

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Report 2020



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Part 1: Context

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts and creative sectors in Scotland. We do this by helping others to create culture through developing great ideas and bringing them to life.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child** (UNCRC) is a human rights treaty which sets out the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights of children and young people.

The UNCRC has 54 articles which set out the rights which adults and governments must respect and protect within policy and decision making and in the planning of services. These rights are:

- **Universal:** Everyone under 18 has the human rights contained in the UNCRC.
- **Inalienable:** Human rights can't be taken away. That includes the ones in the UNCRC.
- **Indivisible:** The rights in the UNCRC can't be separated from each other. They shouldn't be placed in an order so one's more important than another: they're all part of a single broad structure that's essential to human dignity.
- **Interdependent:** Different rights in the UNCRC depend on each other. For example, for many children and young people the right to the best health possible outlined in article 24 of the UNCRC will depend on the right to be free from discrimination set out in article 2.¹

UNCRC reporting duties

The **Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014** was passed in March 2014 and introduces important changes to the planning, operation and delivery of children's services in Scotland. As part of this legislation, Creative Scotland should report every three years about how we are respecting and protecting children's rights through our work. We should involve children and young people in developing the way we produce reports and identifies areas where we need to improve.

This is our first report on our work in relation to the UNCRC so we'll be looking at where we are now and what areas need more work to make sure we're doing the best job we can to uphold children's rights within our remit.

Instead of reporting against each article individually, we will use four core themes that individual rights can be grouped under to help us structure our report²:

- **Survival:** Children and young people have the right to life, good food, water and to grow up healthy
- **Development:** Children and young people have the right to an education and time to relax and play
- **Participation:** Children and young people have the right to say how they feel, be listened to and taken seriously
- **Protection:** Children and young people have the right to be treated well and not be hurt by anyone

1 See Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland's UNCRC key concepts: cypcs.org.uk/rights/uncrc/#keyConcepts

2 cypcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/UNCRC-Symbols-Poster.pdf

Creative Scotland's Current Work

Creative Scotland published our 10-Year Plan in 2014, which outlined **five ambitions** that would shape our work. We outlined a vision of Scotland as a country where:

- Excellence and experimentation across the arts, screen and creative industries is recognised and valued
- Everyone can access and enjoy artistic and creative experiences
- Places and quality of life are transformed through imagination, ambition and an understanding of the potential of creativity
- Ideas are brought to life by a diverse, skilled and connected leadership and workforce
- Scotland is a distinctive creative nation connected to the world.

We work to achieve this through advocacy, development, influencing and distributing funding across three main streams:

- Regular Funding for organisations
- Open Project Fund (updated to Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development in response to COVID-19)
- Targeted funding

In 2020 Creative Scotland was working towards a refreshed strategy and funding framework, and to continue our work in support of the Scottish Government's **Culture Strategy for Scotland**.

We know that recognising children and young people's rights is important in all our work. As well as specialist artform teams, Creative Scotland has a Creative Learning and Young People team which is responsible for youth arts, education and creative learning programmes and partnerships. In our 10-Year Plan we identified Creative Learning as a **theme** which connects our work throughout the organisation, along with Environment, Digital, and Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion. We recognise that the arts play an important part in realising children's rights across the articles of the UNCRC and particularly their right to education, leisure and cultural activities.

Part 2: Where we are now

Survival

Every child has the right to life and to grow up healthy and cared for. How has Creative Scotland's work over the last three years helped secure or further effect children's right to health and wellbeing and a caring environment?

All children and young people have the right to be safe, happy and well cared for – things that ensure their survival. Those who cannot live with their family have the right to special protection and help from other people and organisations. Children and young people with disabilities also have the right to special care and education that allows them to join in with activities, feel included and make decisions about their lives.

The Scottish Government developed a national approach to help ensure that each child receives the help and support that is right for them. This is called '**Getting it right for every child**' (GIRFEC), and defines a child's wellbeing using eight indicators known collectively as **SHANARRI**: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included.

Several areas of Creative Scotland's work help promote children and young people's wellbeing through partnerships with other organisations and targeted work with those who may not otherwise have opportunities to engage in arts due to care experience, disabilities and/or additional support needs, and socio-economic factors.

Corporate Parenting

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, came into effect on 1 April 2015, and names twenty-four public bodies as **Corporate Parents** (see Part 9 for full details of Corporate Parents and their responsibilities). Creative Scotland is named a Corporate Parent, which means we have a statutory duty to help uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of care experienced people, including children and young people, and to work to promote their physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development.

As part of this requirement Creative Scotland published a **Corporate Parenting Plan** for 2015-2018 in which we identified six ways we would support care experienced people:

- be alert to matters which might adversely affect their wellbeing
- assess their needs for the services and support we provide
- promote their interests
- seek to provide opportunities which will promote their wellbeing
- take action to help them access such opportunities and make use of the services and support provided
- strive to improve upon the ways in which the functions of our organisation relate to children and young people

In 2018 we published a **Corporate Parenting Report** which outlines the steps we took during this period to meet these aims through our funding, advocacy, development and influencing. These include:

- providing funding for organisations who support care experienced children and young people to take part in arts and creative activities through CashBack for Creativity, the Youth Music Initiative and National Lottery Awards for All Scotland
- Working with regional Who Cares? Scotland Advocacy and Participation Managers to share information about the opportunity to join the National Youth Arts Advisory Group

- attending the launches of Champions Boards in Falkirk and Glasgow, which are a forum for care experienced young people to meet and work with key decision-makers, service leads and elected members to influence the design and delivery of local services that impact directly on them
- participating in two Corporate Parenting collaboration groups, managed by The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland and Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership
- undertaking research in collaboration with CELCIS (the Centre for Excellence for Looked after Children in Scotland) on music provision in residential care settings
- providing staff training and building internal communications and learning resources
- contributing to themed events for the sector.

Creative Scotland has continued to regularly attend the Corporate Parenting Forum over the last three years and has been proactive in strengthening partnership work and knowledge sharing with other Corporate Parents including the Care Inspectorate, membership organisations for care experienced people including Who Cares? Scotland, and youth work organisations including YouthLink, in order to increase our understanding of the needs of care experienced children and young people.

Case Studies

Creative Scotland publishes case studies and web features showcasing the work of care experienced young people and highlighting examples of good practice such as **Articulate Cultural Trust's** work with a team of care experienced Young Researchers on a research project called Arts, Creativity & Employability (ACE).

Creative Scotland has also launched a new monthly feature on an organisation or project that the Youth Music Initiative (YMI) supports, and that works with one of their priority groups. The first of these focuses on **Sound Lab** who deliver music education for young people in different care settings.

We also raise awareness among staff through internal communications, highlighting cross-sector events such as **Care Experienced Week** and partnership events such as Connecting Culture and Care, which we delivered in collaboration with Starcatchers as part of the **Fire Starter Festival 2020**.

Protection

Every child has the right to be treated well and to live free from harm, violence and discrimination. How has Creative Scotland's work over the last three years helped secure or further effect children's right to safety?

Protecting children from harm is a fundamental role of society, and every child and young person has the right to feel safe in their day-to-day lives. All children should be protected from experiencing violence in all its forms including physical and mental violence, abuse and neglect, maltreatment and exploitation including sexual abuse.

Through our work in supporting and funding arts and creativity, Creative Scotland contributes both directly and indirectly to protecting children and young people from harm or violence. This includes ensuring the welfare of children participating in programmes, creating safe environments to engage and work with children and young people, and understanding the challenges faced by children and young people who have experienced violence.

Creating Safety

Creating Safety provides guidance on child protection and safeguarding for individuals and organisations involved in delivering artistic, cultural and creative projects for or with children and young people in Scotland. Produced in partnership with **Children in Scotland**, this is an evolving resource, which we ensure is clear and up-to-date. It was updated most recently in 2019.

Across all of our Creative Learning & Young People targeted funding streams we require organisations to submit their child protection policy and confirm that all staff will be PVG checked as a condition of funding. This includes the Youth Music Initiative, the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Youth Talent Development Fund and CashBack for Creativity.

We also use our position within the sector to showcase the work of funded organisations doing commendable work in this area. As a result of the recent COVID-19 outbreak, we have highlighted good digital child protection practice from organisations such as **Tinderbox** and **Little Animation Studio**.

Creative Scotland Policy

Creative Scotland is currently developing a child protection policy for the organisation as a whole. The policy will take into account changes in legislation, such as the The Disclosure (Scotland) Act.

This will be an opportunity to improve the way we work with artists and organisations who deliver projects with and for children and young people, from assessing funding applications to providing support and evaluating outcomes.

Development

Every child has the right to education, time to relax and play, and to take part in cultural activities and the arts – things that contribute to their development. How has Creative Scotland's work over the last three years helped secure or further effect children's right to education, leisure and cultural activities?

Time to Shine

Time to Shine is Scotland's first **National Youth Arts Strategy**. It sets out a ten-year vision for youth arts shaped through a national discussion with a range of stakeholders including children and young people. Children and young people articulated their needs and priorities through three demands:

- **Let Me In** – Build a Scotland where children and young people can fulfil their creative abilities without restrictions
- **Help Me Shine** – Support what children and young people are already doing, encourage us and showcase our work and achievements
- **Take Me There** – Listen to what children and young people need; build infrastructure and collaborations to support youth arts; evaluate and improve

Article 1 of the UNCRC defines a child as anyone under the age of 18. Time to Shine defines youth arts as anyone aged 0-25 engaging in any creative, expressive or cultural activity in any environment. All children in Scotland are therefore included in Time to Shine's aim to support children and young people to flourish and achieve in and through the arts and creativity.

Let Me In

What steps has Creative Scotland taken to ensure that Scotland's children and young people can fulfil their creative potential without restrictions?

Youth Music Initiative

Creative Scotland administers the Scottish Government's **Youth Music Initiative** (YMI) which aims to create access to high quality music-making opportunities for children and young people, offer children and young people the chance to achieve their potential in or through music-making, and support the development of the youth music sector for the benefit of children and young people.

From 2017 to 2020 approximately 732,000 children and young people took part in YMI activity, with approximately 244,000 taking part in each year.³ The **YMI Impact Report 2016-17** shows that all 32 local authorities (and Jordanhill School) achieved the Scottish Government commitment of offering all primary school pupils a year's free music tuition by the end of P6.

The Impact Report for 2018-19 shows that most local authorities proactively targeted certain groups of children and young people through their YMI activity. All YMI target groups were targeted by at least one local authority. In each year the majority of targeted projects worked with children and young people who were resident in areas of social and economic deprivation ranking high in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) or children and young people who were disabled and/or had additional support needs.

The reports include case studies on YMI outcomes and feedback from participants about the impacts for them.

CashBack for Creativity

CashBack for Creativity was a programme funded by the Scottish Government's **CashBack for Communities** programme. It offered young people aged 10-24 across Scotland the opportunity to engage in creative and cultural activity. It provided high quality learning and developmental activities in all art forms which improved young people's skills and confidence, raised attainment and aspirations, and provided pathways for further learning, training, education and employment.

From 2017-2020 CashBack for Creativity funded 141 programmes and projects across 25 local authorities, reaching 14,272 young people (3,620 year 1; 5,926 year 2; 5,374 year 3). 5,638 young people went on to positive destinations including education, training and employment. We published **case studies** on some of the ways in which young people took positive steps through CashBack for Creativity.

In the 2017 report, '**How do you draw a rainbow the wrong way? Understanding young people's development in creative activities**', BOP Consulting share the findings from over 50 qualitative interviews with practitioners and participants across seven CashBack-funded organisations. They highlight some of the features of creative projects that interviewees brought up as being important to their positive outcomes.

In *A Creative Decade: Measuring the Impact of CashBack for Creativity*, Media Education show that investing in relationships with young people who are experiencing additional challenges or barriers helps ensure equitable access to the arts and creative opportunities. Organisations who offered tailored, holistic support alongside creative delivery were able to achieve high levels of sustained engagement with young people. In turn, the young people demonstrated improvements against a range of wellbeing indicators and produced quality work.

³ Note that YMI runs over the academic year so these figures include children and young people who were involved in the year up to June 2017.

Case studies

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Fund

Since 2018 we have worked with the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) to deliver the Youth Talent Development Fund, which provides funding to help children and young people develop skills in traditional music and dance. To date, 35 organisations have been funded to deliver activity over a range of traditional artforms and 1,035 children and young people have engaged in the activity.

Film Education

Moving image education is important for creative, critical and cultural learning. Screen Scotland provides funding to improve access to **film education** opportunities for young people and provides training opportunities to support entry into the screen sector. Screen Scotland also supports career-long professional learning in film education for teachers, working with Education Scotland and the National Library of Scotland to support practitioners to embed film education in their daily teaching practice. The Film Education programme aims to promote:

- The importance of implementing an inclusive system of film theory and creative practices, encouraging the widest possible participation in Scotland's film culture
- Recognition of the distinctive elements of film – as artform and text, with its own language, history and aesthetics
- The right of all children and young people to experience, learn about and appreciate film through both the formal structures of schooling and the informal environments of home, family and society.

Since 2017, 58 projects have been funded through the Film Education funds, awarding just under £3 million to schools, cinemas and film festivals across Scotland. Screen Scotland also provides a platform for film activities by young people, including the work of the **FANS Film Festival Youth Team**, and **Mummy's Boy**, a short film produced by young people aged 13-15 from North Edinburgh as part of CashBack for Creativity, and highlights examples of good practice in film education such as the **Film Education in Libraries** project at the Scottish Library and Information Council.

Regularly Funded Organisations

Many of the organisations in Creative Scotland's RFO network deliver youth arts and creative learning programmes for, and involving, children and young people. They play a vital role in upholding children and young people's right to education, leisure and cultural activities. Between 2017 and 2019, more than 91% of the 121 organisations included work with or for children and young people as a key part of their programme, including as decision makers. This included 26% who said they also worked with looked after or care experienced children and young people. 710 placements, traineeship or internships for young people were also created during that time.

Open Funding

The projects funded through our Open Project Fund include a wide range of programmes, artists and events across the sector. Many of these are focused on working with children and young people. Between 2017 and 2019, 138,500 children and young people aged 18 or younger were engaged by the projects.

Help Me Shine

What steps has Creative Scotland taken to support, encourage and showcase children and young people's creative work and achievements?

Nurturing Talent Fund

The Nurturing Talent Fund is an example of youth-led funding which offers support to young people's creative priorities and ambitions as they define them. The fund is managed by the National Youth Arts Advisory Group (NYAAG) in partnership with Young Scot, and fund offers up to £1000 to young people aged 11-25 to enable them to develop their creative ideas, skills, interests and ambitions.

In the period from 2017 to 2020 over £88,000 has been distributed directly to young people, supporting 135 projects. Young people applying to Nurturing Talent Fund identify that the support they receive for their projects will help them develop the profile, confidence and experience to pursue professional ambitions. For others, the Nurturing Talent Fund offers freedom to build on previous work and test out ideas. Most applicants told us that they applied to the fund because of financial constraints.

Young people benefit from direct support to develop their projects and overcome financial and structural challenges. Youth-led funding provides an opportunity to help foster an arts sector that allows young people to express their voices and explore their creativity in the way that is right for them.

UNCON

The National Youth Arts Advisory Group (NYAAG) held the first Unconvention in 2016, a free event showcasing young people's creative activity showcasing work by and for children and young people. In 2018 they developed this format and helped programme and deliver **UNCON 2.0**, which included over 30 performances, screenings, panel discussions and debates from a range of youth arts projects.

Take Me There

What steps has Creative Scotland taken to listen to what children and young people need; build infrastructure and collaborations to support youth arts; evaluate and improve?

National Youth Arts Advisory Group

The National Youth Arts Advisory Group (NYAAG) was established in 2014 in response to the strategic objectives identified in Time to Shine. Their role is to advise on how the strategy is implemented and developed.

In 2018 Creative Scotland commissioned an **evaluation** of the NYAAG model which identifies strengths and weaknesses and offers recommendations for engaging young people as advisors.

In response to the recommendations, in 2019 new members were recruited through an open application process and regional events where prospective members had the opportunity to meet current members, ask questions and take part in informal workshops.

Time to Shine Sector Working Group

In 2017 representatives from the youth arts sector formed a Time to Shine Sector Working Group, which met three times over the course of 2017-2018.⁴ In October 2019 the group hosted an event for representatives from the wider sector, cross-sector partners and young people, to reflect on the achievements, challenges and future direction of the strategy. This wider group identified shared priorities and needs for the sector to continue to meet its strategic aims, including:

- A strengthening of the formal collaboration between the organisations and those working in the children and young people's arts sector with NYAAG and beneficiaries more widely
- Stronger community connections to a wider group of organisational and individual actors involved in children and young people's arts activity e.g. local authorities or parents
- Better communication, understanding and connection between these sectors and NYAAG
- Deeper formal and informal relationships with the schools and education sector
- Improved awareness of the benefits to children and young people of the consumption of, or participation in, arts activity across government, civil society and communities more generally
- Improved sector-wide understanding and coordination of the current and any future strategy
- Tackling specific sector-wide priorities e.g. advocacy or skills development

Edinburgh International Culture Summit

In 2018 NYAAG partnered with the **Edinburgh International Culture Summit** to lead the Summit's Youth Delegation, and delivered a **short plenary** address to an international audience of artists and cultural policy-makers. They spoke about the need for young people to be more involved in decision-making and strategic planning in the arts.

⁴ Short film summaries of each meeting can be viewed at the following links:

Meeting 1 October 2017: vimeo.com/241163150/c07a4c3b81

Meeting 2: February 2018: vimeo.com/271492225/ef5409a3fa

Meeting 3: July 2018: vimeo.com/281975527/8cf8abdc2f

Education Scotland partnership

Under Article 29 of the UNCRC children not only have the right to an education, but to an education which develops their personality, talents and abilities. Both Creative Scotland and Education Scotland are partners in the **Creative Learning Plan**, which helps embed children's right to an education which achieves these things.

The Creative Learning Plan defines creativity as:

1. The capacity to generate ideas; things that have value to the individual
2. Looking at things with a fresh eye; examining problems with an open mind; making connections; learning from mistakes; and using the imagination to explore new possibilities

The partnership aims to show educators and education policy-makers that opportunities to be creative not only make learning more satisfying but have broader social benefits.

This work is supported by the **Creative Learning Networks**, Local Authority-led initiatives that offer support in developing creative teaching across the Curriculum for Excellence.

Workforce development

Creative Scotland supports skills, practice and network development for artists and creative practitioners as part of **ArtWorks Scotland**. ArtWorks provides development opportunities which are relevant to work with all ages in creative learning and participatory arts; however, it also offers events and resources to support artists and practitioners to build the skills they need to work well with children and young people.

Since 2017 Creative Scotland has supported workforce development in three main areas:

- **Creating safety**, which provides child protection and safeguarding guidelines, updated in 2019 in partnership with Children in Scotland
- **Is this the best it can be?**, an evaluation and improvement toolkit for anyone delivering arts and creative learning through collaborative or participatory work
- Annual programmes of professional development events for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Creative Traineeships

As part of the Scottish Government's Year of Young People 2018, Creative Scotland supported 10 creative organisations to host a 12-month **Creative Traineeship** for a young person aged 16-24 experiencing barriers to employment. Bòrd na Gàidhlig supported two traineeships at organisations developing their creative work in Gaelic. Total available funding of £100,000 enabled the organisations to offer full-time, living wage opportunities. On completion of their traineeships, all the trainees went on to higher education, employment or further funded opportunities.

Participation

Every child has the right to say how they feel, be listened to and take part in decision-making. How has Creative Scotland's work over the last three years helped secure or further effect children's right to have their voices heard and take part in decision-making?

Over the past three years NYAAG has led and collaborated on a range of activities that have helped ensure that children and young people have their views listened to and that they are able to take part in decision-making:

Transposition

In 2018 NYAAG undertook an Erasmus+ exchange with the advisory group for youth culture in Denmark, Tænketank for Ungelkultur (TUK). The **Transposition** project generated learning around effective models for youth engagement and empowerment in the arts.

Culture and Connection

In 2019 NYAAG launched the **Culture and Connection** report, based on findings from a national survey of 617 young people. This report made recommendations to Creative Scotland and the youth arts sector on how to better support community participation, recognition of youth arts and pathways for growth.

Media Education programme

In 2019 NYAAG collaborated with Media Education to produce a suite of video and audio resources to use as awareness-raising tools and conversation starters. They created over 30 recordings covering NYAAG's work and issues which are important to young people, as well as individual statements which are available as **audio podcasts**. They also devised an outreach workshop to gather the views of other young people, which was delivered to groups including secondary school pupils, LGBT Youth Scotland and the National Young Disabled People's Advisory Group.

mediaeducation.co.uk/portfolio-items/national-youth-arts

Part 3: Next steps

As we enter our new reporting period, 2020-2023, the context for our work in relation to the UNCRC has changed significantly. In September 2020, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament. The Bill will see children's rights fully and directly incorporated into Scots Law. The Bill contains a compatibility duty which makes it unlawful for public authorities to act incompatibly with the incorporated UNCRC requirements. The Bill replaces the reporting requirement in section 2 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 on listed public authorities and requires them to report every three years on the steps they have taken to fulfil the compatibility duty.

The coronavirus pandemic and Scotland's response to it has had an enormous impact on every aspect of children and young people's lives, including art provision, and their opportunities to participate and progress within the arts, screen and creative industries.

On 8th April 2020, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) warned of the 'grave physical, emotional and psychological effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on children'. The CRC called on States to focus on 11 key areas, including the recommendation to **'Maximise all opportunities for children to enjoy their rights to rest, leisure, recreation and cultural and artistic activities and address structural inequalities that constrain these rights'**⁵

The Children & Young People's Commissioner has stated that:

'The rights to play, recreation, rest, leisure and cultural life protected by Article 31 of UNCRC are not optional extras, they are necessary to protect the unique and evolving nature of childhood. They serve to enrich the lives of children and realisation of these rights is fundamental to optimum development, the promotion of resilience and to the realisation of other rights of the child. They contribute to a child's health, wellbeing and development.

Children have experienced significant constraints on their rights as a result of the lockdown. Although parents and carers have done their best, opportunities to play, to socialise with friends, and to express creativity and imagination have all been limited. Children who live in poverty, in inadequate housing, with little access to physical space or to online community have been particularly affected.

The right to education (Articles 28 and 29 UNCRC) must be understood as being about the development of a child's unique personality, talents and abilities. It goes beyond formal education to embrace the broad range of life experiences and learning processes.

The return to education must take account of this and balance concerns over loss of time engaging with the formal curriculum with the need to provide opportunities for children to play and rebuild relationships, exploring options such as outdoor and play-based learning. This will be especially important for younger children.

Scottish Government and local authorities, must ensure funding and support is available so that as many children as possible are able to benefit from play-based and outdoor learning'⁶

An important part of our next steps will be to understand the impact that it has had on children and young people's cultural and artistic rights and what is important to them in the recovery period. We'll be looking at how we can do this within our work, including:

- In August 2020, the Scottish Government announced that the culture and heritage sectors in Scotland were to benefit from a £59 million funding package to protect jobs and help the organisations and artists who have felt the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As part of this announcement £3m was allocated to support youth arts and ensure creative opportunities for children and young people continue to exist across Scotland despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Creative Scotland have been working with Scottish Government to make sure that this funding will reach as many children and young people as possible.

⁵ tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT/CRC/STA/9095&Lang=en

⁶ cypcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/independent-cria.pdf

- UNCON is an event designed to showcase and celebrate the best of youth arts and creativity in Scotland. Since 2016, it has been held every two years. What makes UNCON special is that it is an event designed by young people, for children and young people, that showcases and celebrate some of the amazing young talent here in Scotland.

We've had to do things a little differently for the next edition of UNCON. We'll be holding an UNCON in January 2021 where we'll be inviting organisations working with children, young people and artists to reflect on the recent impacts on children and young people and ensure that their voices, experiences and aspirations are heard and understood within the recovery process.

- We'll be working with NYAAG and the TTS Sector Working Group to continue to develop our approach to establishing a framework for ensuring children's rights and the voice of children and young people inform Creative Scotland's work.
- Collaborate with partners to ensure we build a bank of evidence of children and young people's voices in relation to their rights and the arts and cultural sector.



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