

# Culture and Connection:

How can Children and Young People shape their Creative Future?

January 2019

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# Before you read this report, we have a few questions we would like you to ask yourself.

1. Are children and young people's voices meaningfully heard and acted upon within the youth arts sector?

2. Is youth arts provision truly accessible for all children and young people?

3. How important is participation in the arts for children and young people?

4. Does the youth arts sector as it currently exists meet the demands for the children and young people of today?

5. What role should you and your organisation take to shape the creative future of children and young people?

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The Young Scot Observatory offers views, insights and ideas directly from young people to help inform the policy and services which affects them most.

# Background

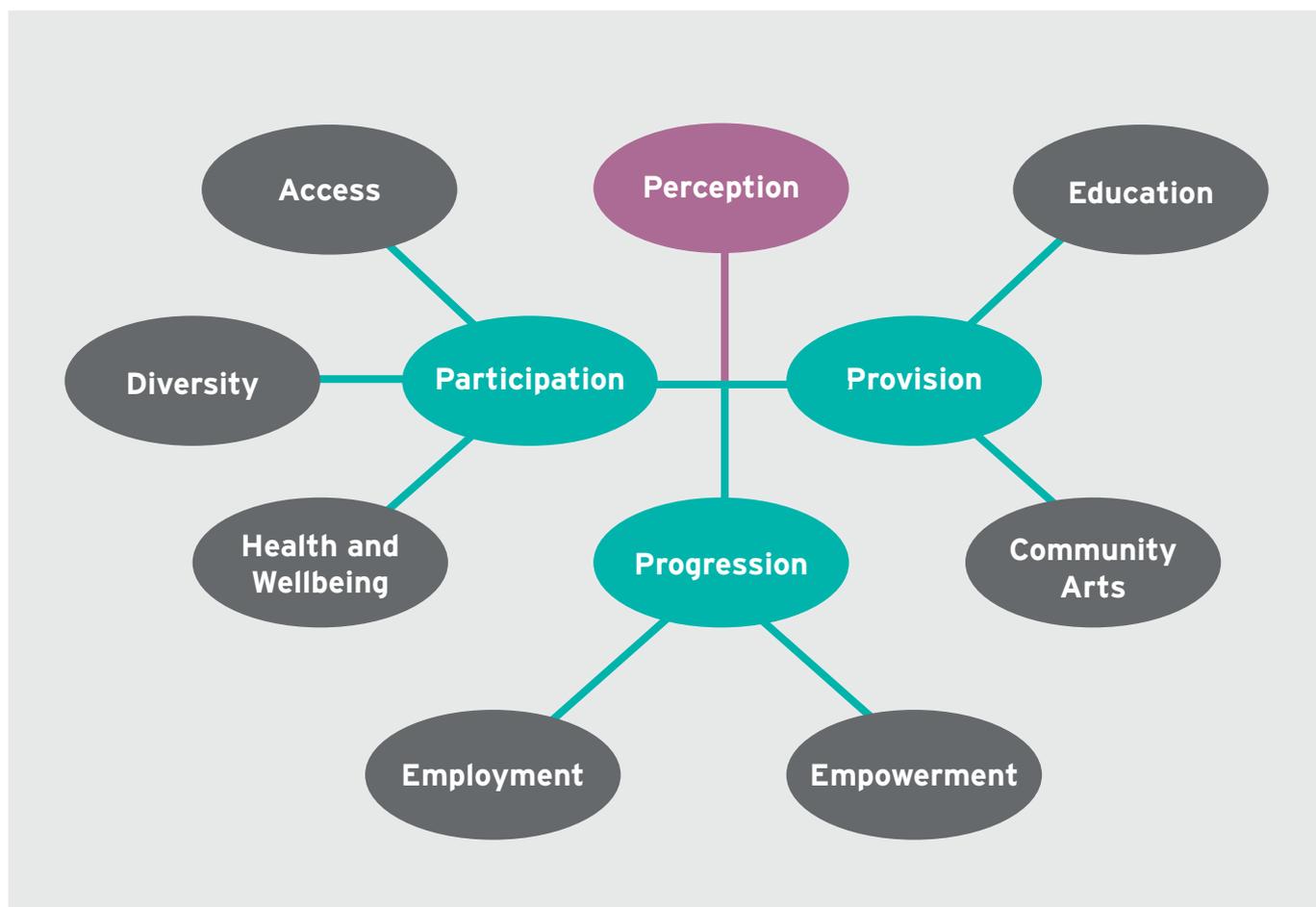
Time to Shine places young people at the centre of the strategy's aims and ambitions, but also at the centre of plans to deliver the strategy. It was therefore vital to involve young people in making their own meaningful contributions, and in 2014 Creative Scotland commissioned Young Scot's co-design service to support a National Youth Arts Advisory Group of young people.

Over the last year, our task was to start to shape our vision, guidance, and recommendations for the future of youth arts.

Initially, due to our links with Time To Shine, we started thinking along the three key themes of 'Participation', 'Progression', and 'Provision'. We added our own fourth theme - 'Perception'. From there, this developed into a wealth of other themes and issues we felt were vital for young people, as detailed in the diagram below.



## Themes We Have Explored



### Time to Shine

Time to Shine (TTS) is Scotland's national youth arts strategy. First published in 2013, it set out a 10-year vision to enable our children and young people to flourish and achieve in and through the arts and creativity. It covers all 0 to 25 year olds, and focuses on enabling participation, progression and provision.

### Year of Young People

Year of Young People 2018 celebrates everything that makes Scotland's young people incredible.

Year of Young People is about showcasing the contributions and achievements of 8 to 26 year olds, while giving them a stronger voice on issues that matter to them.

Culture was one of the six themes that young people and stakeholders identified as being key for the year. Young people wanted the theme of culture to be recognised during the year, and to "share and celebrate young people's talent and contribution to Scottish culture and arts."

The NYAAG have been involved with activity throughout the year including flagship events for the group such as the UNCON 2.0, the Edinburgh International Culture Summit, and other events exploring and celebrating the theme of young people.

## Cahal's Story

"I joined NYAAG after attending the first UNCON as I was part of a TTS.Digital project. It was at the UNCON that I became interested in engaging in the arts sector outside of just making stuff on my own. For me I think it's been very inspiring to see different artists in arts groups across Scotland producing really amazing material. With this, I feel more engaged with the arts sector as a whole and empowered to keep making my own art. Taking part in the Edinburgh International Culture Summit and the Transposition exchange has really changed my perspective. It showed me how lucky we are in Scotland to have the NYAAG as a voice for change for youth culture. I would like to see more sharing with other countries about our model for improving youth arts policy-making. This would give me a sense of achievement to show I had changed something for the better but also improve other young people's artistic and personal lives."



# “We are the now” - It’s time to shape our creative present and future

We are the National Youth Arts Advisory Group (NYAAG). Our main aim as a group is to ensure that there is a youth voice and perspective within the decision-making process for Scotland’s national youth arts strategy - Time to Shine - as well as advocating the power of youth voice and empowerment within the whole youth arts sector. NYAAG is formed of around 30 young people aged between 15 and 24 from all over Scotland who have a keen interest in creativity and culture.

The group has been running since mid-2014 and have experience working not only on the Time to Shine strategy but also on a wide range of areas and issues facing youth arts in partnership with the wider youth arts sector.

The group also engages in a wide range of projects and opportunities on an informal basis. We continue to make up the assessing panel for the Nurturing Talent Fund and have recently started leading cross-sector skill sharing meetings (the Time to Shine Working Group) with support from Creative Scotland.

Our vision is that the connectivity between sector partners must be strengthened, all children and young people have access to the arts, and creativity is more integrated within educational systems. We want the perception both of youth arts within the creative industries and of the arts engagement amongst all children and young people to improve. Finally, children and young people need to be inspired, empowered and supported to progress as young artists.

## We think:

### Community Participation

Community arts is vital for empowering children and young people and gives opportunity for wider development in all communities.

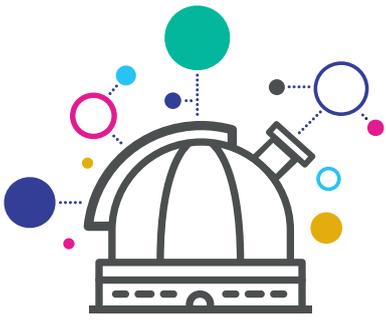
### Recognition

The benefits of children and young people’s participation and development through the arts should be celebrated, and best practice for how to facilitate this at a local, national, and international level should be shared.

### Pathways for Growth

Viable pathways for individual growth from 0-25 years through the arts should be highlighted and networks within the arts should be established to help individuals reach their full creative potential.

**Nurturing Talent Fund has  
awarded £63,704 to over 200  
young people since 2014**



Children and young people need to be inspired, empowered and supported to progress as young artists.





## Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs

"I'm a firm believer in the power of arts and creativity to bring people together and to change lives for the better. Research provides strong evidence on the value of young people experiencing culture from an early age, with people who participate in culture being more likely to report good health and life satisfaction than those who do not.

"The National Youth Arts Advisory Group are playing an intrinsic role in helping create opportunities for young people to continue to flourish through cultural participation and creativity. I commend them for their commitment to ensuring that our young people had a role in shaping the development of 'A Culture Strategy for Scotland', the 2018 Edinburgh International Culture Summit and the recent UNCON 2.0 conference which celebrated Scotland's young artists.

"As we celebrate Scotland's Year of Young People 2018, we aim to continue to inspire Scotland through our young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally."



**"I'm a firm believer in the power of arts and creativity to bring people together and to change lives for the better.**



## Iain Munro, Acting Chief Executive, Creative Scotland

"Working with the NYAAG has been a wonderful experience. Having a youth voice has been a key principle of the Time to Shine youth arts strategy, and that influence has helped support initiatives to develop the breadth, depth and quality of youth engagement. The NYAAG have done a fantastic job of advocating for young people in the arts at all levels.

We are grateful to all the young people who have volunteered their time to be part of the group, and help shape Scotland's arts and culture offer to the needs and aspirations of its young people. This report stands as a testament to their hard work and ambitions. We look forward to continuing to work with them in the future."

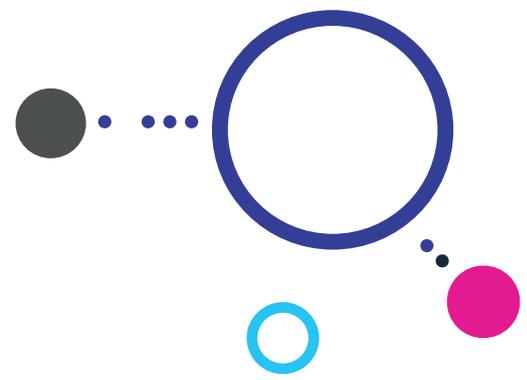
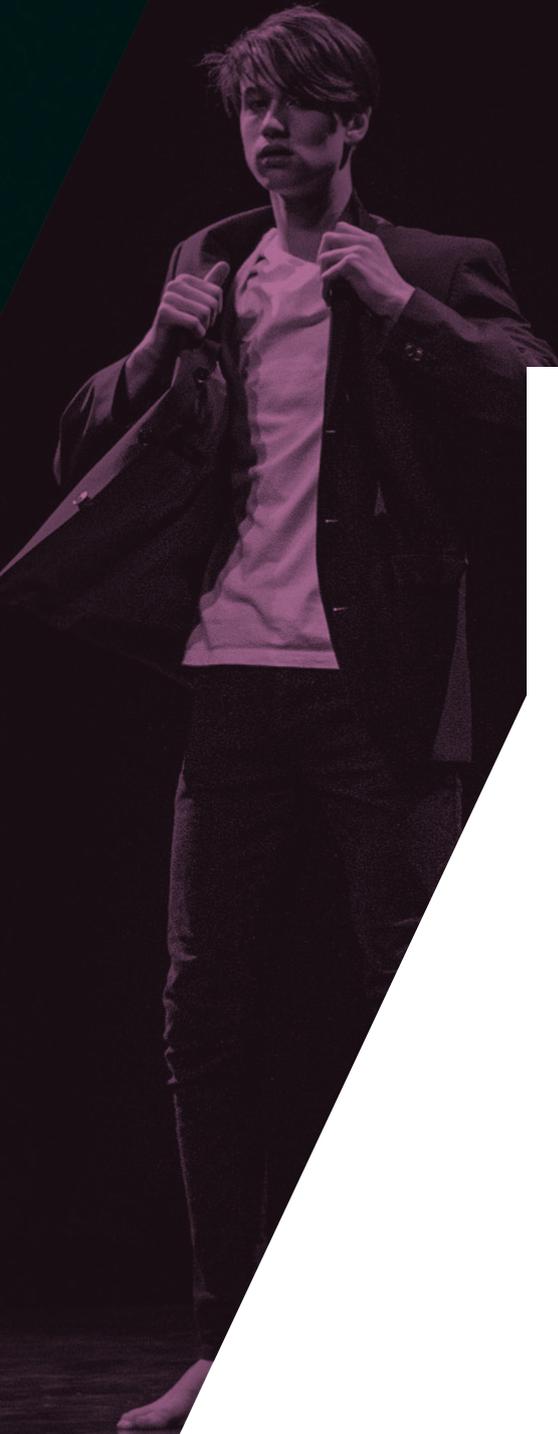


## Louise Macdonald OBE, Chief Executive, Young Scot

“At Young Scot we know that arts and creativity are very important for young people, and that young people’s views are central to Scotland’s culture now and in the future. The dedicated National Youth Arts Advisory Group volunteers have demonstrated this through their own personal experience and by representing the views of other young people across the country. The vision and recommendations offered by this report will help ensure that young people are at the heart of decision-making and influencing policy across the youth arts sector in Scotland.”

Photo credit: Amy Firth





## Who we are

In June 2017, our group of 30 members aged 15-24 met for the first time. We come from all across Scotland with a wide range of backgrounds, and have varying interests in the arts, youth culture, and youth engagement.

Since the groups creation we have worked at a local, national, and international level, working closely with Creative Scotland on implementing the Time To Shine strategy. While there is always more that can be done, young people's voices are definitely being heard across the sector more than ever before.

In order to be the best representatives that we can, we always strive to advocate for as many young people as possible. This year, amongst a range of other engagement, we created a survey to collect various perspectives on youth arts provision and participation across Scotland. Our research also included a close collaboration with the Time To Shine Sector Working Group.

We work using Young Scot's co-design method, which allows us to take a lead in every step of the decision-making process. We believe it is important to co-design policy with young people so our generation is included and empowered in decision-making on the issues that affect us.

We hope to be able to continue our work in the years to come, helping to ensure that all young people across Scotland have equal opportunity and access to all art forms.

### **Martha Barr, 16, Leith, Edinburgh**

I am a young musician interested in making arts better and more accessible to individuals across Scotland. My proudest moment was working on the Edinburgh International Culture Summit representing NYAAG. I want young people to be fully represented and listened to by arts professionals.

### **Laura Roshni Baillie, 17, Dumfries and Galloway**

I'm an actor and writer and I am very interested in getting young people to engage in the arts. My proudest moment in the arts was when I got a creative writing award which was pretty cool. I hope more people get involved and that the youth arts sector is more known and listened to.

### **Laura Goodwin, 22, Ayr**

I'm interested in Film, Theatre, Photography and YouTube (I've been running a channel for nine years and in the process of re-vamping it.) My best moment through engagement with the arts has been working on UNCON 2.0. In the future I would like more focus on youth-led arts organisations in rural areas and more focus on arts for young people.

### **Abby Gray, 17, Dumfries and Galloway**

I am interested in music, for instance, I play piano but I especially like to take part in the organisation of creative events. My proudest moment was when I did an exchange with a group of young people from Brixton and we produced a poetry/grime festival. I hope that youth arts becomes accessible to all and that it is valued just as much as academic subjects.

### **Lisa Ireland, 20, St. Andrews**

I want to promote creative writing as a viable career option for young people, as well as advocate for creative classes in schools and arts subjects being treated with the same respect as other academic subjects. My proudest moment was attending Edinburgh International Culture Summit in August 2018. I was a rapporteur and fortunate enough to hear some incredible speeches and join discussions with policy-makers and artists from around the world.

### **Monica Jamieson, 21, Edinburgh**

As a bi-racial youth I am interested in all forms of cultural art that represent the mixed range of customs and values in our diverse society in Scotland. I had the opportunity to work as a Camp Coach, where I helped introverted kids and teenagers express themselves and socialise through activities such as mask making, drum beat and dance.

### **Shelby Johnston, 18, North East Glasgow**

I'm a young artist who also creates and hosts my own free youth arts networking event called Creative Collisions. These events encourage and empower young people to seek employment in the arts. I created these after realising how discouraging it can be to start a career in the creative industries if you're not from a financial background that supports access to the arts.

### **Betsy King, 16, Inverness**

My field of interest is acting. My proudest moments in the arts are being an extra on a BBC production and in NYAAG being at the Edinburgh International Culture Summit. In 2020, I hope everyone will have better access to the arts including overcoming barriers such as travel and money.



### **Daniel McCormick, 24, West Dunbartonshire**

Coming from a youth work background, my main interest is around youth engagement and working with those who aren't traditionally involved within the arts. My proudest moment with NYAAG was the opportunity to speak on the 'Our Shared World' panel at Edinburgh International Culture Summit 2018. I would like the youth arts sector to be a truly inclusive, safe and accessible space for all children and young people in Scotland.



### **Lewis McDermott, 19, Clackmannanshire**

I have experience and interest in youth involvement and advocacy - working to ensure the voices of all young people are meaningfully heard and acted upon. I enjoy a range of mediums including poetry, theatre, and music. I worked directly with cultural ministers from across the globe at the Edinburgh International Culture Summit, discussing cultural policy and innovation was an experience like no other - I will never forget it.



### **James McDonald, 20, Greenock**

I am specifically interested in acting and enjoy working in all the other parts of the creative industries. My best moment in the arts is being able to contribute, create and share information within the NYAAG team and my local community. I would like a programme to be made that can give people a nationally recognised qualification within the arts that cover all principal topics in the chosen field.



### **Megan McIntyre, 20, Falkirk**

I am part of NYAAG because of my experience in youth empowerment, I have been a youth activist for nearly 6 years and wanted to combine my passions of activism and the arts together. One of my best moments through engaging with in the arts was setting up a signature YOYP event in Perth to showcase young artists.



### **Leon McNair, 17, Dundee**

My primary interest is acting, which I have always been very passionate about. By far my proudest moment has been participating in the Edinburgh International Culture Summit and feeling empowered to contribute in the primary discussions being held at Scottish Parliament. My vision for the youth arts and culture scene and sector, is a place where all young people have the ability to speak with stakeholders and decision makers.



### **Cahal Menzies, 17, West Lothian**

I like to work across all art forms, whether it is visual, literature or music. I have been proud to take control of my own output, such as distributing music or making work for an exhibition. In the future, I hope to see more equity between cultural professionals and young people.



### **Enkuush Mergen, 20, Edinburgh**

My interest is accessibility to the arts, especially for groups of young people who do not conform to the elitism which persists within the mainstream. My proudest moment has been travelling on an exchange to Denmark and being reassured of the power of young people when they are provided with an opportunity. My hopes for the youth arts sector in 2020 is for it to be inclusive, diverse and liberated.

### **Hannah Poyner, 19, Edinburgh**

I am interested in art, architecture, music and dance. My best moment in the arts was leading a choir of young high schoolers alongside another student, we being the first to lead it in that capacity. In the future I hope to be autonomous to the adult legislators and instead run alongside their projects and work with them as equals.

### **Lauren Ross, 22, Edinburgh**

I have a shared passion for the visual arts and literature, aiming to develop a future career that merges the two. Attending a residential writing course at Moniak Mhor put me into contact with established authors and other aspiring writers, allowed me to develop confidence in my abilities, and gave me an inspiring and memorable experience.

### **Emma Ruse, 20, Edinburgh**

I am engaged as a young theatre maker - I am particularly interested in the way young people are viewed through theatre and the media. My best moment through engagement with the arts was producing my first Fringe show. My hopes for the youth arts sector in 2020 are that young people are engaged in all stages of decision-making, as true stakeholders should be.

### **Adam Stewart, 20, Dundee**

My field of interest includes filmmaking and photography and I also volunteer with the delivery of film festivals for young people. My proudest moment is being able to represent my country at a film festival in Qatar and having my thoughts and opinions valued. I hope youth arts are more accepted, there is equal opportunity and barriers are broken down with regards to stigma in the sector.

### **Ailie Stewart, 19, Dunoon/Aberdeen**

I have led youth clubs in the past and represent my constituency in Scottish Youth Parliament. My proudest moment was as a member of Comar Youth Company, the first ever youth contemporary theatre group in Argyll. My hope is that the arts will reach every young person and be truly accessible to rural areas, allowing young people everywhere to broaden their horizons and develop character; all the while having fun!

### **Arianne Welsh, 23, Glasgow**

I am interested in theatre and how to engage young people with all types of theatre. My proudest moment is watching young prisoners, who had never previously performed or gone to the theatre, perform a piece of work that was important to them. I hope that the youth arts sector will expand and reach new audiences, and continue to educate young people on the benefits of engaging with the arts.

### **Ellen Wilson, 19, Glasgow**

I participate in a wide variety of art forms including theatre, music, literature and pole dancing. I am very passionate about working with children and young people in lots of sectors such as health education, basic literacy, maths skills and youth arts. My proudest moment has been representing NYAAG at the Dundee Pecha Kucha event by giving a presentation about our Danish Exchange.

Previous group members also included Eve Ion, Grace Green, Christopher Marshall, Anna Campbell, Duncan Colquhoun, Matthew Swan, Eoin McKenzie and Ross Cowan

# How we work

Using Young Scot's Co-design process, we explored (amongst wider topics) ...

/ Participation

/ Progression

/ Provision

/ Perception

/ Diversity

/ Access

/ Employment

/ Community Arts

/ Education

/ Empowerment

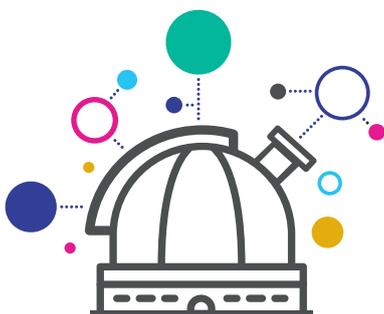
/ Health and Wellbeing

## Daniel's Story

The real reason I originally joined was so that I could connect what was happening locally with #FreshCreations youth arts hub with what was taking place nationally. I wanted the youth voice of the hub to feed into the work of NYAAG and then for this to filter back down to the work of this local group. All of the advocacy work in NYAAG has been amazing and has allowed me to create both a strong national but also international network. This has given me the opportunity to attend, participate in and present at events and conferences all over the UK and beyond! This has allowed me to build portfolio of work through which I can now freelance and collaborate on both local and national projects in a paid professional capacity. Overall, this whole experience has changed my perception of arts and creativity and the truly transformative power that this offers young people.

## Hannah's Story

I joined this group because I had a lot of artistic opportunities open to me as I grew up which what got me into one of the best universities in the country. I want to ensure that everyone gets the same opportunities I did. Within the NYAAG, I am lucky enough to practice my artistic abilities through designing the graphics and logos for the group. This is an amazing opportunity for me as it gives me experience which is very hard to get anywhere else. This experience is only enhanced by the amazing team we work with to create events that obviously create a difference, such as the UNCON 2.0. At this event, I was able to meet some amazing people; for example Petre Dobre, a deaf-word artist who is a brilliant example of the arts effect on people's lives. The arts gives people who don't have a voice a way to communicate and offers us a way to share emotions when we don't know how to.



"This is an amazing opportunity for me as it gives me experience which is very hard to get anywhere else."

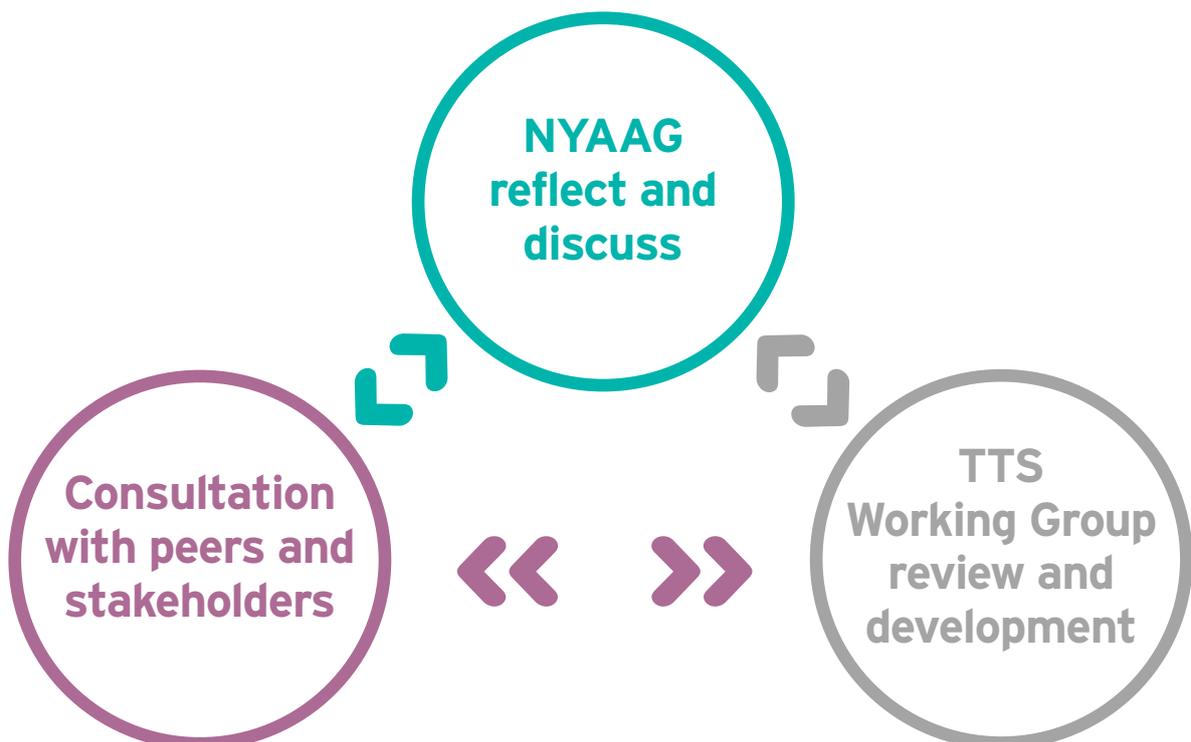
### Young Scot Co-design Process

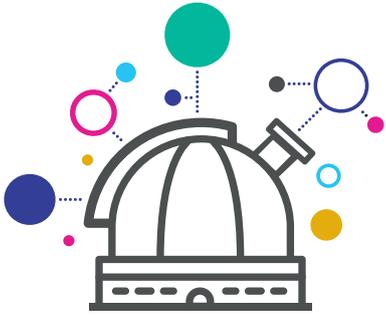


### TTS Sector Working Group

The group consists of around 30 organisations, and represent a variety of different artforms and sectors, including youth work and youth advocacy. We have been working with them since October 2017, consulting with the group, and working in partnership to establish what the needs of the sector were in addition to our own thoughts and feelings.

Each phase of the process worked over the following cycle:





## What we've achieved so far

In 2016, the evaluation into the implementation stage of Time to Shine was published. It identified several key areas for development, including reviewing the strategy and updating it with achievable objectives and milestones. Working with the NYAAG, Creative Scotland, engaged in a programme of development in June 2017. This was a four-phase process, working in a cycle of consultation, review and actions, with each phase lasting approximately 3 months.

Early on during this process, it was decided to separate NYAAG from Time to Shine, to offer the group more freedom to work on their own ideas and recommendations. With the support from the Sector Working Group, the NYAAG have shaped their vision, guidance and recommendations.

Photo credit: Alex Benecki



## Some of our key activities include:

**Kick-off Residential held at Glasgow Youth Hostel** on 3rd to 4th June 2017

**Group launch with Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop** at Fruitmarket, Edinburgh on 16th August 2017

**Daniel travelled to the Nordic Culture Camp at Mors**, Denmark in August 2017

**Explore Residential at Young Scot**, Edinburgh on 2nd and 3rd September 2017

**Lauren attended Culture Strategy meeting at Scottish Parliament** on 5th September 2017

**Daniel and Grace travelled to Belfast for talk about the group's work and process at the 'Spaces To Belong To' conference** at Queen's University in Belfast on 15th September 2017

**TTS Sector Working Group at Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation** on 5th October 2017

**Members of NYAAG met Korean Delegation at Creative Scotland** in November 2017

**ERASMUS funding secured for Transposition** Denmark exchange in December 2017

**Create Residential** held at Stirling Youth Hostel, 19th to 21st January 2018

**Shelby hosted Culture Strategy Facebook Livestream with Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs** 30th January 2018. 6k views, 14 shares and reached 13,852 users.

**Led TTS Sector Working Group** meeting with initial set of recommendations at the Lighthouse in Glasgow on 15th February 2018

**Arianne presented 'Best Creative Project' at Youthlink National Youth Work awards** on 15th March 2018

**Launched NYAAG Youth Arts and Culture survey** on 29th March 2018

**Betsy attended a Tartan Day celebration** of the US and Scotland relationship on April 6th 2018 at the Inverness Town house.

**First leg of Transposition Exchange** took place. Eight members of group travelled to Denmark on 9th and 15th April 2018

**Ellen and Cahal presented a Pechakucha** about the Transposition Exchange for Creative Dundee on 23rd May 2018

**Reflect Residential held at Young Scot**, Edinburgh on 9th and 10th June 2018

**Emma, Betsy and Laura B presented at Arts and Business in Scotland** funding showcase on 15th June 2018

**Emma chaired Year of Young People meeting with Minister for Childcare and Early Years Maree Todd** MSP at Visit Scotland on 21st June 2018

**Development day with Northern Star at Creative Scotland** on 28th June 2018

**Led TTS Sector Working Group meeting at Grassmarket Community Project** on 12th July 2018

**Lewis, Arianne, Lauren and Cahal presented at Creative Scotland** Board Meeting on 18th July 2018

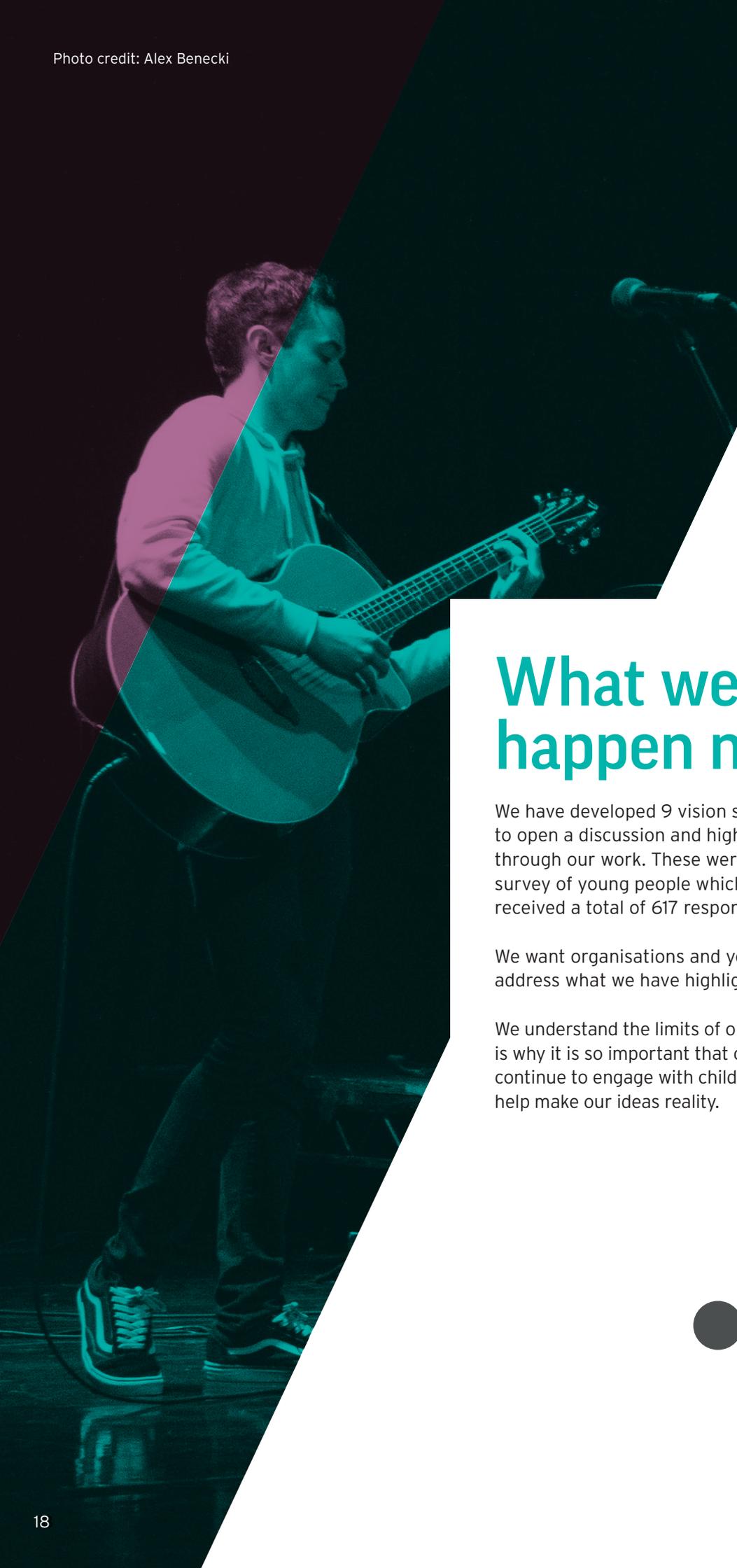
**Planning day for UNCON 2.0** at Perth Theatre on 4th August 2018

**Knowledge Partners at Edinburgh International Culture Summit** with roles including youth delegates, panelists, rappers, delegate aides and speakers on 22nd to 24th August 2018

**Recommend Residential held at Young Scot** Edinburgh, 1st to 2nd September 2018

**UNCON 2.0 free all-day national youth arts event Celebrating Scotland's Young Artists** held at Perth Theatre on Saturday 22nd September 2018

**Second leg of Transposition Exchange** took place. Eight members of Denmark's Taenketank for Ungekultur travel to Scotland on 8th to 14th October 2018

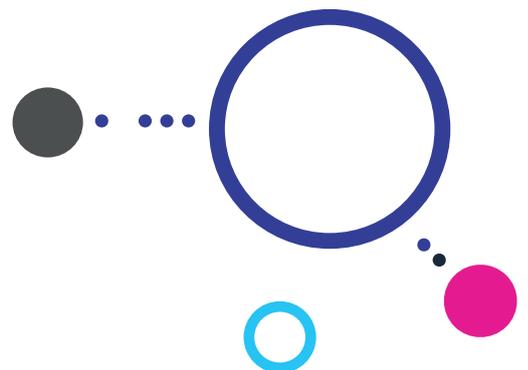


## What we want to happen next

We have developed 9 vision statements and 15 recommendations to open a discussion and highlight issues we have discovered through our work. These were informed by a Young Scot national survey of young people which ran from March to June 2018 and received a total of 617 responses.

We want organisations and young people alike to begin to address what we have highlighted.

We understand the limits of our ability to do this ourselves, which is why it is so important that other organisations and institutions continue to engage with children, young people and each other to help make our ideas reality.



## Community Participation

Community arts is vital for empowering children and young people and gives opportunity for wider development in all communities.

### Our Vision:

We believe that children and young people should face no barriers to accessing the arts locally, regionally and nationally.

We believe community participation is important because it acts as a vital entry point for children and young people, and establishes local networks.

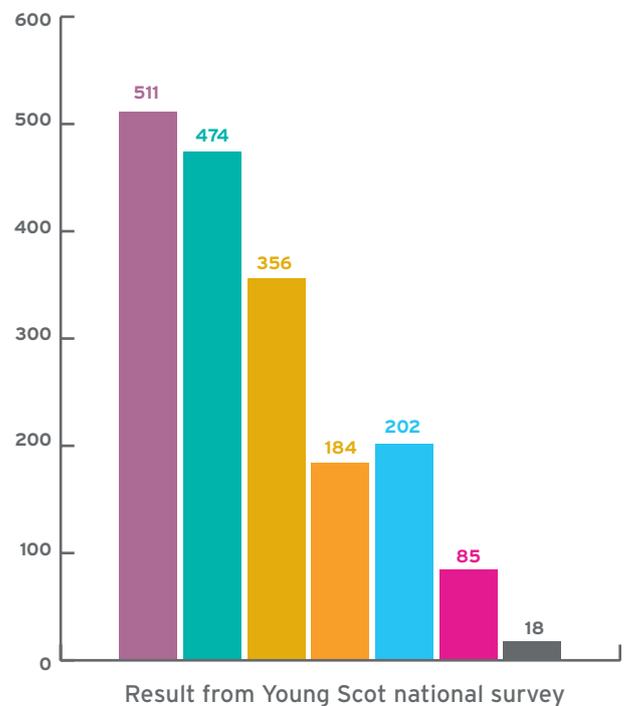
We believe that all young artists should be empowered within their communities to offer direction and provide support for others.

We believe in the importance of youth arts provision in all communities as it offers many potential wider benefits.

### Recommendations:

- The NYAAG should work with local arts sectors to improve networks between young artists and further engage with local youth arts communities, allowing sharing of expertise and creating a dialogue between the national youth arts sector, local youth arts providers and children and young people participating in the arts.
- Arts organisations should understand and proactively prioritise tackling barriers (especially financial) for children and young people to participate in arts opportunities.
- Children and young people should be supported by both the sector and community arts organisations to develop skills and agency through the arts, therefore increasing local youth arts provision.
- Relationships between national and local arts organisations, educational providers and third sector parties need to be strengthened to help networks grow further.

### Outwith of education, have you done any of the following (at least once) in the last 12 months?



- Reading; writing; drawing/painting; singing (e.g. in a band, choir or a group); dancing; filmmaking; playing a musical instrument/writing music; acting; spoken word; listening to music; crafts (such as knitting, wood, pottery etc.). **Responses: 511**
- Went to: theatre; library; concert; music festival; gallery; cinema; dance show; museum; historic site or property. **Responses: 474**
- Downloaded/watched performances (e.g. music; theatre; dance) online on a personal device such as a phone, tablet or computer. **Responses: 356**
- Downloaded/viewed or accessed cultural content (e.g. museum/heritage collection or an artist's work). **Responses: 184**
- Created and/or shared cultural content online such as digital art, music, dance, performance videos or recording. **Responses: 202**
- Contributed knowledge or expertise to an arts or culture related discussion forum or social media platform. **Responses: 85**
- None of the above. **Responses: 18**

## Recognition

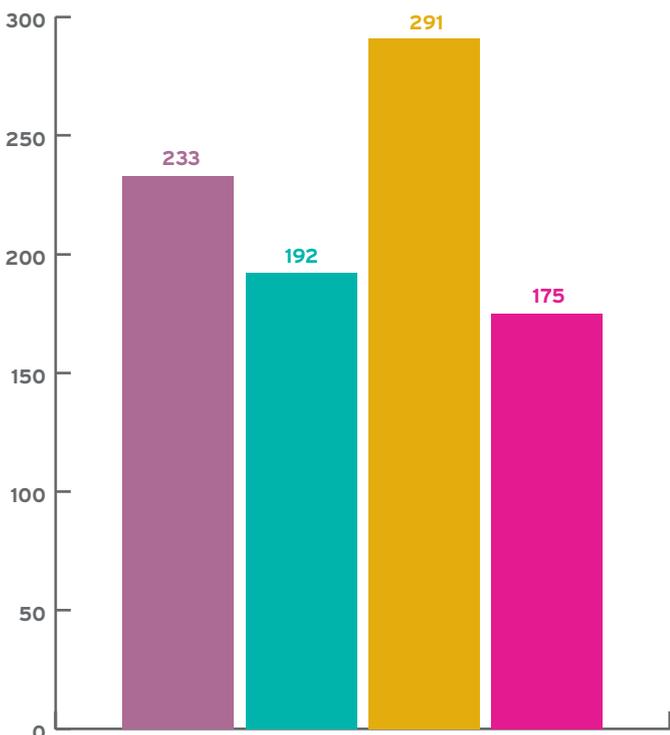
The benefits of children and young people’s participation and development through the arts should be celebrated, and best practice for how to facilitate this at a local, national, and international level should be shared.

### Most important things to look out for in a arts opportunity

1	Quality of opportunity
2	Affordability
3	Ease of access
4	Relevance of opportunity
5	Regularity of opportunity
6	Popularity of opportunity
7	My friends do it too

Ranking from Young Scot national survey

### How do you predominately participate in arts and culture?



Result from Young Scot national survey

### Our Vision:

We believe that the impact and benefits of participation ‘in’ and ‘through’ youth arts should be celebrated.

We believe that best practice in youth arts should be highlighted and shared.

### Recommendations:

- Creative Scotland and wider sector to maintain an ongoing programme of learning/training events to share best practice specific to art forms and networks. NYAAG to lead Sector Working Group, recording and profiling conversations and outcomes, engaging with key stakeholders within other sectors, and encouraging sector partners to use networks to reach wider youth voice.
- NYAAG to develop and deliver programme of skill-sharing through knowledge partnerships; enhancing organisations’ approach to empowerment and participation, highlighting and sharing best practice.
- NYAAG to deliver the third national youth arts conference UNCON 3.0 in 2020. Using this unique opportunity (as the only national youth-led arts conference) to showcase best practice and profile young people’s journeys and participation ‘in’ and ‘through’ arts.
- NYAAG to continue and further expand Nurturing Talent Fund (as a unique model for youth-led funding stream for young people aged 11-25) to enable ambition and tackle barriers to access due to continued success and increasing demand.
- Continued engagement with young people through surveys and programme of workshops aiming to be as inclusive and representative as possible.

- Through regular structured activity (e.g. activity organised by school, club or organisation) **Responses: 233**
- Through formal teaching activity (e.g. tutorials, classes, formal education/qualifications). **Responses: 192**
- Self-organised activity (e.g. activity on your own or organised with friends). **Responses: 291**
- As an audience member/visitor/viewer. **Responses: 175**

## Pathways for Growth

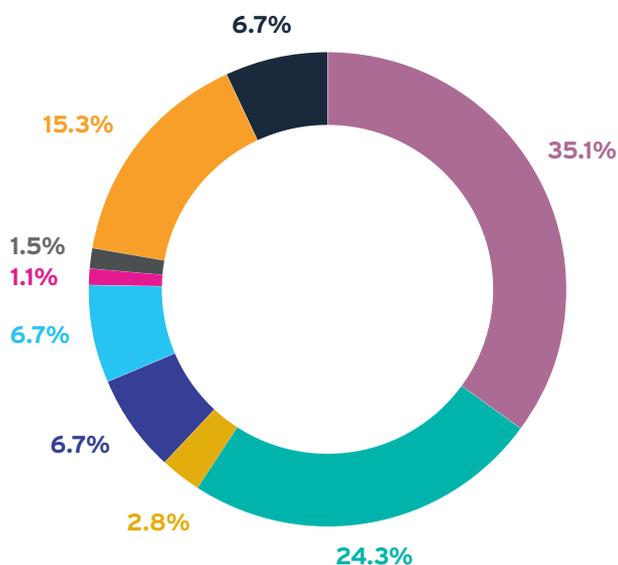
Viable pathways for individual growth from 0-25 years through the arts should be highlighted and networks within the arts should be established to help individuals reach their full creative potential.

### What one thing could your school do that would make a difference to your cultural life?

1	Provide more creative course options
2	View arts and culture as of equal importance to other subjects/ activity
3	Provide more materials/ equipment
4	Make more time available during class for creative pursuits
5	Arrange more trips to museums/galleries/heritage sites/theatres etc.
6	Provide more guidance/facilities for creative activity after school
7	Provide more guidance/facilities for creative activity to take home

Ranking from Young Scot national survey

### Who encourages you the most to be creative or express yourself?



Result from Young Scot national survey

### Our Vision

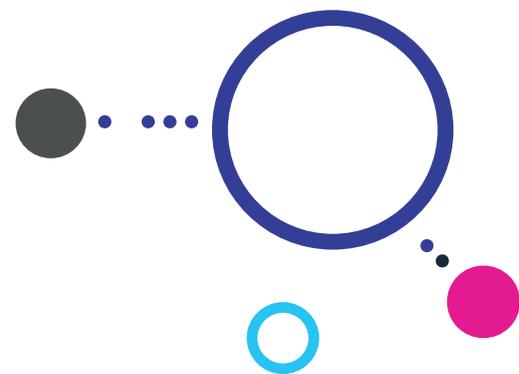
We believe that the arts are a vital part of the growth of children and young people (0-25).

We believe in highlighting the wide range of creative career pathways available to children and young people.

We believe that the transferable skills the arts offers should be celebrated.

### Recommendations:

- All children and young people should be given the opportunity to develop their creative capacity through education.
- The value of creativity in all aspects of learning should be readily shared by educational providers with all stakeholders, from students to sector.
- Sector and local authorities should target young people (with a focus on those not in education, employment or training) with information and resources to self-initiate creative projects to sustain a living and inspire creative entrepreneurship.
- Employers in creative industries should offer more work-based learning including paid traineeships/ apprenticeships to young people and promote existing schemes.
- Establish knowledge partnerships with, and between, educational providers to engage as many young people as possible.



## Help us take the next steps

We want our vision and recommendations to be taken forward to ensure that children and young people have the best opportunities that can be provided for them within the youth arts sector. As the main stakeholders, we think it is vital that children and young people play a key role in making decisions that affect the sector.

As a group, we want the opportunity to tackle the barriers that children and young people face when engaging with the arts. We will achieve this through further research, focusing on some of the key issues facing children and young people today that we have already identified. We want to collaborate with the Scottish Government and other public organisations to establish how best to achieve this. The group also hopes to play a role in the delivery of the Culture Strategy.

In order to create a future where children and young people are free to engage in art and culture, connection is vital. The National Youth Arts Advisory Group hope that you agree after reading our report. We look forward to a creative future shaped by Scotland's children and young people.



## Contact

### Young Scot

Young Scot is the national youth information and citizenship charity providing young people aged 11-26 with a mixture of information, ideas and incentives to help them become confident, informed and active citizens. Young Scot's co-design teams supported the team throughout their investigation.

### Co-design

Young people have a significant role to play in encouraging organisations and communities to adopt a more collaborative culture, focusing resources to effectively meet the needs of individuals and communities. To support this, Young Scot's co-design service involves young people systematically creating, designing and delivering solutions in collaboration with organisations.

To find out more about the process and project, please contact:

### Young Scot

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