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# NATIONAL YOUTH ARTS STRATEGY

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## TIME TO SHINE ONE YEAR ON

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2 OCTOBER 2014  
PERTH CONCERT HALL





ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

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TIME TO SHINE | ONE YEAR ON was held at Perth Concert Hall on 2 October. The event welcomed 52 attendees from across the youth arts sector and included representatives from GENERATION, Into Film, Scottish Ballet, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Scottish Youth Theatre, National Youth Choir of Scotland, National Youth Orchestras of Scotland, YDance and Youth Theatre Arts Scotland. The event was a mixture of updates from Creative Scotland, presentations from across the sector on innovative work which had embraced the qualities of *Time To Shine* and a feedback session facilitated by Jackie Skutt allowing attendees to share their ideas for *Time To Shine*. To keep up to date with the continuing development of *Time To Shine*, follow us on twitter @TTSYoutharts or check the website [\*here\*](#).

The Time To Shine Implementation Programme is the two year inception and development phase of the National Youth Arts Strategy that Creative Scotland has been commissioned to manage.

This implementation programme is aligned to the 23 strategic objectives of Time To Shine and each of these objectives is designed to target the three key themes of the strategy

- **Participation**      Creating and sustaining engagement
- **Progression**      Nurturing potential and talent
- **Provision**        Developing infrastructure and support.

Supported to the value of £5 million by the Young Scots Fund granted by the Scottish Government, the implementation phase of Time To Shine commenced in April of this year after a six month period of development.

The first initiative saw the launch of the £3.5 million Hub Development Fund. As a result of this initiative nine new Youth Arts Hubs have now emerged and are set to develop and improve youth arts provision across 10 regions of Scotland and engaging in working with over 40,000 children and young people.

## WHERE ARE WE TO-DATE

### 7 months into this 2 year implementation phase?

#### Participation:

- As part of the **National Youth Arts Advisory Group** project 13 young people from across Scotland have been selected to form the 'Youth Arts Voice Scotland' group. This group has been put in place to advise on the development and forward plans of Time To Shine.
- The National Youth Arts Companies (National Youth Orchestras of Scotland, the National Youth Choir of Scotland, YDance and Scottish Youth Theatre) have each had an offer of support to deliver bespoke national programmes of work that align to the strategic objectives of Time To Shine.
- A subsidised programme of support has been offered to the Youth Arts Hubs to develop engagement with children and young people focusing on ages 0-13. We are also in the process of initiating action research aimed at sharing best practice in early years engagement.
- We have been working with the film, visual arts and literature sectors to develop more opportunity for sustained national access for young people. We have been in conversation with GENERATION, Engage, Into Film, Film Access Network Scotland and the Scottish Book Trust to share developments and explore development opportunity.

#### Progression:

- A Time To Shine 'Youth Arts Awards Index' has been produced to profile awards schemes currently available in Scotland for arts activities. This document is available [here](#).
- The **Nurturing Talent/Time To Shine Fund** has been created to provide small grants to young people aged 14-20. More information can be found [here](#).

### Provision:

- Youth Arts Programme Management Team has been established within Creative Scotland to run the implementation of the programme.
- Nine Youth Arts Hubs have been created putting the foundations in place for developed youth arts infrastructure and provision in: Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire; Moray; Highlands; West Dunbartonshire; Glasgow; Argyle & Bute; Ayrshire; Edinburgh and Fife.
- In support of this – targeted funding is supporting a series of regional development projects in several areas not currently supported by a Youth Arts Hub. We are working with partners in the South of Scotland and the Western Isles and will post developments about these projects in due course.
- A ‘Framework of Sector Engagement’ has been created to ensure all art forms are included and represented in the implementation and forward development of Time To Shine – to which this update event belongs, alongside national network meetings with the Youth Arts Hubs partners as well as regular structured meetings with the National Youth Arts Companies.

### And finally:

- We are working directly with Evaluation Support Scotland, funded partners and our Youth Arts Voice Scotland group to evaluate and report on the forward direction of Time to Shine.

## FORWARD DEVELOPMENT

### Participation:

- Through targeted funding, we aim to work with partners to share best practice through initiating action research focusing on:
  - Barriers to access
  - Progression
  - Engagement for young people in challenging and complex situations
- Developing a Young Arts Ambassadors Scheme.
- We will conclude the two year implementation phase of Time To Shine with a National Children and Young People's Arts Conference in the Summer of 2016. At this event we will aim to share and profile the many learning experiences, outcomes and outputs of all Time To Shine activity developed to that point.
- As mentioned above, we are continuing to work with the film, visual arts and literature sectors. Through managed funding it is our aim to work with partners to evolve project work to develop more opportunity for sustained national access to literature for young people.

## Progression:

- Establishing a national mentoring programme with two strands: professional to young person and young person to young person.
- Developing youth employment initiatives to increase opportunities for young people to gain employment experience in the arts and creative industries. This includes sustaining the SCVO Arts and Creative Industries Graduate Internship Programme providing paid internship opportunities for unemployed graduates. We are also working with Skills Development Scotland to explore further developments.
- Developing a cohort of ‘arts champions’ to promote the value of youth arts. Again, this is a focus area of the Youth Arts Voice Scotland group.

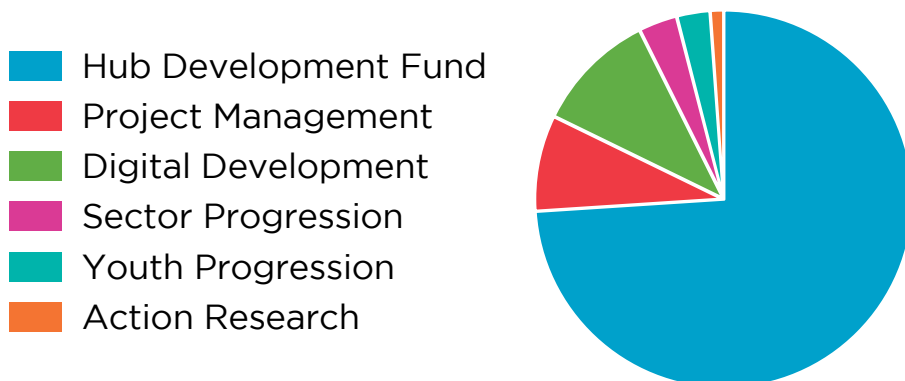
## And spanning participation, progression and provision:

Digitally, we aim to:

- 1 Through targeted funding – launch a programme to enable industry professionals, young people and the youth arts sector to pioneer and pilot the concept of a ‘digital playground’, a space where young people are able to connect, learn and experiment.
- 2 Establish a Creative Scotland hosted online calendar of young people’s arts events and opportunity – with further information linking to Time To Shine.
- 3 Develop an online evaluation tool to help stakeholders assess the impact and benefits of work with young people in creative fields.

## BUDGET:

The £5 million granted by the Scottish Government for this implementation phase of Time To Shine is being divided in the following ways:



## HUBS

A core focus of the implementation phase is the nine Youth Arts Hubs who have each been working hard to establish themselves since funding was awarded earlier this year.

### **A reminder that the purpose of the Hub Development Fund and the aim of the Youth Arts Hubs was to:**

- Extend the breadth and depth of regional youth arts engagement.
- Improve regional infrastructure for work with children and young people.
- Effectively engage children and young people as decision makers.
- Improve collaboration between local, regional and national youth arts providers and other youth service providers.
- Raise the local, regional and national profile of youth arts.
- Use digital media as an integral element of regional development.



## West Dunbartonshire

**The #FreshCreations Hub is led by Y Sort It and is a consortium of nine partners.**

#FreshCreations launches 13 October with a week-long programme of free taster workshops across many art forms. Free transportation will run throughout the week and consultation with the young people will gauge interest and the most successful tasters. These will be turned into 8-10 week blocks of workshop activity which will run from the end of October to late December.

## Ayrshire

**The Ayrshire Youth Arts Network Hub is led by Ayr Gaiety and is a consortium of 10 partners.**

Partners have been working on the development of the Hub including a mapping exercise, recruiting a Youth Advisory Group, partner development and setting up a digital platform. Plans to develop digital hubs in each region are underway, and young people are working to create a main digital platform. An official 'Hub launch' will take place in Irvine 13 November.

## Edinburgh

**Creative Hive is led by Out of the Blue and is a consortium of 13 partners.**

Out of the Blue has undertaken a four month project development phase, which is coming to an end in early October 2014. In that time, they have engaged partners in a series of planning workshops, developed the staffing and apprenticeship model and recruited a Project Manager to lead on delivery. The main programme of arts activity is on track to commence in January 2015.

## Aberdeen

**The Aberdeen and North East Hub is led by Aberdeen Performing Arts and is a consortium of 16 partners.**

Consultation and dialogue work gets underway in October, with a web and social media presence emerging soon after. Since September, the Hub has been undertaking desk research, consolidating partnership approach, and forming working and delivery groups around key outcomes. A dedicated Youth Arts Hub Co-ordinator joins the team in October.

## Glasgow

**The Glasgow Hub is led by Glasgow CAN and is a consortium of 15 partners.**

A partnership of multi art form grassroots participative arts companies from across Glasgow, the driving force behind the Hubs programme and strategic development is youth led committees (that is Youth Empowerment, Arts Festival Planning and Artform Explore) where young people will play a vital role in shaping and informing development.

## Fife

**The Fife Hub is led by the Fife Cultural Trust and is a consortium of 12 partners.**

Fife has been working with two appointed young people to research what's on across Fife and has called this programme 'Exploring Fife Youth Arts'. The recruitment process for a Youth Arts Manager, Coordinator and Digital Coordinator has started and a steering group has begun to enrol young directors and ambassadors.

## Moray

**The iGnite Hub is led by Findhorn Bay Arts and is a consortium of 23 partners.**

The iGNITE Youth Arts Programme was launched as part of a 'Culture Day' as part of the Findhorn Bay Arts Festival that has just taken place. As part of the groundwork, the Hub is working with a wide variety of Youth and Community Groups who have all taken part in this event. Following development, the in-depth Hub youth arts programme will start in March 2015.

## Highlands

**The Highlands Hub is led by Fèis Rois and is a consortium of 12 partners.**

Highlands Hub has developed a 10 year strategy for the region and all partners have put a call out for young people to join the Youth Arts Forum. In September a cross art form residential took place led by Fèis Rois and Moniack Mhor. Work to develop methods of partnership working is ongoing and the post of Project Manager has been advertised.

## Argyll

**The Argyll Hub is led by Comar and is a consortium of nine partners.**

Argyll has developed their Hub branding through a competition with local schools, led by the Creative Arts in Schools Team. The young person who won this competition (Grace Carol) will now go on to develop the brand of the hub by working in collaboration with a professional designer. Recruitment has started for a youth advisory group and a phase of research and development is in progress with the post of Creative Producer to be advertised soon.

## A round up from the open session feedback

We asked delegates to come up with three quick wins which would enable us to move towards achieving the ambitions and outcomes of Time To Shine. In groups you gave us the following feedback:

### Three Quick Wins

Stronger connections between youth organisations and arts organisations (regionally and nationally)

Grassroots need a voice at policy level to influence change

What is the current infrastructure?

Publically available mapping of arts provision for the sector  
We need to see where projects are needed

Raise profile of Time To Shine with non-arts adults e.g more adult and child opportunities  
Education Scotland support to promote to all schools  
Bring formal and informal together

Build relationships between practitioners – overcome perception that we are ‘competing’  
Set up market place for young people to choose providers?

REGIONAL CREATIVE CONNECTORS to link grassroots, statutory, voluntary and community organisations to influence national policy and development

#### CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE

- develop and implement
- training budget for addressing gaps
- recognition of good practice

#### MENTORING PROGRAMME

- pilot projects
- consultation on development of mentoring
- internships/mentoring

Advocacy/campaign  
Shift in perception  
Youth Arts Commissioner

Symposium  
Invite the change makers – wider sector

Key Performance Indicator Evaluation  
Peer Review  
Accountability

## OCCURRING THEMES

- Greater need for youth arts and youth organisations to be aware of Time To Shine and to contribute to discussion ongoing development
- Stronger connections needed between arts and non-arts organisations
- Grassroots need a voice at policy level
- Better picture of current infrastructure needed/mapping exercise that is publically available

### **Blog from James Kane, aged 15, member of Youth Arts Voice Scotland**

As part of being a member of 'Youth Arts Voice Scotland (YAVS)' I had the opportunity to represent the organisation at the 'Time To Shine: One Year On' event, in which I spoke a little about the work YAVS did on the fund itself. The fact that the members of the group got to make important decisions on the fund (e.g. eligibility, the phrasing of the application and how much was given to successful candidates) was in my opinion – and I'm almost certain in everybody else's – a good idea. It is encouraging to know that Creative Scotland and Young Scot value our input, opinion and ideas. I also touched briefly on some of the criteria that applicants had to meet (e.g. being aged 14-20, living in Scotland etc.) and the reason why we chose these criteria – for example we thought this age range was suitable as the fund aims to encourage and support young talent in Scotland whose age means they are less able to tap into mainstream arts based funding.

I believe that the event went very well and YAVS were represented well by my fellow members and I – we received a warm response from industry professionals and I was even invited to sit on an interview panel with 'Arts Qwest'.





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