, with first rate guidance on hand from skilled creative staff and volunteers.

The aim of the programme was to offer the young people who took part an unforgettable creative experience on their summer holidays, while having added longer term benefits in improving educational attainment, reducing anti-social behaviour and achieving positive destinations for the young people.

Taking place in Glasgow, Edinburgh and North Ayrshire, the programme ended with three stunning showcase and exhibition events. With over 500 attendees, these were the perfect occasions to celebrate the participants' hard work, creativity and imagination.

"I want to give others the positive experience I had with this programme. Everything was amazing!"

CASHBACK TO THE FUTURE PARTICIPANT



245

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED

210

WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

81%

OF PARTICIPANTS
GAINED ARTS AWARDS

CASHBACK TO THE FUTURE CHARLIE'S STORY*



“We fully believe that Charlie got the confidence to apply to the Scottish Book Trust through all the interaction and encouragement he got from Impact Arts. We wanted to let you know that what you do makes a difference to young people’s lives.”

CHARLIE’S MUM

Charlie is 16 and has high-functioning autism. He was determined to be part of the CashBack to the Future programme in Irvine, despite being from a village in South Ayrshire which required two bus journeys.

The tutors on the project’s first morning noted that all of the participants were somewhat apprehensive – but none more so than Charlie. Despite icebreaker exercises, the young people remained in their shells – and at lunch, nobody moved or talked, all sitting with their headphones on. Coming into the afternoon session, the film and performance tutors tried another exercise - making an advert in the Barry Scott/Cillit Bang tradition. Given his initial apprehension, the tutors were surprised to see Charlie volunteer – and the creativity and unique humour he brought to his monologue made its mark on the entire group – a sign of things to come.

He was soon taking a lead in developing story ideas in filmmaking workshops and drawing his own storyboards. Working with the tutors, he began to develop a more structured form of storytelling. He displayed a superb critical understanding of film and related personally to the material the group were shown in sessions. Throughout the four weeks, Charlie’s confidence

grew and grew. His communication skills strengthened – he was better able to get across story ideas and became more comfortable when introduced to new people. Coming up with more and more script and short film concepts every day, he developed a close creative partnership and bond with another participant, and the two collaborated heavily.

The project ended with a final showcase event at the Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine. In attendance were family, friends, Impact Arts staff, funders, partners and local politicians. As well as contributing towards the films which premiered on the night, Charlie showed tangible evidence of his enhanced confidence by performing two original live songs on stage to the delight of the audience.

Following his engagement with CashBack, Charlie was successful in being selected for the Scottish Book Trust’s What’s Your Story programme as a comic book writer. His mum sent Impact Arts a message informing us of this, and attributed it to his increased confidence through attending CashBack workshops.

*NAME CHANGED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

OUR WORK WITH OLDER PEOPLE

In 17/18, we continued to offer Craft Café workshops in community settings in Glasgow, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire, and workshops in care home settings in Edinburgh. These offer a safe, creative environment offering those over 60 the chance to work with a professional artist without costing them a penny, and free access to high quality materials. Having this regular routine has major benefits across the board: Craft Café members feel their health improves, they feel more stable in life, and feel more confident.

Scotland's older population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, putting increased pressure on health services. It's currently estimated that some 500,000 older people across the UK go up to a week without seeing or speaking to anyone. It's in this context that our Craft Café continues to hold enormous importance.

A striking indication of this importance was demonstrated this year with our #KeepGovanCrafting crowdfunding campaign, in which we sought to address a potential funding gap in our Craft Café service in Govan. The members got fully on board with the campaign, sharing stories about what Craft Café means to them across social media, TV news, local radio and national press. These powerful stories, along with the generosity of donors - due to public understanding and identification with this issue - helped ensure the campaign was a success.

This year, we were also pleased to launch a new volunteering programme to support our delivery for older people in Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire. A further indication of public understanding of the issues facing our ageing population was shown in the interest and commitment of offering their own time as they signed up to be volunteers. We are proud to be at the forefront of using arts and creativity to tackle this societal issue, and will continue to promote creative ageing at every opportunity.

"I look forward to going to the Craft Cafe so much I now go twice a week. It is my time, my relaxation. Just for me - my sanity, my escapism!"

CRAFT CAFE MEMBER



291

OLDER PEOPLE
ENGAGED IN CRAFT
CAFE WORKSHOPS

96%

SAID THEIR
COMMUNICATION SKILLS
IMPROVED

95%

SAID THEY FELT
MORE CONFIDENT

94%

FELT THEIR PHYSICAL/
MENTAL HEALTH HAD
IMPROVED

CRAFT CAFE GOVAN ELIZABETH'S STORY*



“This place gives me a purpose in life. I know that I can contribute to the group, and that gives me a feeling of self-worth. This place means everything to me.”

ELIZABETH

Aged 69 and retired, Elizabeth had only recently moved to Govan and knew very few people in the area. Having suffered from arthritis for years, she had been forced into early retirement and had mobility issues. Soon after, she was diagnosed with diabetes and depression. Her husband had passed away in 2012, and her responsibilities included caring for other family members with health issues.

She moved to Govan in 2015 due to a lack of transport links where she lived previously. The following year, she saw a Craft Café poster in a local shop window, and decided she would give it a go. “I will never forget my first day here,” she says, “I felt instantly at ease and was able to help people. I felt valued. I felt like there was a reason for coming here. It was very welcoming.”

Elizabeth is a very talented craftsperson; she can sew, knit and embroider. Due to her skill, she was instantly able to help people and got thoroughly involved. She says that helping people feels like “a huge personal achievement” as she hadn’t previously felt confident in her ability to communicate and instruct.

Since joining, she has made candles, mosaics and knitted ‘comforters’ for an NHS dementia ward. She also knitted a comforter for her sister, who has severe dementia, her nephew, who is in hospital after a serious stroke, and was commissioned by another Craft Cafe member to

make one for his wife who is in the later stages of Alzheimer’s. These were the first times she had knitted in almost 40 years, when she was making clothes for her own baby daughter.

Elizabeth says the Craft Café has had a huge impact on many areas in her life. Physically, it gets her out and about and moving, which her doctor says it’s just what she needed to help with her arthritis. Her GP told her they are pleased with her new sense of motivation. She feels more stable in her life and, because of the routine, her eating habits are under more control, helping with her diabetes.

Most impressively, she has been able to decrease the dosage of medication she takes for depression. This is something she says is a direct result of coming to Craft Café: **“It gives me a reason to get up in the morning. If it was on every day of the week, I’d be here.”**



*NAME CHANGED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES

We continue to form fruitful partnerships with third sector, local and national government, communities and housing associations to develop and deliver commissioned projects targeting social issues through art and creativity.

Our Make it Your Own workshops are now in their second year. In partnership with Renfrewshire Council, our artists work with first-time council tenants to pass on arts and craft skills for the home, while also offering a shopping budget, ideas and inspiration. The aim is make tenancies more sustainable by helping participants make their new home somewhere that reflects their personality, preferences and taste.

We also further developed our reputation for creative consultation, partnering with other organisations to use arts and crafts as a hook to gather opinions on a range of subjects. We worked with New Lanark World Heritage Site, offering arts workshops at community events and venues to gather views on heritage and what people want from public art.

We were also proud to co-ordinate the commissioning of a revamped sanctuary space for Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Children. Our creative team gathered views from the hospital community about what people would change about the space, before commissioning young artist Phoebe Roze to deliver workshops with the children, before transferring their drawings and ideas onto the wall to create a fun, bright and bold mural.



372
ENGAGED IN
COMMUNITIES PROJECTS

88%
SAID THEIR
CONFIDENCE IMPROVED

77%
SAID THEIR
CREATIVE/ART SKILLS
IMPROVED

75%
SHOWED IMPROVED
COMMUNICATION SKILLS

MAKE IT YOUR OWN RACHEL'S STORY*



“It feels so good walking away at the end of the day knowing I’ve achieved something. It’s been very helpful getting to walk away with all this stuff and also being educated about the techniques behind things. I’ve really enjoyed it and got loads from it.

RACHEL

Rachel, 36, is from just outside Paisley. Following the breakdown of her previous tenancy, she had been living in supported accommodation for almost two years. After having been put forward for a new house by Renfrewshire Council's Housing Support Service, she was referred to Impact Arts' Make it Your Own project by her review worker.

Upon meeting the artists who would be guiding her on the project, Rachel was immediately put at ease. They spoke to her about what she would want for her new home, gave her magazines for inspiration and helped her construct a mood board to help her clarify what materials, textures, styles and colours she preferred over others.

Rachel was new to many of the practical creative techniques she tried through Make it Your Own. She had an interest in making things, but says that she lacked the confidence and access to equipment to do so. She hadn't used a sewing machine since school, and found it a daunting experience at first. But eventually, with the support of the tutors, she gave it a go and became comfortable using it. She sewed cushion covers with handmade fabric buttons - something she

initially thought would be a disaster, but she ended up delighted with the result.

During her 4 months attending weekly workshops, Rachel upcycled an old mirror that she had using chalk paint, upcycled two bedside cabinets and a bedroom headboard, and drew and painted designs on three canvases to be hung on the wall.

Through Make it Your Own, Rachel had access to a £100 shopping budget. The lead tutor Linda did online shopping sessions with Rachel, helping her make the most of the money and find things that would match with her upcycled objects and artwork. She bought basics such as pots and pans, a lamp and stencils.

At first Rachel was very quiet and nervous in the workshops, but she says the tutors were very welcoming and left her to work on projects on her own whenever they felt she was more comfortable this way. She says the skills in sewing, sanding and painting are ones that she will now have for life, and her time on the course has changed the way she thinks about buying things for the home.

*NAME CHANGED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

OUR PEOPLE

I love what I'm doing

WE WORKED WITH

114

ARTISTS AND CREATIVES
IN THE PAST YEAR

WE WORKED WITH

27

VOLUNTEERS
IN THE PAST YEAR

OVER

2,500

HOURS OF TRAINING OFFERED
TO OUR STAFF IN THE PAST YEAR

At **Impact Arts** you can expand your creative horizons. It's good for aspiring and inspiring artists. Everyone has their own creative individuality. It makes me feel amazing to help people thrive, see what they can achieve and have the realisation themselves - a light switches on - I really did this, I'm so proud of myself. It's fun, inspiration, enjoyable, I learn a lot. At **Impact Arts**, there's patience: people will explain again and again until you get it, a big family, all friends. It builds strong relationships. It gives a chance to contribute to the community around you. A step forward. To animate in a positive way. It's passing on knowledge and skills. Community power. A voice. Challenging perceptions. We can do it, we can create, we're surprising people. **Impact Arts** made me realise I could potentially be my own boss. We bring joy. We give people a time to be curious and bring joy and have a voice in a world that can be quite noisy when you don't have the confidence to speak up. Providing everyone with access to meaningful creative experiences. Opportunities for creativity in life, they're special. A celebration of artistic talents and our own story. Expressing our background, life skills to use, to forget everything else and have the chance to express ourselves. Impact Arts has helped me get out of my shell, get more creative. I've got loads of ideas, brainwaves, I want to create my own brands. I have drive and ambition. **Impact Arts** embodies everything that people should do. Focuses on people inside and outside organisation. It gives people a platform to just be. I never hear people say 'you can't do that.' **I love what I'm doing.**

Our staff, artists and volunteers remain our most important asset, and we continue to invest in them through the guidance of a robust, equality-aware People Plan. We prioritise training opportunities, continually allowing opportunities for development, and involving the wider team in the design and planning of programmes.

We are proud to offer creatives the opportunity to use their talents and expertise to positively impact the lives of people and communities, employing 114 artists for our programmes in the last year. We continue to offer market-rate pay to our artists and creatives, and are proud members of the Living Wage scheme for all our staff.

With 27 volunteers supporting us in the past year, we also recognise the huge appetite there is for people to volunteer their skills to support our programmes. We are committed to ensuring the proper support and is in place for these volunteers; alongside the early work of our Creative Ageing Volunteering Programme, we continue to develop a comprehensive volunteering strategy so that more and more people can be offered fulfilling volunteering opportunities with Impact Arts.

A selection of quotes from staff and participants asked to describe what Impact Arts means to them

ARTIST ALLAN WHYTE

I've been with Impact Arts for just over a year, working on projects across the west of Scotland which have either been studio-based or in schools. It is really unfortunate that, for various reasons, young people don't recognise their own talents. As a tutor I feel it's my role to give young people the confidence to express themselves creatively and realise their own abilities; in doing so this sets them up to progress into college or work, knowing that they can make a valuable contribution to society.

Art is an essential part of any community and a wider society. Community arts is a great way make art more accessible, connect people to their local area and other people within their community. My outlook on my own practice has changed as a result of my experiences working with Impact Arts and I would encourage other artists to consider how their work can impact upon their community and the people within it.

It is incredible the change that occurs in young people over the course of a ten week programme. I've seen people arrive on the first day, so anxious that they're not able to speak. Those same people become unrecognisable by the end of their time with Impact Arts, talking confidently about their work at the showcase event we hold at the end of all projects. I can think of many examples of young people where this change has occurred and they have gone on to work in different jobs or gone onto college to pursue studies in subjects like fashion and photography.



“It’s my role to give young people the confidence to express themselves creatively and realise their own abilities. The change that occurs over a ten week programme is incredible.”

ALLAN

My own practice is developing all the time, but most recently has encompassed sound, video and sculpture. There has been a strong environmental focus to my work, and I'm interested in society's connection to the environment, both in an ecological and physical sense. Since working with Impact Arts I feel my practice has evolved, perhaps in response to the issues I see young people struggling with on a daily basis. I see firsthand how creativity can act as a distraction, as a form of therapy and as a means to instil confidence in young people.

OUR ARTISTS & VOLUNTEERS

In all of our programmes, a mixture of artistic invention and social impact is what we strive for. This would not be possible without the dedication and invention of our talented in-house and freelance creatives. We offer our thanks to each and every one for their contribution this year.

ARTISTS & CREATIVES WE WORKED WITH 17/18

Adam Cobb	Elizabeth Skea	Katrina Falco	Rachael Maitland
Aileen Lynn	Ellie Finnie	Katrina Valle	Rachael McGloan
Alan Lyons	Emily Beaney	Kelly Espindola	Rachel Leonard
Alex Bettencourt	Emmett McSheffrey	Kimberley McKay	Rik Weightman
Alison Peebles	Evanthia Grigoriadou	Laura Frood	Robyn Harrison
Allan Whyte	Finn LeMarinel	Lesley Dunn	Rosanna Hall
Amy Grieve	Gemma Crook	Lewis Gordon	Ross Ferguson
Andrew Mackenzie	Grace Mark	Linda Burke	Ross McRae
Anna Sweeney	Hannah Parry	Linda Johnston	Sam Lowit
Anne Marie Wilson	Hannah Wyllie	Louise Smith	Sarah Bowers
Annie Lord	Hazel Douglas	Lucy Grainge	Sarah Derron
Ben Fowler	Heather Archibald	Mairi McDonald	Shelby Davidson
Ben Niven	Heather Gault	Martyn Dempsey	Sigurd Watt
Caitlin McKay	Helen MacVey	Matthew Clark	Spider Arts
Callum MacMillan	Iain Knox	Matthew Donnelly	Stacey Calderwood
Carla Fullerton	Ingrid Bell	Michael Fowler	Stella Phipps
Catriona Reid	Iona Birss	Mina Heydari-Waite	Stephanie Stokes
Charlotte Craig	Jacqueline Chrichton	Natalie McConnon	Steven Ramage
Claire Dobbin	James Gow	Natasha DeVries	Susan Cassidy
Conal McIntosh	James Quinn	Nicole McKechn	Susan Laws
Consuelo Rosa	Jamie Wardrop	Paddy Gallagher	Tara Stewart
Danielle Devin	Joanna Bass	Panagiotis Kourtis	Tia Payne
David Barrington	John MacDougall	Paul Roden	Ursula Cheng
Deborah Hahn	Jonathan Walker	Paul Stewart	Valerija Tkacenko
Derya Yilmaz	Josie Merry	Paul Wetherell	Vanessa van Scherpenseel
Dianne Miller	Kate Bell	Phoebe Jones	William McGunnigle
Douglas King	Kaitlyn DeBiasse	Portia Velarde	Zac Scott
Eileen Pottle	Kaleigh Gillies	Rachael Coyle	
Elayne Garden	Kayleigh McGuinness	Rachel McGregor	

OUR VOLUNTEERS IN 17/18

Ailsa Sutcliffe
 Brenda Cruickshank
 Catherine Anderson
 Denise Perry
 Elizabeth Gray
 Enrico Bellazzecca
 Jackie Pender
 James Quinn
 Janette Winning
 Jenny McDonald
 John Gardiner
 Kim McBride
 Lisa Donnan
 Liz Skea
 Mark Cochrane
 Mark Smith
 Mary Burnett
 Ruby Barrowman
 Sheila Dow
 Tegan Marmon
 Therese Muleka
 Valerie Stevens

LEADERSHIP TEAM & CREATIVE LEADS



Fiona Doring
Director



Carrie Manning
Head of Development



Mairi McLaren
Head of Finance & Operations



Natalie McFadyen White
Head of Delivery



Jamie Proudfoot
Programme Manager



Jenny Coxon
Programme Manager



Nicola Wood
Programme Manager

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Theresa Shearer
Chair



Ken Neil
Vice-Chair



Cath Denholm
Appointed 21.5.18



Colin Sharkey



Paola Pasino
Appointed 29.6.18



Simon Montador



Loraine Strachan



Marion Allison

OUR PARTNERS & FUNDERS

We are extremely grateful to each and every one of our funders, partners, donators and supporters, without whom we couldn't do our work. Thank you.

Venture Philanthropy

Inspiring Scotland

Government & Governmental Agencies

Aspiring Communities
CashBack for Communities
Creative Scotland
Creative Scotland: Youth Music Initiative
People and Communities Fund
Scottish Prison Service
Skills Development Scotland

Grants, Trusts and Foundations

BBC Children in Need
Big Lottery Fund: Young Start
Climate Challenge Fund
Clydesdale and Yorkshire Bank Foundation
Corra Foundation
DEEP
Foundation Scotland
Gannochy Trust
Heritage Lottery Fund: Kick the Dust
Heritage Lottery Fund: Young Roots
Lintel Trust
Our Bright Future
Rayne Foundation
Robertson Trust
Scotch Whisky Action Fund
Scottish Children's Lottery: Chance to Succeed

Scottish Wildlife Trust
Silverhill Trust
YouthLink: CashBack for Creativity

Commissioned & Partnership Working

Arts and Humanities Research Council
Barnardo's
Canongate Youth
Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership
Cornerstone
FARE
Forestry Commission Scotland
Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity
Historic Environments Scotland
Invest in Renfrewshire
Lanark Development Trust
LGBT Youth
Move On
National Museums Scotland
New Lanark Trust
Oasis Youth Cafe
Prince's Trust
ROAR
Scottish Canals
Scottish Wildlife Trust
SCVO
The Glue Factory
Throughcare North Ayrshire
University of the West of Scotland
Venture Trust

Wheatley Group
Young Carers Festival

Housing Associations

Barrhead Housing Association
Cairn Housing Association
Elderpark Housing Association
Linstone Housing Association
Southside Housing Association
Thenue Housing Association
Viewpoint Housing

Donors

St Andrew's House of Horror
Student Committee

Local Authorities

East Renfrewshire Council
Glasgow City Council
Renfrewshire Council
North Ayrshire Council

Primary Schools

Alexandra Park Primary School
Carntyne Primary School
Golfhill Primary School
Haghill Park Primary School
Lanark Primary School

New Lanark Primary School
Oakwood Primary School
Pirie Park Primary School
Robert Own Primary School
St Mark's Primary School
St Paul's Primary School
St Thomas' Primary School

Secondary Schools

Barrhead High School
Castlehead High School
Garnock Academy
Springburn Academy
St Roch's Secondary School
St. Andrew's RC Secondary School
Whitehill Secondary School

Nurseries

Arthurlie Family Centre
Bridgeton Community Learning Centre

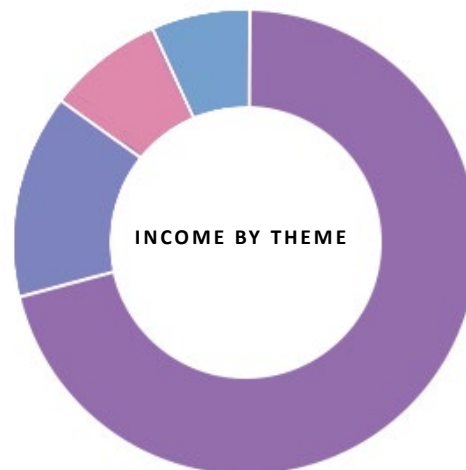
FINANCIALS

Our turnover in 2017/18 saw an increase from the previous year, due to securing new projects and partners and effectively managing our costs throughout and so we are delighted to have returned a modest surplus again. We have built on the strength of our Leadership Team and Business Development capacity and are confident we will see continue the results of this going forward into 2018/19, where we will continue to work towards our ambitious 2020 Strategic Plan increasing income to £2million. The organisation is committed to this aspiration plan and our Fundraising Strategy continues to focus on multi year funding.

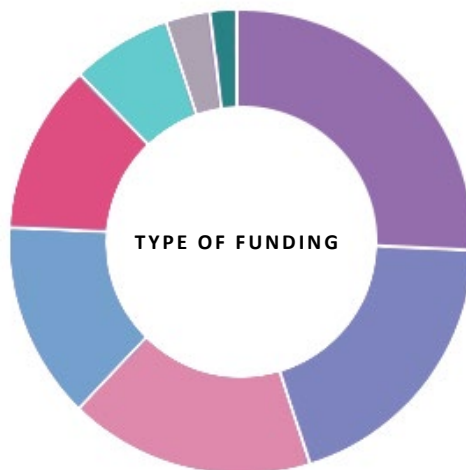
Our approach going into 2018/19 is a strong one and going forward we will be concentrating on strengthening our strategic partnership working and approach as well as developing more of our longer term funding streams and service level agreements while continuing to grow the profile of the organisation and strengthen the social impact and outcomes for the people we engage.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017/18

Income	£1,310,237
Expenditure	£1,268,310
Surplus	£41,927



Young people **71%**
Older people **14%**
Communities **8%**
Children **7%**



Government **26%**
Lottery **19%**
Inspiring Scotland **14%**
Housing associations **17%**
Local authorities **12%**
Trusts and foundations **7%**
Commissioned work and sales **3%**
Donations **2%**

OUR FUTURE PLANS

CHILDREN'S WORK

We will expand our children's programmes by diversifying our range of art forms, increasing our ambition and remaining committed to social impact. We will continue to grow our successful one-to-one art therapy and primary schools-based creative projects and develop our creative play offer, along with early years, positive parenting and transitions-based programmes.

HOMELESSNESS

Developing partnerships to support our creative offer to tackle homelessness will be a priority, given the rise in prominence of the homelessness issue in Scotland, success of our Make It Your Own model and long track record of supporting tenancy sustainment.

25TH ANNIVERSARY

Impact Arts will celebrate its 25th Anniversary in 2019 and we will use this opportunity to design a programme of profile-raising and celebratory events to share our achievements and future plans.

TELLING THE STORY

We will review our language and key messaging in 2018/19, using digital technology to articulate how we tell the story of Impact Arts and give a voice to the people whose lives we impact upon.



STEERING GROUPS

Reflecting our commitment to listening to the voices and stories of those with whom we engage, we will establish youth and older people's steering groups to inform our strategic direction and delivery models.

IMPACTFUL ART

Our social enterprise retail activity - selling textiles and other products featuring designs created by Impact Arts participants - has much more than just income generating potential, but challenges society to address stereotypes and preconceived ideas while celebrating achievements and creativity.

COMMUNITY HUBS

We will maximise the use of our community hubs in Dennistoun and Irvine, strengthening local partnerships and using them to their full potential to positively benefit these local communities.





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