
Key Findings

An overview of the implementation
of Time To Shine, Scotland's
National Youth Arts Strategy

TIMET 
SHINE



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

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Background

The implementation of Time to Shine is the inception and development phase of Scotland's National Youth Arts Strategy. It was funded for two years, from April 2014 to 2016 supported by a budget of £5m through the Young Scots Fund granted by the Scottish Government. The implementation has been managed by Creative Scotland and in June 2016 Creative Scotland allocated an additional £215,000 to extend some elements of the programme through to March 2017.

Over the past two and half years research has been undertaken to explore the effectiveness of the implementation programme, the outcomes achieved, and the wider impact of the Time to Shine strategy so far. This summary report presents some of the key findings.

Research Scotland was commissioned to undertake the evaluation which took place from April 2014 to September 2016. It has involved research including case studies, a sector-wide survey of funded and non-funded organisations, telephone interviews and direct interviews with representatives of Creative Scotland, the Scottish Government, youth arts organisations and youth provision partners.

To view the full evaluation report, go to creativescotland.com/timetoshine

An Introduction from Youth Arts Voice Scotland

Within its first two years, Time to Shine has engaged thousands of young people in a wide range of art forms and developed key provision for youth arts throughout Scotland, among many other key achievements. We, however, believe that the strategy's biggest success so far lies in the work it has done to promote youth empowerment.

As the strategy's official youth advisory panel, Youth Arts Voice Scotland (YAVS), we have been at the very forefront of Time to Shine's dedication to fulfilling its number one principle: to 'place young people at the centre of the strategy's aims and ambitions, but also at the centre of plans to deliver the strategy'. Our role has exceeded all of our initial expectations and developed greatly over time. The high level of responsibility and respect we have received is something special, particularly at the high strategic level we have been called in to contribute at.

We have continually shaped actions (acting as key decision makers on funding panels), evaluated outcomes (assisting Research Scotland with this very report) and promoted the current successes of the strategy to national and international cultural delegates (the whole world now knows of Time to Shine after our 'debut' at this year's Edinburgh International Culture Summit). The success of YAVS proves that young people do have the mature capacity to contribute to policy-level discussions when given the right platform, and to make real, instrumental changes through their contribution.

In addition to securing a constant youth perspective on Time to Shine's key strategic actions, YAVS has done an incredible amount for the personal development of its members. We all have a more holistic understanding of the youth arts sector in Scotland: the barriers, the inspiring success stories, the work that's going on right now and the projects that a strategy like Time to Shine is able to make a reality. We have gained invaluable contacts for the future, made friends for life, and, ultimately, we now feel empowered – confident, connected and motivated. We personally believe in our mission and that we are making a real difference. Working on such a determined strategy is greatly rewarding.

Through our involvement with Time to Shine, we have been able to witness other ways in which the strategy has empowered young people by providing work placements, internships and volunteering opportunities. It is clear that – like YAVS itself – these experiences have built invaluable skills relevant to any career and offered supportive networks that prioritise inclusion and self-worth.

Time to Shine has started something incredibly influential in the most positive of ways. Doors have been opened, creative potential has been nurtured, and Time to Shine has taken the talent and passion of new generations to extraordinary heights. So let's keep going...

Youth Arts Voice
Scotland,
September 2016



Sense Scotland



The Programme

Time to Shine is Scotland's first National Youth Arts Strategy. It sets out a ten-year vision to enable Scotland's children and young people to flourish and achieve in and through the arts and creativity. It covers 2013 to 2023 with a commitment to review progress and direction every two years. It covers all 0 to 25 year olds, and focuses on enabling participation, progression and provision.

Aligning to these themes, the implementation of Time to Shine commenced in April 2014 following a six-month period of development and discussion with the youth arts sector. The main focus of the implementation programme has been the distribution of funding of just under £4.5m to deliver a wide range of activities that can be broadly categorised as:

Regional activity (£3.3m)

Establishing nine regional youth arts hubs to provide a multi-partnership approach to innovative youth arts provision and supporting two strategic projects to address regional gaps in youth arts hub provision.

National arts activity (£200k)

Supporting four of the National Youth Arts Companies to deliver two-year bespoke programmes of work to extend the breadth and depth of their engagement across Scotland.

Youth empowerment and engagement (£158k)

Working with the national information and citizenship organisation Young Scot to deliver a series of initiatives to place young people at the centre of the strategy's aims and ambitions – including the Youth Arts Voice Scotland national group; a small grants programme through the Nurturing Talent Fund; and a pilot Young Arts Ambassadors scheme.

Art form specific development (£570k)

Supporting the literature and film sectors to deliver national projects developing access to artforms for young people; and establishing TTS.Digital, a two phased award-based funding programme designed to inspire digital creativity in young people.

Wider activity and support (£215k)

Supporting two action research projects; a creative internship programme; sector engagement and networking opportunities; a national digital resource and delivering TTS Unconvention – the inaugural national children and young people's arts conference.

Time to Shine Timeline

2009

The first research, planning and consultation on Time to Shine takes place

Nov 2013

Time to Shine is launched

Apr 2014

Implementation of Time to Shine begins
Evaluation of the implementation of Time to Shine begins

Aug 2014

Youth Arts Voice Scotland appointed
Youth Arts Hubs and wider project activity begins

Dec 2014

Nurturing Talent Fund launched

May 2015

TTS.Digital Phase 1 launched
Interim evaluation of the implementation of Time to Shine produced

Aug 2015

Scottish Book Trust's *What's Your Story?* launched
Youth Arts Events Calendar launched - www.youthartsevents.co.uk
TTS.Digital Phase 1 sharing event staged

Nov 2015

TTS.Digital Phase 2 launched

Jun 2016

Film Access Network Scotland showcase staged
TTS.Digital Phase 2 sharing event staged

Aug 2016

YAVS participate in Edinburgh International Cultural Summit 2016

Sept 2016

Evaluation of the implementation of Time to Shine completed

Oct 2016

TTS Unconvention staged

Mar 2017

Implementation programme ends

Time to Shine statistics

Time to Shine activity has been delivered in **24** out of **32** local authority regions of Scotland

At least **38,450** young people aged 0 to 25 have taken part in creative arts activity over two years

The Youth Arts Hubs have delivered over

54,000

hours of youth arts activity to over

19,000

young people

The Youth Arts Hubs have provided over

6,800

hours of youth empowerment activity with over

3,600

young people

Time to Shine activity has created at least

382

jobs and

449

volunteering opportunities for young people aged 25 and under

Activity has engaged over

227

partners including local and national youth arts organisations, local authorities and community planning partners, youth work, community learning and development, leisure trusts, community groups, equality groups, colleges and universities, local artists and arts projects, and organisations focusing on health, housing, sports, outdoor activities and festivals.

The Nurturing Talent Fund has awarded over

£39k

of grants directly to 150 young artists

Note: figures accurate at time of publication.



Impact

Participation

Activity has provided new opportunities for young people's participation in the arts. The opportunities to participate are wide ranging and innovative, based on an understanding of the barriers young people face. Many felt that funded activity was redefining the image of arts in popular culture by profiling the wide remit, ambitions and possibilities of youth arts and through empowering young people to engage in the arts on their terms.

Progression

Activity has supported young people to progress through developing their artistic and creative skills; developing their skills for life, learning and work; and supporting progression into employment and volunteering in the arts and creative industries. While there is evidence of young people developing their artistic skills and talent, the main focus of progression has been in developing transferable skills.

Provision

Activity has built networks and partnerships which has supported quality improvement in the arts, through encouraging innovation, sharing information, providing a range of opportunities, encouraging reflective and inclusive practice based on young people's views, and building the skills of those working with young people in the arts and creativity.

Empowerment

Activity has had a positive impact in empowering young people. Young people have been involved in advising on priorities, developing and delivering services, appointing staff and evaluating activities. Other stakeholders have recognised the value of hearing the voices of young people, and felt that this enhanced their decision making processes. The empowerment of young people through the implementation of Time to Shine is also leading to young people supporting others to develop youth-led approaches in other fields.

Partnership

Partnership working has been central to implementation delivery. A wide and diverse range of organisations has been involved in activity to date and most funded organisations believe that Time to Shine has influenced wider activity beyond their organisation - through encouraging new ways of working, inspiring new ideas, developing capacity, creating connections, increasing the voice of young people and enabling ongoing funding opportunities.

Areas for Development

Intended aims

It is quite challenging to identify how to measure the progress and success of Time to Shine as a strategy. It sets out aims and objectives, but not specifically the logic of why we are undertaking these activities, or the practicalities of who will do what, and what we will achieve by when.

Development in this area could include updated aims and outcomes aligned to the vision of Time to Shine, with achievable milestones and a developed understanding of the role all stakeholders can play in bringing about change.

Focus

The implementation of Time to Shine ambitiously took forward many of the strategy's objectives, but it is not clear that these were prioritised and set to a ten-year timeline.

Development in this area could therefore look at re-defining a more discrete set of objectives, aligning these to achievable milestones and a timeline which incorporates the full vision of the strategy – concluding in 2023.

Equality

Although qualitative evidence suggests that the focus of the implementation of Time to Shine has been on removing barriers to access, the hard evidence around addressing inequalities and developing mechanisms which allow access for all is weak. Although this is challenging to measure, this is a real priority for the future, given the main aims of the strategy.

Development in this area could focus on improving skills in evidence gathering, developing more robust monitoring systems, and learning from those who are doing good work in this field.

Embedding TTS in existing ways of working

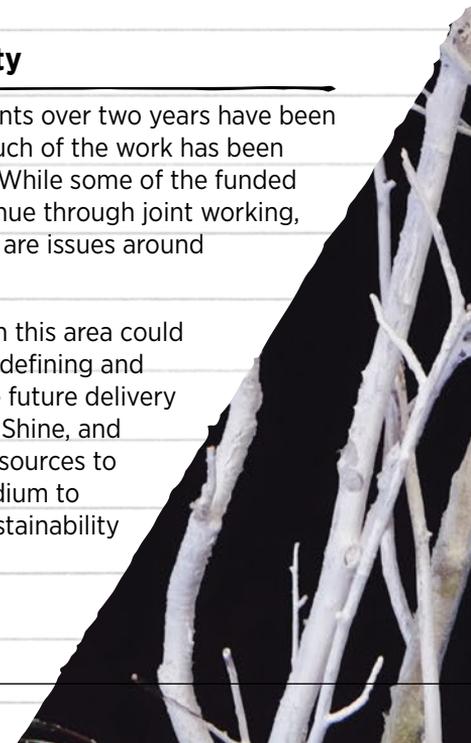
The implementation of Time to Shine focused very strongly on funding distribution and co-ordination. There is limited awareness of the strategy beyond funded activity, and the ways in which organisations can connect with the Time to Shine agenda needs to be articulated and thought through more clearly. The strategy does not set out key roles and responsibilities.

Development in this area could therefore potentially involve working to achieve change through adapting existing ways of working – at local and national level. This would require Time to Shine to be prioritised at senior level, and embedded across the work of Creative Scotland, as well as across wider partnership organisations and agencies.

Sustainability

The achievements over two years have been positive but much of the work has been project based. While some of the funded work will continue through joint working, for many there are issues around sustainability.

Development in this area could include clearly defining and articulating the future delivery role of Time to Shine, and securing the resources to ensure the medium to longer term sustainability of this delivery.





Further information

Creative Scotland has produced a short film to accompany the evaluation of the implementation of Time to Shine. You can view this on our website, along with the full strategy, graphic novel version, evaluation and case studies:

www.creativescotland.com/timetoshine

We welcome your views on Time to Shine:

timetoshine@creativescotland.com

[@TTSYoutharts](https://twitter.com/TTSYoutharts)

Creative Scotland

The implementation of Time to Shine represents one of a range of programmes that Creative Scotland is delivering to support young people in the arts, screen and creative industries. Other programmes include:

Youth Music Initiative

YMI is a music education programme with a vision to put music at the heart of young people's lives and learning. It engages an estimated 226,000 young people annually across Scotland to participate, progress and achieve their potential in or through music making. The national reach of the YMI is made possible through our partnerships with Scotland's 32 Local Authorities, third-sector organisations and the talented and committed music practitioners who deliver over 300 YMI projects each year.

www.creativescotland.com/yymi

Cashback for Creativity

CashBack for Communities is a Scottish Government programme which takes funds recovered from the proceeds of crime and invests them into free activities and programmes for young people across Scotland. As part of this, CashBack for Creativity supports young people to participate in creative and cultural activity, increase their confidence and learn new skills.

www.creativescotland.com/cashback

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. Through funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery, we enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland.

We want to develop a shared vision for creativity, and raise awareness of the value of the arts and creativity within learning and teaching.

Find out more at

creativescotland.com/youngpeople

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October 2016