

# TRINITY:



# TRINITY COMMUNITY ARTS

Annual Report 2022/23



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Our first full year back post-pandemic we embarked on several initiatives exemplifying our commitment to living our values and extending our impact beyond our four walls.

We used the arts as a powerful tool to celebrate and connect communities, actively engaging with the community living in our immediate locality through projects like Eastside People and Places, reducing loneliness and isolation while promoting inclusivity.

We focused on facilitating creative provision for the youngest members of the community through initiatives like Creative Play sessions, in collaboration with the East Bristol Children's Centre, to support families disproportionately affected by the effects of lockdown.

The Trinity Centre is such an iconic building and as the financial year closes, we are demonstrating that we are so much more than just a venue.

I am very proud of all that Trinity has achieved and give praise to the team who continue to demonstrate their strength and loyalty.



**Mijanou Blech**  
Chair of Trustees, Trinity Community Arts



In 2022/23

**73,173**

People engaged with Trinity's programme

Across **1,202**

individual events, activities and sessions

**86%** of activities were offered as free/subsidised hire or part of our in-house programme







# CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Creating connections through nature, arts and play

## CREATIVE PLAY (0-5yrs)

**Our hyper-local approach enables children to take their first and next steps in creativity.**

Working with Central Bristol Children's Centre and Lawrence Hill Health Centre, we delivered weekly Stay and Play sessions for pre-school families - designed to develop creativity.

Local families took part in free-to-access garden sessions. Many families who attend have limited access to green spaces in their local community.

We continued to work in partnership with Creative Shift to target families who were disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

**Estimated 199** Children and their parent/carer attended Stay and Play Sessions

**114** children took part in weekend and holiday garden activity

**45%** of participants who took part in weekend garden sessions live within a 0.5 miles radius of the centre



"I've had a chance to really connect with my child in a way that I don't think I really had before and I wanted to before he went to school. I feel a lot more connected to him and more calm"

**Parent, Creative Play**



## CREATIVE ACTIVATION (5-11 yrs)

We worked in partnership with grassroots organisations and local primary schools to deliver targeted and co-created provision.

We extended our 'Art Club' Project, delivered in partnership with Take A Part at Hannah More Primary School, providing an additional 12 creative sessions within a school setting.

In partnership with award winning dance company Movema, we launched a year-long dance project - 'World in a Box' - in partnership with three primary schools.

We supported resident groups with free/subsidised space, including Hype Dance (Helping Young People Excel). Classes are designed to teach dance, build confidence, and improve social skills.

38 children took part in Art Club

Estimated 139 children attended HYPE Dance session

73% of children reported they felt more confident after taking part in 'World in a Box'



"We are so excited to be able to provide new opportunities for our families through our close relationship with the Trinity Centre and their lovely teams! There's something for everyone coming up, so watch this space!"

**Sarah Franke, Community Development Worker,  
Hannah More Primary School**





# CREATIVE EMPOWERMENT (11-16yrs)

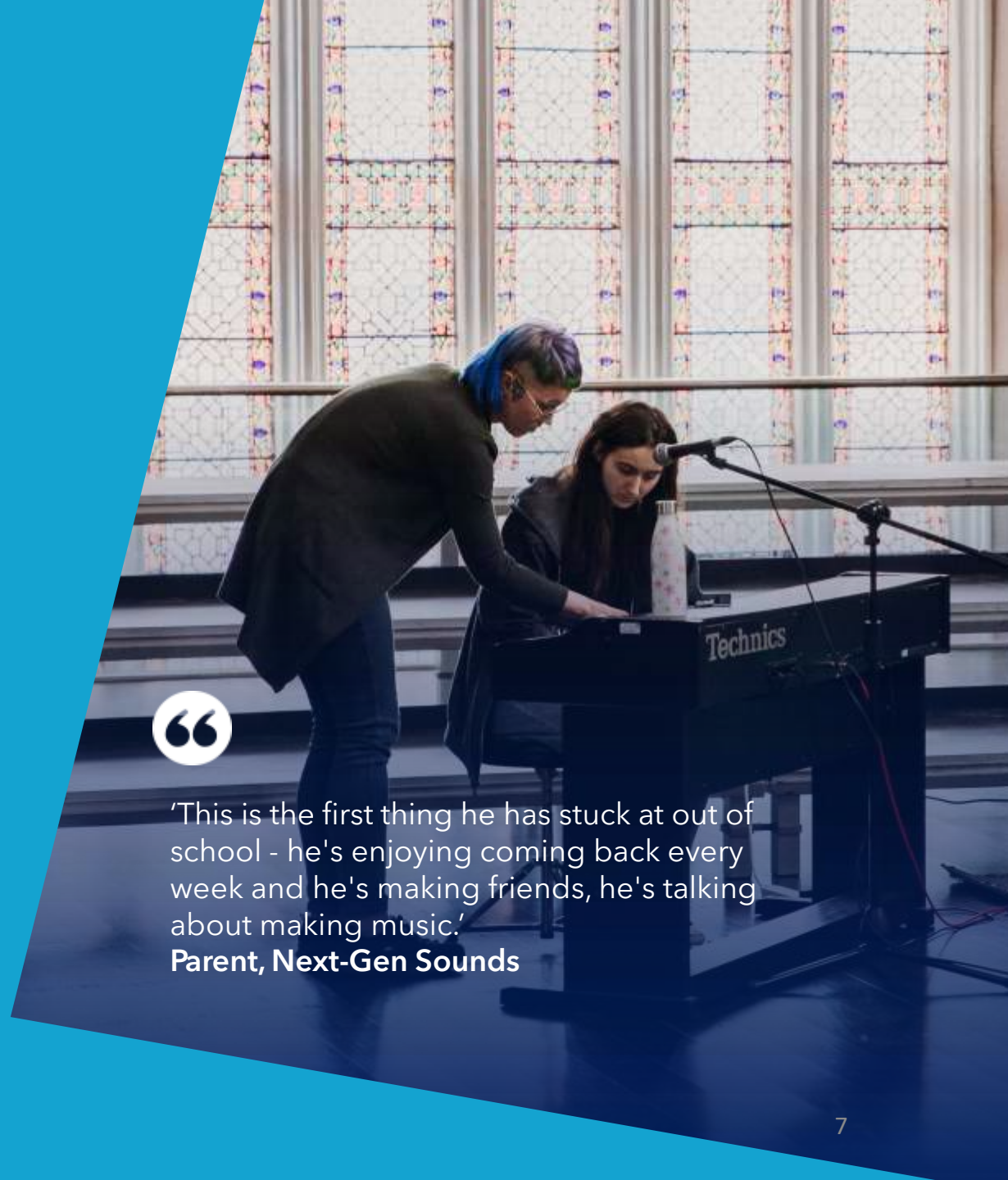
We programmed free-to-access creative sessions designed to celebrate and nurture creative skills.

We launched open-access sessions, Next-Gen Sounds, in January 2023. These weekly music sessions are an opportunity for young people aged 14-25 to learn music-making skills including songwriting and producing.

We worked with referral partners in Health and Education to deliver 1-2-1 and group music sessions. Sessions are tailored for young people on the edge of education or experiencing challenging circumstances.

**155** young people attended 1-1 or small group tutoring.

Between Jan - Mar  
**17** young people attended the first term of Next-Gen Sounds



'This is the first thing he has stuck at out of school - he's enjoying coming back every week and he's making friends, he's talking about making music.'

**Parent, Next-Gen Sounds**

# IN FOCUS: NEXT-GEN SOUNDS

Next-Gen Sounds is a weekly open-access music programme that provides a platform for young people to develop their music-making skills.

The sessions are supported by young people's mental health charity, Off The Record, and delivered by professional tutors. Young people help shape the direction of the sessions by sharing what music-making skills they wish to learn or improve.

50% of Next-Gen participants had not visited Trinity before and many expressed their appreciation for the programme, with one stating "I wanted to come back! It's easy, no judgement, no pressure, it's fun."

In March 2023, 17 young people taking part in the sessions performed as part of a showcase celebration in Fyfe Hall, in front of a live audience.

Next-Gen sounds is delivered in partnership with youth service providers Creative Youth Network, Basement and Aspiration Creation Elevation (ACE).



“

'I have observed young people connecting through music and swapping phone numbers to meet outside of sessions. These connections will outlast any input we can have. They are creating their own supportive networks. We are just facilitating the space'

**Staff Member, Next-Gen Sounds**



# CREATIVE ASPIRATION (16-25yrs)

**We connected young creatives with industry professionals, offering support and introductions to shape the cultural workforce of the future.**

Through our Music Masterclasses series, young people met with top industry professionals, including Neffa-T, TLK, Sinai Sound System, NSL and Noods Radio.

We launched Speak Out, a new project that offers young people an opportunity to gain skills in using the arts to address social issues.

In collaboration with Off the Record and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, we offered free-to-access 'Making Music for Mental Health' sessions, a project that enabled young people to express themselves creatively through togetherness and community.

**65** young people took part in **6** Music Masterclasses

**28** young people took part in partnership projects including Music for Mental Health



## IN FOCUS: TYREKE

Tyreke is a former participant in Trinity's young people programme. He shared his story of how access to music provision helped change his life.

Tyreke says that one of the biggest benefits of taking part in Trinity's youth music programme is the technical skills he learned while using music software. He was also able to take part in sessions where professionals in the music industry delivered workshops and provided advice.

Having the opportunity to share his work with other people gave Tyreke confidence - he became more comfortable giving live demonstrations and encouraging his peers to get involved in music production.

Ultimately, Tyreke's experience shows us just how valuable access to music provision can be for young people. Trinity gave him the chance to develop a passion for music, hone his skills, and even pursue freelance work in the creative field. It's inspiring to see how Tyreke's story has come full circle, as he now works to help other young people get involved in music production and connect with creative industries by working for organisations like Babassa and South Bristol Youth.



“Trinity really helped me break through and feel a lot more confident in myself as a musician. Having the opportunity to share work that you’ve produced with other people has been a massive boost to my confidence”

**Tyreke, Participant**



A photograph of a person singing into a microphone on stage, with a DJ in the background. The image is overlaid with a teal color filter. The text "TRINITY PRESENTS" is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below it, the text "Amplifying unheard voices and celebrating the rich cultural tapestry of Bristol" is written in a smaller, white, lowercase font.

# TRINITY PRESENTS

Amplifying unheard voices and celebrating the rich cultural tapestry of Bristol

# PERFORMANCE AND DANCE

Through our combined arts programme we celebrated Bristol's rich cultural heritage and used our position to advocate for the sector.

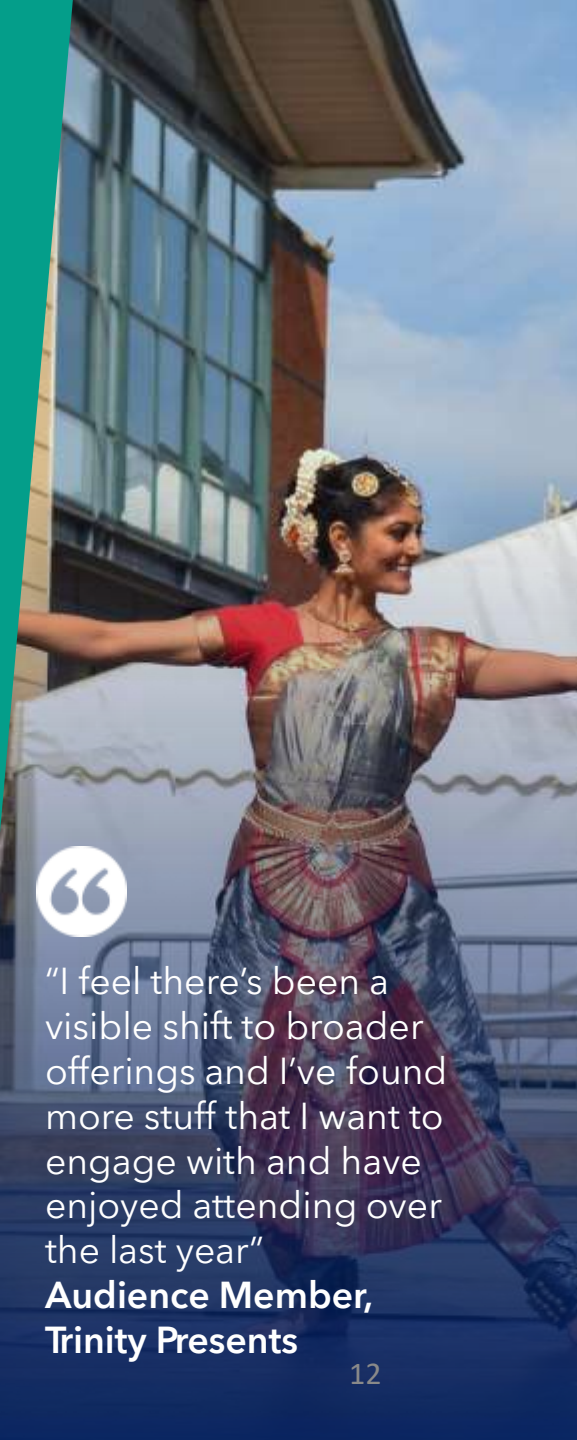
We partnered with Radix and the DIY Arts Network to curate a showcase at the Big Tent Festival, inviting Bristol-based creatives and organisations to present the city's cultural offerings. We led the Dance Stage programming at the Bristol Harbour Festival, featuring Traditional Irish Dancing, Street Dance, and Community Dance.

We teamed up with the 16th Afrika Eye Film Festival to bring our local audience the internationally acclaimed photo exhibition "More Than A Number" and film screening of "Casablanca Beats," in collaboration with UWE and BoomSatstuma.

We provided free/subsidised hire and producer support to Bristol artists, including Mohammed Errebba for his project "Lila," a Moroccan Gnawa traditional ceremony featuring music, dance, costume, and incense. We also assisted the resident group Black Creatives in organising a fundraising event in memory of Chris Kaba following his tragic murder in London.

**14** Bristol-based creatives and sector professionals took part in the Big Tent Programme

Estimated **2500** audience members for the Dance Stage at Harbour Festival



"I feel there's been a visible shift to broader offerings and I've found more stuff that I want to engage with and have enjoyed attending over the last year"

**Audience Member,  
Trinity Presents**



## LIVE MUSIC AND CLUB



"I've been so lucky to play alongside people I've heavily admired for years both within the walls of Trinity, and outside for their iconic Garden Party."

**Grove, Artist**

We celebrated Trinity's heritage, platforming creatives who represent the many communities local to Trinity.

We continued to build upon our regional and national profile, programming Dancehall legend Sister Nancy and our sellout NYE event with Female/Non-Binary collective, Booty Bass. We partnered with home grown collectives to programme local talent alongside headline acts, bringing Bristol artists such as Grove to perform alongside MC Yallah and Debmater.

We delivered another exceptional Garden Party, welcoming over 3,500 people to Trinity. Our second Garden Party was themed around 'Art of Resistance', platforming Bristol-based artists Grove, Kahn, Rider Shafique and Rita Lynch.

In The Den - our seasonal outdoor venue - we connected with Bristol-based collectives Peachin' and Club Djembe to programme day parties and launched weeknight events, 'The Den Socials', featuring takeovers from DJ collectives.

**3904** people attended 18 events as part of our in house Trinity Presents programme

**4771** people attended our two free community Garden Parties

**151** artists were offered paid opportunities

A photograph of a man and several children in a room, possibly a classroom or community center. The man is leaning over a table, and the children are gathered around it. The entire image is overlaid with a green filter. The text is centered over the image.

# COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

Co-creating with communities to create a relevant cultural offer



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Our community programme worked in partnership with charities, grassroots organisations and community groups to develop and deliver creative and well-being activity.

We welcomed a new resident group, Changes Bristol, to host fortnightly 'Keep Going, Keep Growing' sessions, where participants explored the garden and engaged with arts and crafts to support their mental health and wellbeing.

We offered free-to-access social prescribing activities including Gentle Creative Movement. This 12-week trauma-informed programme of visual arts and craft supported mental health and wellbeing.

We provided subsidised space for community organisations including Coexist to host the 'Bristol Commons Launch', as well as hosting Police Community Outreach sessions.

**3269** people took part in our in-house Community and Neighbourhoods programme

**86%** Of hireable spaces at Trinity was offered as free/subsidised hire or part of our in-house programme



"When we were back home, we would always come together with different families to cook food to share, and the children would play. This is what it was like back home"  
**Muna, Participant, Somali Kitchen**



# IN FOCUS: COEXIST COMMUNITY KITCHEN

We partnered with Coexist Community Kitchen to deliver a series of community gardening and cooking sessions.

The sessions were designed for individuals accessing support for mental health issues, addiction, loneliness, and anyone who would benefit from taking part in outdoor activities to improve their personal wellbeing.

The group learned about and took part in harvesting fresh produce such as carrots, marrows and radishes, before coming together to cook a meal as a group. In one session, participants made Vietnamese-style vegetable spring rolls and pancakes with vegetables and herbs picked straight from the garden.

We delivered six weekly sessions, with around 30 people taking part. Participants spoke about how these sessions help with mental wellbeing, reduced isolation and loneliness, and offered the chance to learn more about cooking and gardening. Being able to offer free, outdoor sessions is something that has become increasingly important, especially post-pandemic, when isolation has become more common.



"I've loved learning to cook authentic meals from different parts of the world, coming together with people from different backgrounds and learning about their food"

**Toby, Participant**



## IN FOCUS: RUTH AND FUN PALACES



We are a key partner in Fun Palaces, a three-year project that is giving power to communities so they can re-think, re-claim or re-purpose civic and community spaces.

As part of the project, local Newtown resident, Ruth, has been supported to develop the 'Recycle City Project'. The project aims to use creativity and technology to imagine a sustainable future City and hopes to include workshops across Bristol and an exhibition.

Most of all, Ruth wants to make a difference in the world around her. She reflects that "we can all make that magic, I'm sure we can make that magic. I think that's what I'm trying to create in my life, not just for myself, for the world".



"I would love what I do to make a big difference in the world, I would love to do all kind of things like create wonderful things for people like homes for homeless people, or create wonderful animal sanctuaries. I just want to be happy with myself and make a huge difference."

**Ruth, Participant, Fun Palaces**

# NEIGHBOURHOODS PROGRAMME

Our Neighbourhoods programme supported hyper-local communities to use creativity to make positive changes in their communities.

We worked in partnership with Eastside Community Trust and Somali Kitchen to support residents to deliver their own neighbourhood-based activities.

At Rosevear House - supported accommodation for the over 55's - we hosted 'Creative Coffee Mornings'. We supported Newtown Network and Brick Project CIC to secure funding for their collaborative community project to create a mural in Newtown. We continued to support neighbourhoods to deliver their own activities, including the annual Newton Street Party and a St Patricks Day Parade.

As a key partner of the Fun Places project, we have been working strategically with stakeholders to steer the national project and share learnings with other community-based organisations across the UK.

**Est. 759** people took part in the Neighbourhoods programme

**50** people took part in Recycle City workshops



"It's amazing that we have finally got Brick Project in Newtown! I am very excited to be working with them"

**Debbie Benjamin, Newtown Network**





# PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships continue to be integral to the delivery of our programme.

By working in partnership, we ensure that provision reaches communities and audiences that are representative of the many stakeholders who use or live around the centre.

Through partnership work, we can share sector knowledge and think strategically about where our work can make the biggest impact.

**83** partners supported the delivery of Trinity's programme.



# VOLUNTEERING

**Volunteers continued to be integral in supporting activity at Trinity.**

In our community garden, volunteers supported sessions to maintain the space, enabling continued delivery of our community-based activities.

Volunteers supported weekly Forest School sessions for primary aged children. One regular volunteer was able to use this experience to find full time employment.

Volunteers also supported one-off events including Trinity's Garden Parties and neighbourhood-based activities including the Newtown Street Party. Volunteers fulfilled roles such as Stewarding and Event Support.

**48** volunteers helped across Trinity's programme

**18** volunteers supported the maintenance and upkeep of the community garden



"I sometimes find it hard to leave the house for days on end and have very bad social anxiety but I have really enjoyed coming to garden at Trinity. My favourite things have been meeting new people and harvesting produce."

**Garden Volunteer**







# HERITAGE

Celebrating the stories of the many people who call Bristol home

# ART OF RESISTANCE

**We celebrated heritage through creative projects that explored the unheard and forgotten stories of Bristol.**

As part of our Heritage Lottery Funded project, Art of Resistance, we gathered over 30 oral histories that document first-hand testimonies from people who were present and were shaped by protest movements in Bristol. These materials were used to research and publish the Heritage Book: Art and Activism Vol.1

Artist Tanith Gould delivered community workshops to co-create a public mural - inspired by the Art of Resistance archive.

We connected with inspirational DJ Miranda Rae to deliver free podcast-making workshops. These culminated in the launching of 'Stories of Resistance', a nine-part podcast series uncovering some of Bristol's lesser-known stories of contemporary activism.

We invested in our digital platforms to document and conserve heritage through our interactive online archive. Users can now explore hidden histories and first-hand testimonies uncovered during the project.

**480** people took part in direct activity as part of Art of Resistance

**68** people took part in Screen Printing and china decorating workshops

**33** people took part in the 'Visions of Resistance' mural-making workshop



“

"What I noticed was that there are so many people are fighting against social injustices and yet so often don't see themselves as an activist."

**Miranda Rae, Community Journalist**



## IN FOCUS: 'AFTER THE FIRE'

We offered a paid commission for an artist/collective to create a piece of work in response to the archive content collected as part of our Heritage Lottery Funded project: **Art of Resistance**.

Local artist Iman Sultan West designed 'After The Fire', an immersive exhibition that explored 'the sounds and sights of resistance' using projection mapping and installation. Iman projected images of activist spaces around Bristol onto the walls, highlighting the unappreciated moments of activism using 'place' and 'image' as a reminder of change and persistence to the cause.

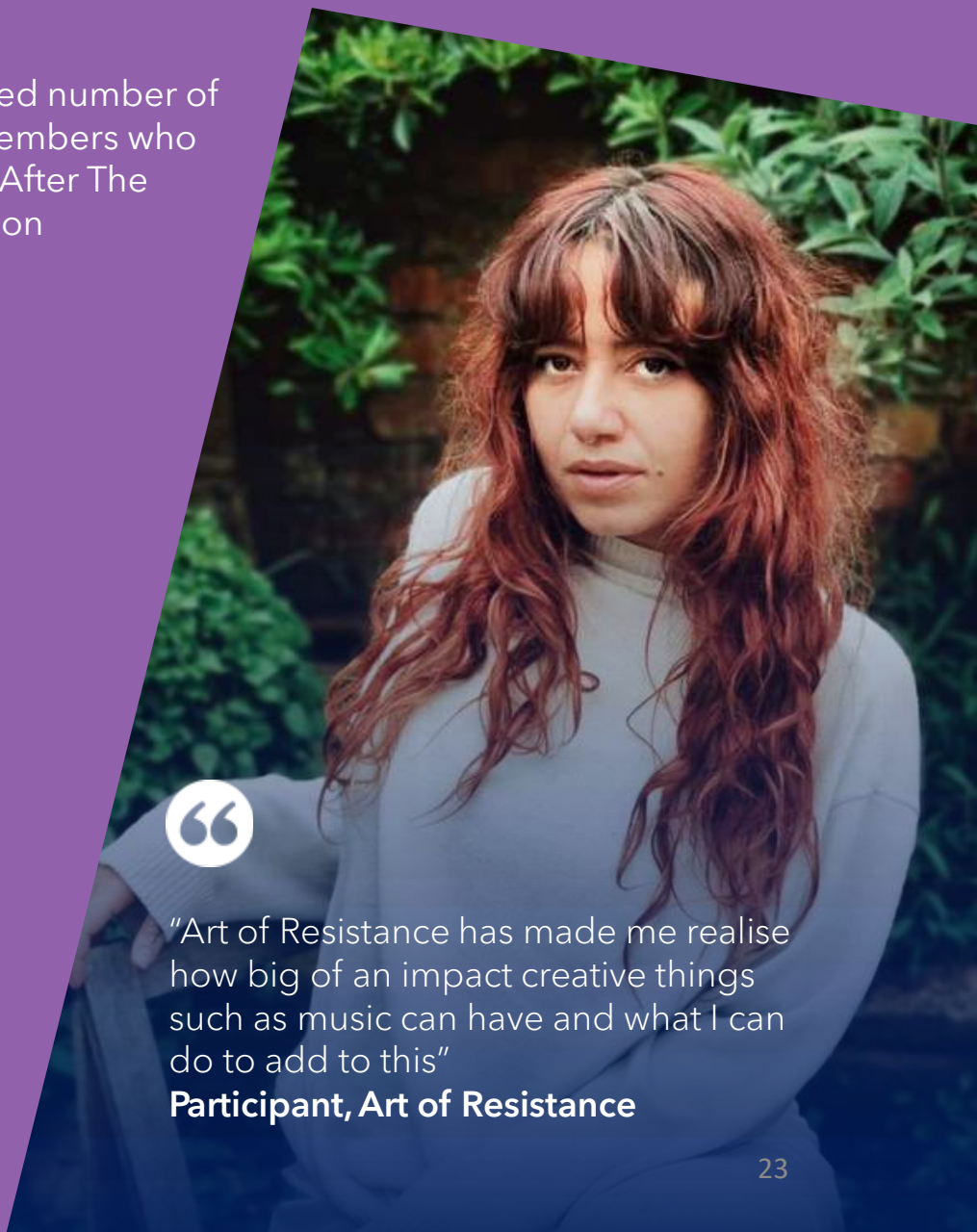
Following this commission in March 2023, Iman was one of three selected artists invited to exhibit their work as part of Creators in Residence at Rising Arts Agency's exhibition 'BeLoved' at Arnolfini Galley, sharing their radical reimagining's for the world we live in.

**350** estimated number of audience members who viewed the 'After The Fire' exhibition



"Art of Resistance has made me realise how big of an impact creative things such as music can have and what I can do to add to this"

**Participant, Art of Resistance**



## IN FOCUS: RUTH

**Mother, Activist and PhD student Ruth Northey took part 'Stories of Resistance' a free podcast-making workshop offered as part of Art of Resistance.**

In making the podcast, Ruth reflected that she learned a lot - from how to build a story to how to make content interesting to the public. Ruth shared that she was supported to put her ideas together - from running through each process of the podcast to working on the build and design.

Due to her visual impairment, Ruth shared how she found it quite tricky to edit and know "how to put the different pieces of the podcast together". She overcame this due to "lots of one-to-one support from the team".

On taking part in the project, Ruth reflected that "as a disabled person, I think it's really important that we have that space where we feel comfortable in coming to, where we can get the additional support that we need, and I felt that I got that support through this project which was great".



"My passions really lie in increasing representation of people with marginalised voices, giving people voices, giving people space"

**Ruth Northey, Participant, Stories of Resistance**





# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Building a resilient future for the Trinity Centre

# BUSINESS

We collaborated with our team and Trustees to help shape our business plan, 2022-2026.

This included our three strategic priorities:

1. Improve our organisational resilience and sustainability
2. Create an inclusive workforce with a distributed leadership model
3. Optimise social impact, using the arts as a tool for civic participation



"Trinity have always been there providing a space for us and many other artists to do what we do best and always put creativity and community first."

**Pete Cunningham, Ishmael Ensemble**





# BUILDING

**We have continued to improve and conserve the Trinity Centre, a Grade II\* Listed Building.**

With investment from Power to Change and West of England Combined Authority, we installed a new Solar PV installation and carried out essential works to Trinity's existing system. The panels will help to reduce our carbon footprint and will provide greater security against the risk of energy price increases in the future.

We completed external works opening The Den, a seasonal outdoor venue. This tranquil and versatile event space enables us to increase our combined arts programme as well as furthering our commitment to the local community following feedback from our extensive community consultation in the previous financial year.

Investment from Music Venue Trust's Pipeline Investment Fund enabled us to purchase equipment for our live music/club programme to help reduce production costs and increase capacity.



"Since their installation two weeks ago, the new solar panels have produced a one megawatt hour of energy - this is enough energy to power an electric bike for 50,000 miles"

**Read Jones, Heritage Maintenance Specialist**



# WORKFORCE EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION DATA

## STAFF



45% are aged 34 and under



23% have a Disability and/or long term health condition



52% identify as female, non-binary or chose to self-describe



35% identified as LGBTQ+



22% are from Global Majority communities

## BOARD



50% are aged 35-44



40% have a Disability and/or long term health condition



40% identify as female



35% identified as LGBTQ+



20% are from Global Majority communities



"At Trinity, the opportunities for cross-departmental collaboration are massive"  
**Staff Member, Trinity**



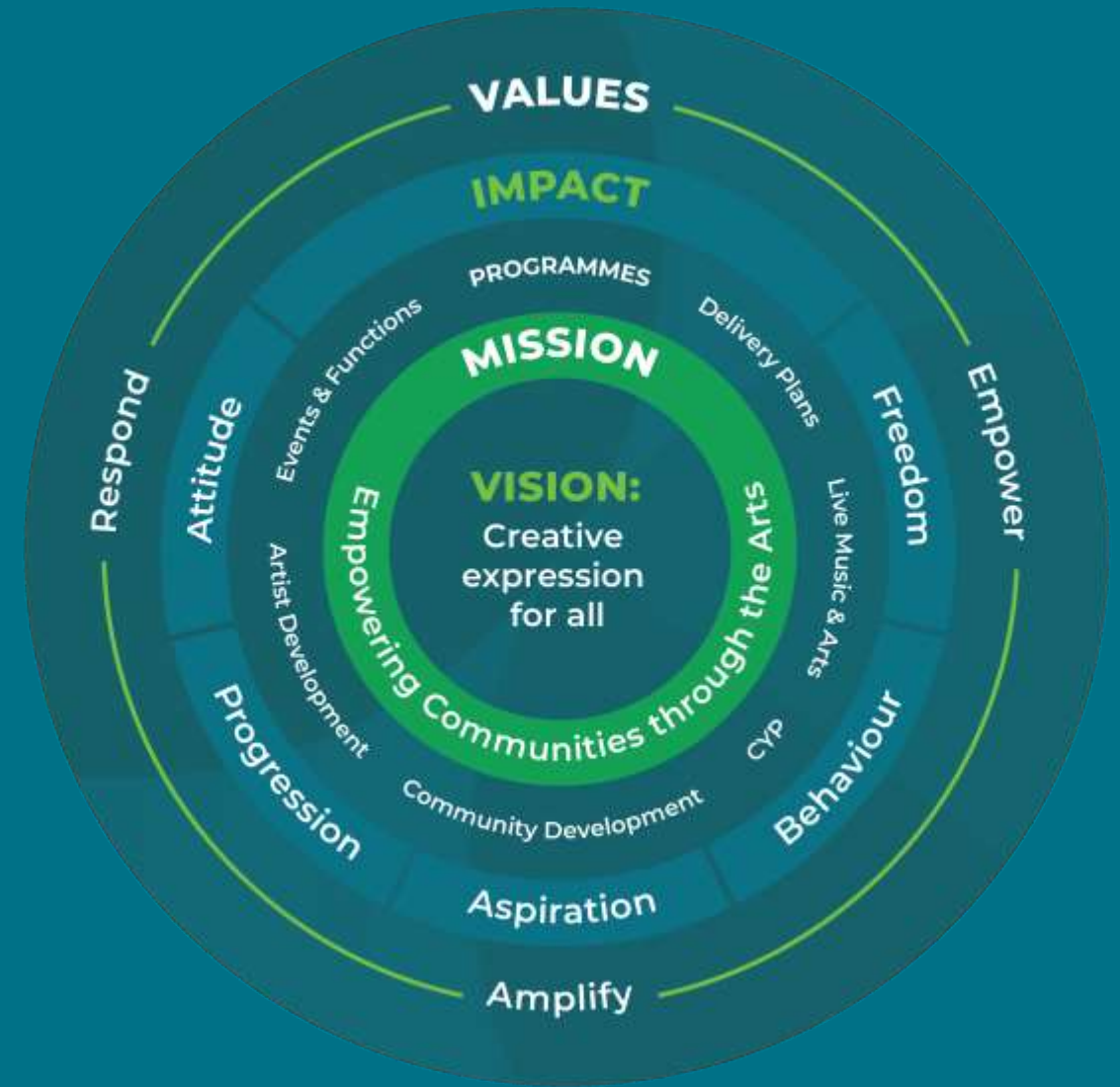


# COLLABORATIVE DECISION-MAKING

Through funding from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch) we are collaborating with St Pauls Carnival and David Jubb of Citizens In Power to explore how a Citizens' Assembly model can be used to co-create a cultural strategy for the city and surrounding area.

During our research we invited a range of collaborators from the sector, who place participation at the heart of their practice, to hear from some of the best speakers working in democratic decision making right now.

These focus groups have been a chance to share ideas, experiences, knowledge and expertise on co-creation, participatory democracy and how we can do things differently in the culture sector. Speakers have included Brett Hennig, co-founder of the Sortition Foundation and May McQuade and Jack Lynch who used the Citizens' Assembly model as part of Bradford's successful UK City of Culture 2025 bid.



# FINANCE DATA

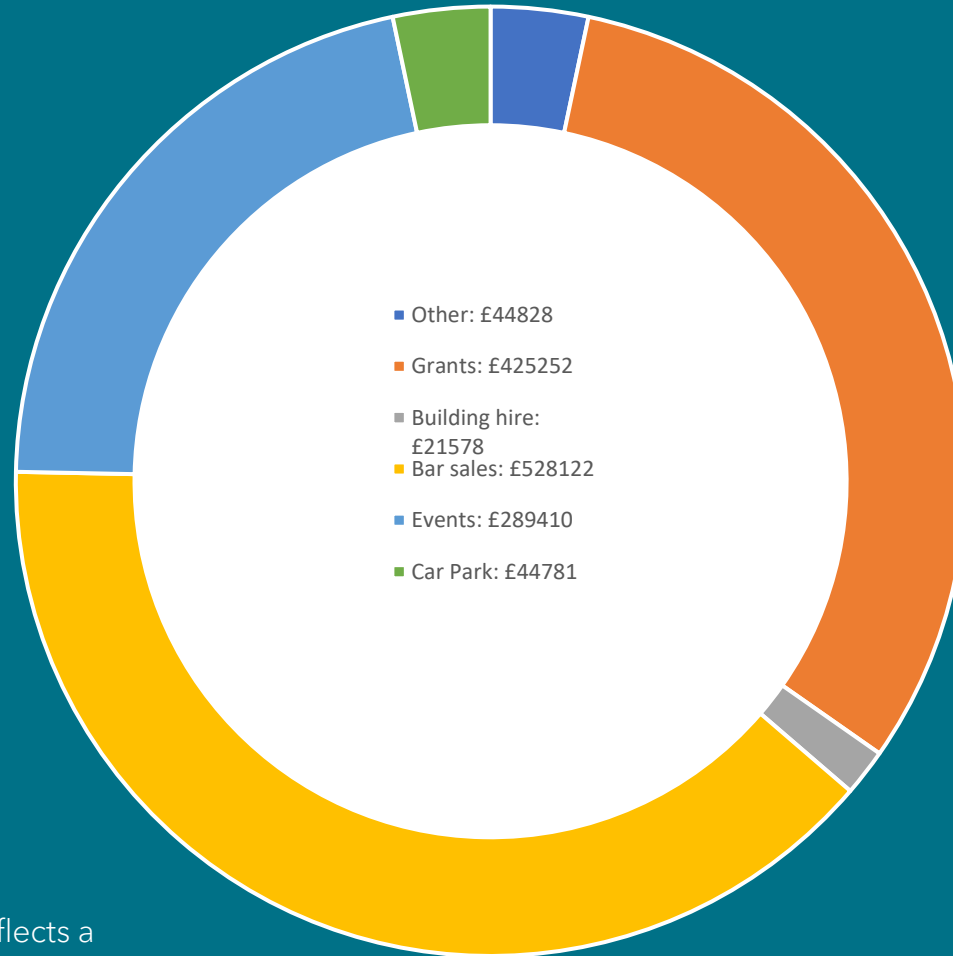
## Profit/Loss summary

Group income  
**£1,353,971**

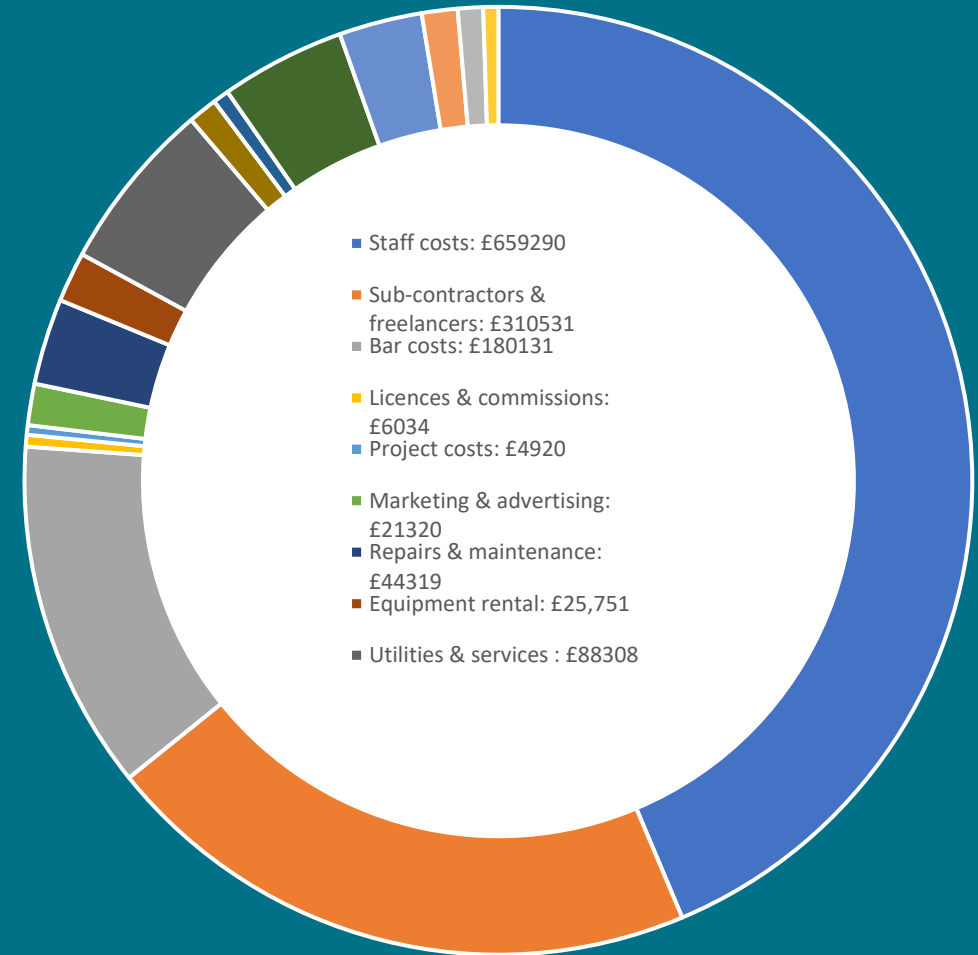
Group expenditure  
**£1,510,088**

Net profit/surplus  
**-£165,117**

## Income



## Expenditure



NB. The deficit position reflects a movement of funds between years, including restricted grants.

This data is subject to auditing



# FUNDERS AND THANKS

- AHF (Architectural Heritage Fund)
- Arts Council England
- Asad Foundation
- Ashely Family Foundation
- Awards for All
- Backstage Trust
- BBC 1Xtra
- Bristol City Council
- Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK Branch)
- Children in Need
- Coutts Foundation
- D'Oyle Carte
- Derbyshire Environmental Trust
- East & Central Play Partnership
- Fun Palaces
- Garfield Weston
- Gibbs Trust
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Lottery Community Fund
- Ludlow Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Pilgrim Trust
- Post Code Local Trust
- Power to Change
- Quartet Community Trust
- Tesco Community Grants
- The Nisbet Trust
- The Society of the Merchant Ventures
- WECCA (West of England Combined Authority)
- Wesport
- Youth Music

Plus a warm thank you to everyone who has donated and supported Trinity this year

## Image Credits:

Khali Ackford, Jade Ayino, Alastair Brookes, Francisco Eggen, Marley Small, Ted Stargatt, Sophia Stefelle



# TRINITY:



#GetInvolved

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