



arts depot

ARTSDEPOT SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT

APRIL 2023 - MARCH 2024

A CREATIVE HOME FOR EVERYONE

As we work to become increasingly accessible, engaging the many diverse communities of our borough, we achieved significant impact over this period. That included welcoming 170,000 visits to our venue including 12,000 children and young people taking part in learning and performance opportunities, and we reached 1,500 people in community settings. We believe organisations such as artsdepot are more vital than ever during these difficult times and we are proud of all we have achieved in the year, including free facilities and events, support for artists, our work with people of all ages and backgrounds, local partnerships, and our dedicated and committed teams. We continue to navigate through the challenges of high inflation and increased costs of living, which have had an impact not only on how we function internally but also in how we support the wider community and the users of artsdepot.



Monique Deletant
Chief Executive



ARTSDEPOT IN NUMBERS

170,000 visits to our venue

1,500 engaged
in community settings

12,000 children and young
people took part in creative learning
and performance at artsdepot

510 ticketed performances
in our theatres

83,506* tickets sold
generating **£1,196,845** – up 24%
*(*29,059 sold on behalf of community
partners)*

£14.38 average ticket price

£2.6 million turnover

100+ local jobs supported

106 community partners
generated 12% of revenue

2000+ attendances at 4 free festival events
including Book Buzz and Brain Freeze at artsdepot, Fun
Palaces at **Colindale Communities Trust** and
Summer Solstice in **West Hendon**

14 free exhibitions

82 participants on our Inclusive Summer Camps
(29 on free places)

8 young people with learning disabilities
took part in a creative careers group learning
programme followed by work placements

448 free or subsidised tickets
from our Access Fund

147 members
in The Arts & Culture Network



THE PLACE FOR CULTURE IN BARNET

ACCESS FUND

Through donations from our supporters we provided 255 free tickets, 193 subsidised tickets, and 100 free festive parcels with food treats and games.

Distribution partners included: Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, Homestart Barnet, Solace Women's Aid, Rays of Sunshine, New Citizen's Gateway

"The joy and warmth these gifts brought were immeasurable, your support has not only provided material comfort but also sent a message of care and solidarity to the refugee community. Once again, thank you for being a beacon of hope for those in need."

Farida Stanikzai – Operations Manager,
New Citizens Gateway

All The Women We Could Have Been

An exhibition created by IN/Visible Disabled Women's National Art Collective, a group of leading disabled women artists aged 50+. Presented in association with ARC Stockton, the exhibition explores what life might have been like for disabled women had external limitations not been in place.

Under The Little Red Moon

A beautiful immersive sensory show for babies and their carers presented by English Touring Opera.

Abigail's Party

Following requests from our audiences to bring more theatre for adult audiences to our stages, we presented **Abigail's Party** by London Classic Theatre. *"Brilliant show, still relevant today. Very well acted and authentic sets"*

Russell Maliphant

Breathtaking contemporary dance from one of the most established choreographers of current times.

The Bar at The Edge Of Time

by Frozen Light Theatre

Frozen Light brought their latest show for young adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD). **The Bar at the Edge of Time** is an intimate, multi-sensory experience for a small audience, attended by 24 young people and their parents / carers.



YOUNG PEOPLE

Autumn Schools Project

In Autumn 2023, artsdepot worked with **GeoTone CIC**, an inclusive arts and technology social enterprise to deliver our Autumn schools workshops and gallery exhibition. **The project engaged 50 students** at Hyde & Orion Primary Schools, and Northgate Secondary School exploring sustainability in the built environment.



B&CY Young Advocates

We engaged **PapaTango Theatre Company** to run a workshop programme for young people to explore playwriting activities including creating monologues, which were then performed and filmed.

Inclusive Summer Camp

Delivered in partnership with Impact Theatre Company.

This year we delivered two Inclusive Summer camps over 4 weeks with **36 participants** working towards a review style Studio Theatre performance, and **46 presenting High School Musical** in our Pentland Theatre. 29 received free places, 15 had access support needs, and all 82 received a free daily cooked lunch.



Regional showcase venue

National Theatre Connections Festival, and **Host of a Youth Takeover Festival** produced by Youth Advocates – young people representing the local education partnership for Barnet (BCEP).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We were delighted to host:

A musical skills Summer Camp presented by **Barnet Education Arts Trust**. Two **Black History Month** events, the first by the **African and Caribbean Cultural Society of Barnet**, the second a show in our Studio Theatre presented by **JUST IN Carnival Arts & Culture CIC**. A community event presented by **Barnet Asian Women's Association**. Events presented by **The London Independent Iranian Community Artists Association**, and an exhibition from **Finchley Art Society**.

6,000 children and young people performed over **Barnet Schools Music and Dance Festivals**, and **Shakespeare Schools Festival**.



We hosted the **Community Focus Summer Exhibition** including digital artworks, collage, sculpture, paintings and jewellery inspired by the **King's Coronation** and **Eurovision Song Contest**.

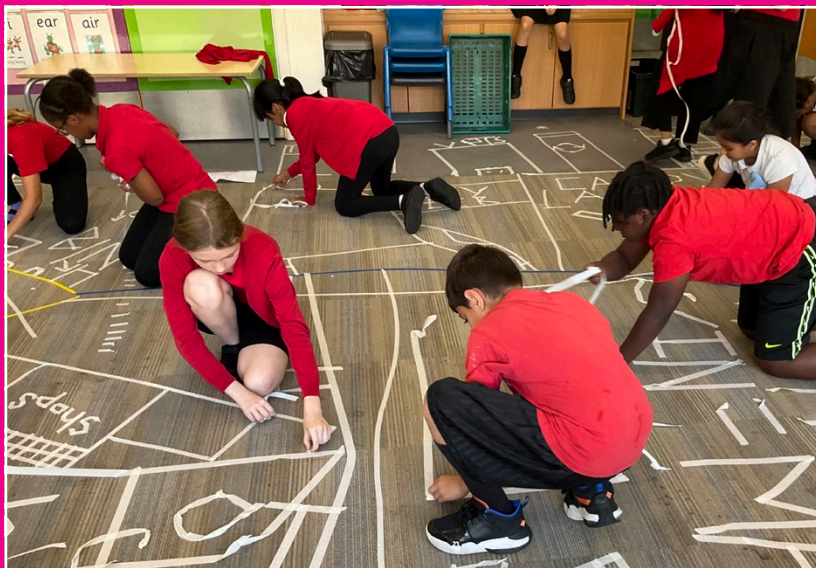
Our in-house team also produced a range of community activities...

Such as **Matinee Lunch Club** events for older people at risk of isolation, a **Creative Circle writers group** and an **Older Adults Dance group** both for Over 55's that meet weekly at artsdepot.

We hosted a special performance for **Ukrainian Independence Day** presented by Ukrainian actors based in the UK, and a **Romania Day** cultural festival – both supported by Barnet Council.



ARTSDEPOT ACROSS THE BOROUGH



Autumn 2023 artsdepot secured **£500k over 3 years** for **Barnet & Culture for Youth** (a cultural education partnership) to launch a programme expanding cultural education in Barnet. This funding will support artist residencies in a Pupil Referral Unit and Special Educational Needs schools, it will send touring shows to faith and other schools, place artists in residence in schools, and launch workshops for home educated children and young people.



BARNET & CULTURE FOR YOUTH

Delivery of new programme activities started Autumn 2023 with a **co-curated artist residency** in the Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit.

6 Microgrants placed artists in schools and community settings with awards going to Independent Jewish Day School, Northgate School, Cracking Slate, St Agnes School, Protima Dance Project, and North London Music Therapy.

B&CY now has **147 arts and education members**, we share opportunities by newsletters and deliver termly CPD workshops.

We established the **Arts & Culture Network** bringing together **over 150 interested parties** in support of a bid for Borough of Culture, we started regular network meetings and information sharing, and secured support for training events and mentoring creative businesses.

ARTSDEPOT AS A SECTOR LEADER

In addition to sending quarterly newsletters to an artists e-list sharing opportunities about funding and support, and providing a series of CPD workshops, we also selected 8 artist residency projects for support.

Adam Lenson is working on a musical theatre production supported by the Tsitsit (Jewish) Fringe Festival *IS IT TOO LATE NOW TO SAY SORRY?*

Cracking Slate is a new company making work for young people. They will be developing a play about free will and making your own choices.

Jennifer Jackson will create a durational performance 'Pas-de-deux' with a large cast in a series of encounters for two people at a time.

Maghsood Salehi draws on his experience as a journalist in exile to travel on an imaginary journey returning to his home, Tehran. The piece will be a multimedia performance exploring identity, migration and the idea of return.

Meryl O'Rouke a stand up comedian working on a play supported by the Young Vic's Neighbourhood Voice programme. *Thrown By Giants* is based on Meryl's grandmother's experiences in a WWII internment camp for women on the Isle of Man.

Mwansa Phiri is collaborating with Visual Sauce working on *Next Level*, a choose-your own-adventure rap musical about four friends trapped inside a video game.

OftheJackel make visual theatre specialising in work for hearing and D/deaf audiences, they will be working on *Plant*, a comic celebration of the natural world.

Rachel Barnett-Jones is an established playwright working on a project about her family's involvement in the free school milk acts of the 1930s, supported by The Peggy Ramsay Foundation.



Case Study:

We hosted a pre-Edinburgh performance of former residency artists, queer collective Stroud and Notes show *Public*. The show is a musical about understanding difference, tolerance and laughter, where four very different strangers get stuck in a gender-neutral public toilet.

'What ultimately makes the show a success is the terrific melodies and vocal talents of the company that makes each song a banger'

★★★★ What's On Stage

SEN Work Experience & Work Placements

Eight young people with Special Education Needs joined us for a ten week, one day per week, group learning programme where they gain an insight into roles and responsibilities required to run a busy arts centre. All 8 went onto work placements at artsdepot and with partners **Chickenshed, Community Focus and Apex Projects**. We also welcomed 15 young people onto our one week intensive group learning mainstream work experience programme.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS



Our energy consumption over 23/24 required 211 tonnes of CO2 emissions - **down by 11 tonnes** from 222 tonnes in 23/24.

That's roughly a **5% reduction in CO2** over a period when audience numbers increased by 23% on the previous year.

How did we do that?

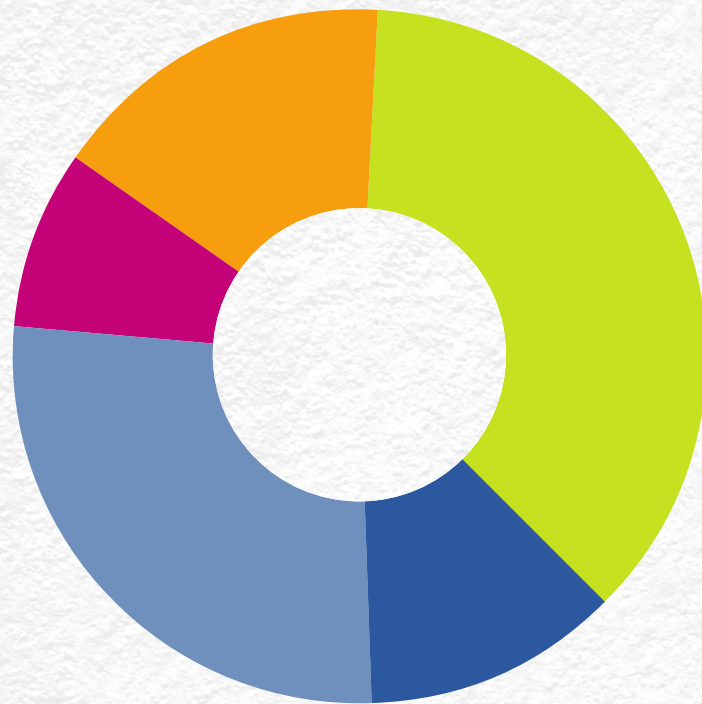
- Only using escalators for schools incomings and when requested by patrons
- Encouraging visitors to use stairs rather than lifts
- Identifying low use areas and times and reducing heat and light

Other initiatives to improve environmental impact:

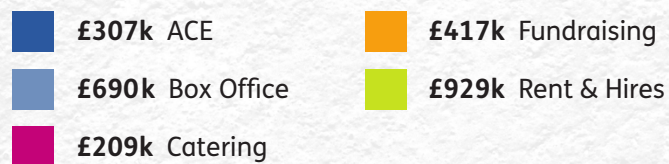
- We expanded our plant based catering offer
- We stopped using single use plastic cups introducing hard plastic and paper cups
- We became a Bee Friendly Buzz Stop planting wild flowers in pots on balconies across the building

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

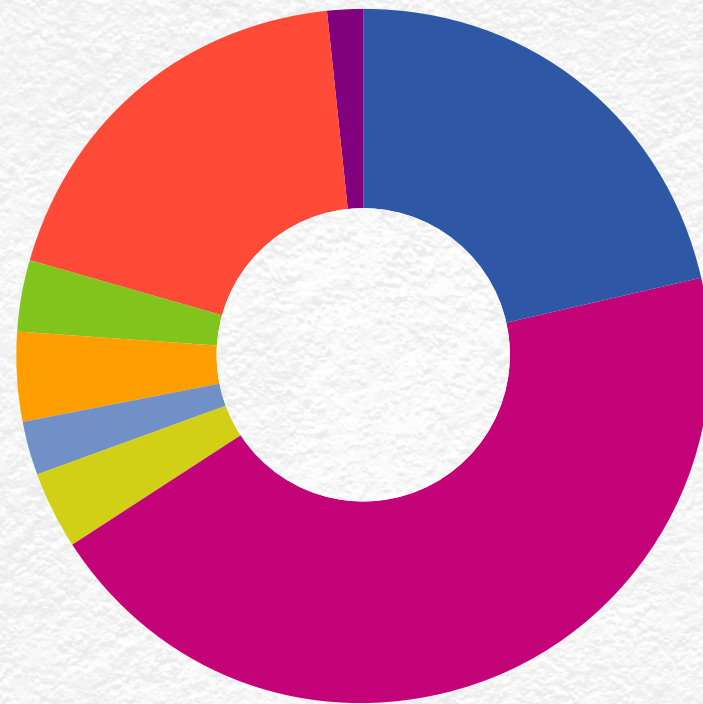
GROSS INCOME £2.553 MILLION



KEY:



GROSS EXPENDITURE £2.635 MILLION



KEY:



OUR SUPPORTERS

Many thanks to over 2000 patrons who supported through ticketing donations and memberships including artsdepot Associates and Advocate Supporters: Jeanette Adak, Johnathan Beeston, Joan Fogel, Rolanda Hyams, Nicola Koppelman, Martin Norwood, Himanshu Shah and Dr Andreas Zollmann.

WE ARE ALSO VERY GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTERS

Arts Council England • The Backstage Trust • The Childhood Trust • City Bridge Foundation
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust • Esmée Fairbairn Foundation • The Foyle Foundation
Garfield Weston Foundation • Jesus Hospital Charity • John Horniman's Children's Trust
John Lyon's Charity • The John Thaw Foundation • London Borough of Barnet • London Architecture Festival
Metropolitan & Thames Valley Housing • The National Lottery Community Fund • Ove Arup Foundation
Pentland Brands Plc • Red Hill Trust • The Sobell Foundation • Scops Arts Trust • Souter Charitable Trust
The Thistle Trust • Waitrose Community Matters • W G Edwards Charitable Foundation
Young Barnet Foundation • The Estate of Marjorie Susan Younger



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ENGLAND**



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artsdepot, 5 Nether Street, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley, London, N12 0GA



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