

ART IN MODERN CULTURE



ART IN THE COMMUNITY



ART IN HEALTH & WELLBEING



ART IN EDUCATION & LEARNING



CONTENTS

About Artcore	3
Overview : Andy Ball (Chair)	4
Overview : Ruchita Shaikh (Executive Director)	5
Highlights	6-7
COVID-19 Response	8-9
Art In Modern Culture	10 -21
Art In The Community	22-27
Art In Education And Learning	28-35
Art In Health And Welbeing	36-41
Financial Overview	42
Opportunities	43
Designcore	44-45
Funders and Supporters	46



ABOUT ARTCORE

Artcore is a contemporary art space that celebrates the cultural diversity of Derby, the East Midlands and beyond. The venue presents an ever-changing programme of art exhibitions, creative activities for adults and young people, film screenings, artist residencies, talks, and festivals. With our statement “together we stand,” we want to engage and connect with the diverse range of communities in Derby. Our key objective is to use art as a tool to strengthen community cohesion and engage with a wide range of audiences, to educate, raise awareness and provide a space to build self-confidence and mutual trust and respect. We engage with society’s most disadvantaged and vulnerable people, by offering inspiring and motivational programmes in areas where there is a lack of provision and engagement with the arts is minimal. Our mission is to become a place where talent and creativity are nurtured and where art and culture are accessible to all. We aim to bring positivity by providing a platform to encourage dialogue between people of all ages, abilities and from diverse cultural backgrounds through creative activities, skills sharing and development.

Artcore offers a contemporary gallery, workshop and artist studio promoting distinctive art and culture. Through a vibrant programme of events, exhibitions, residencies, art talks and screenings we provide a platform to showcase significant art locally, nationally and internationally by supporting early, mid-career artists and established artists. At Artcore, education, in general, is fundamental to the work we do. We develop and strengthen the role of education in an informal setting. Our main objective is to engage young people in learning experiences to enhance their curiosity and interest in their art skills, not only developing their uniqueness and progression as individuals but also through volunteering and work experience. We believe art acts as a learning tool by breaking down barriers and contributes to the production of knowledge by opening a dialogue that acts as a vehicle for analysis and growth. Moreover, we engage with our audience through creative, imaginative and meaningful activities, offering individuals the opportunity to experiment with creativity, enhance their learning and broaden their career prospects



OVERVIEW

ANDY BALL

Chair

2019-20 has been a monumental year for Artcore as we have grown and developed immensely as an organisation. We have taken some firm steps to widen our audience reach and connect with people who have not previously engaged with its activities. Today that passion and drive has evolved into an organisation that is growing powerful and becoming stronger by working together.

Artcore is becoming a pivotal entity within Derby's art and culture and as its Chair, I am proud to see how the team has flourished with new ideas, programmes and projects bringing visual arts to diverse communities within Derby, East Midlands and beyond. It has increasingly focused on what it means to provide services, opportunities and experiences that are truly inclusive. We are committed to continuing to engage with diverse communities through the arts and supporting talented artists.

We at Artcore truly believe that the arts and culture should be reflective of the world in which we live and that our work is a key aspect of this. With the excitement of opening the doors on 15th August 2019 to our new city-centre location, we enrich the heart of Derby whilst making arts accessible to all. Artcore has become a vibrant cultural and social meeting point with strong dynamics between the arts, the city and culture of Derby, and everyday life.

The organisation is standing strong in this current pandemic and fulfilling its vision to connect and support with its community and will continue to do so during 2020/21. We will redouble our efforts to demonstrate the value of art and creativity in providing positive experiences for people.

On behalf of the board of trustees, I would like to thank our members, funders and partners who are crucial to our success. And I would like to extend my gratitude to my fellow Trustees and the dedicated staff and volunteers at Artcore who have been invaluable to delivering the strong results that you will see outlined in this report.



RUCHITA SHAIKH

Executive Director

I feel very proud reviewing this year. Artcore has marked two significant milestones this year with its 10th year in operation in Derby, UK and 25 years since the birth of Artcore in India. When Artcore began in 1995, it was with an initiative to offer a platform to aspiring artists and recent graduates. The passion for art has turned this simple powerful idea into an artistic and creative movement, migrating from that city of Vadodara, India to Derby, UK in 2009.

The last few years have been challenging but exciting for Artcore. The team has worked hard. We have increased our reach and creative engagement amongst artists, members of communities, young people and partners nationally and internationally.

We have come a long way in such a short span of time. Joining the Arts Council NPO Portfolio has enabled Artcore to build local and global connections. Our partners are important contributors and are integral to the work that we do. We have worked to strengthen and sustain our partnerships with existing artistic and non-artistic organisations. Our annual programme has broadened and has had an innovative mix of arts and culture engaging people to develop skills, engage and celebrate working with artists, to inspire them along this year's journey. Through our participatory programmes we have been able to work with 4500 participants of all ages and abilities of which 1581 were young people from Derby. We have delivered artistic programs that have supported more than 200 artists and enriched our participants and the community. Our Artistic programmes have a focus on digital mediums. Artist residencies, exhibitions and talks have supported the journey of developing artists careers and have given them a platform to grow.

Despite challenges, we have had a strong year and have been able to successfully grow income through commissions, partnerships, paid workshops, Craftcore and Designcore. The opening of our new city centre location in August 2019, has further increased earned income as well as our ability to support local artists in the city.

The current impact of COVID-19 has made us think and work differently, we have taken our exhibitions and activities online to continue to stay connected with our artists, communities and support well-being through creativity. I see Artcore making a crucial impact for the year ahead. This is an exciting time for us and we are genuinely optimistic about the future of the cultural sector in the region. I would like to thank the Artcore staff, board, volunteers and students for their ongoing support.

HIGHLIGHTS

High Sheriff's Award

Artcore Directors Zahir Shaikh and Ruchita Shaikh were delighted to receive the prestigious High Sheriff's award by the High Sheriff of Derbyshire, William Burlington for Artcore making a significant contribution to the life and well-being of our local communities.

Proud moment for Artcore

New Building

On 15th August 2019 we officially opened our new building and had a party to celebrate. We invited participants, artists, local businesses, partners and dignitaries to join us. This exciting new building is on Osnabruck Square and has already been used over the last nine months for workshops, events and exhibitions. There are also four artists studios and a craft shop.

Successful Fundraising Campaign

In order to refurb our Albert Street Building to the beautiful space that it has now become, we began a crowdfunder campaign over August till October to raise £1700 and were successful! A big thank you to the supporters. It was fantastic to see how people's small contributions make a big difference, building a more vibrant community together.

Potential Partnerships with Twin City in Osnabrück, Germany

Artcore Directors Zahir Shaikh and Ruchita Shaikh visited Osnabrück, Germany to meet with prominent galleries and contemporary artists to further relationships between the two twin cities in February 2020.

Arise and Thrive

In February 2020 we held a well-being day, an exhibition jam packed with activities, stalls, healthy food and talks. We also launched our month-long exhibition with vibrant works created by our health and well-being delivery artists.

Creative Living Trips: A Christmas Carol and A New Beginning Dance Show

In November and December 2019 we took our Creative Living participants out to the theatre to see a A New Beginning , a contemporary dance show at Deda and the classic Christmas Carol at Derby Theatre.

Julia De Luga's Performance Piece For The Stand Up! Exhibition Launch

In March Julia De Luca flew in from Porto, Portugal specially for the launch of our Stand Up! International Women's Day Exhibition. She did her performance piece, 'Heartbeats' which is part of a 12 piece performance, each performance being staged in a new location.

IN ISOLATION TOGETHER



ZAHIR SHAIKH

Artistic Director

In mid-March, whether we were prepared or not, the world as we knew it changed. The nation went into lockdown due to COVID-19 and business and non-essential sectors were forced to close down in lieu of public safety. But rather than focus on the immense, adverse impacts this pandemic has had on every person and every country, I would like to talk to you about how we, in our own way tried to overcome that. I believe that as an arts organisation we had a responsibility to our sector and to our community; responsibility became an ability to respond.

With 80% of our staff furloughed, our team banded together and we responded as best and as quickly as we could. Over the last two months, we aimed to deliver, to re-engage, and reimagine art; be it in gallery spaces or within participation. Our canvas was a screen and in some ways our possibilities were limitless; this was a new challenge but more importantly an opportunity to push ourselves. Seizing the moment, we released In Isolation Together- a direct response to lockdown and quarantine.

We had an overwhelming response to what had started out as one singular exhibition and with that support, we developed IIT into a 6-week festival. This festival showcased the work of over 50 artists in a carefully curated and designed online platform. There was no effort spared in giving creatives a platform. Through the 6 weeks, we had a talk every week from one of the exhibiting artists who were part of that week's exhibition.

We did not forget that there was a big part of our community that relied on participatory activities; whether it was artists or participants. We found new programs to re-engage our audiences, and have since released 64 sessions with more than 20 workshop leaders. This gave our audience activities and skills to learn and practice as well as financially continuing to support our artists during this crisis.

In this time, we also stretched and nurtured our global creative network. We provided artists from a variety of practices, ages, and countries an opportunity to promote their work on our online platforms through Artist Takeovers. From Derby to Iran, to date we have had 32 artists who have shared their work and artistic journey with our audience and followers.

With everything we have achieved, we also had to look forward. While the world was on pause, we continued programming our residencies, upcoming events and exhibitions online. We are working with John Newling, designing a blog to release his work over 8 weeks. We also ran our first Residency Online, Error and Power, as well as supporting The Hatchery, an online self directed residency for 7 Artists. Post COVID-19, we will maintain our work online as well as planning our future programme in accordance to Government Guidelines.

COVID-19 Online Motivational Mornings

The staff team and supporters of Artcore led Facebook Live Motivational Mornings from March onwards. These were a response to support our participants when COVID19 lockdown began as we understood the potential negative mental health impact of people being in isolation. The morning sessions were created to combat this by staying connected with the Artcore wider community. They covered various motivational themes such as creative scrapbooking, gardening, fabric craft, cookery, favourite artbooks and inspirational posters.

These can be viewed on our YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIGguDIZgJG-4KkN2bGWpqKg/playlists?view_as=subscriber

COVID19 Online Crafternoons

We supported artists to lead Facebook Live Crafternoons from March onwards. We recognised that families were struggling having their kids at home and needed hands on activities that were cheap, creative and time consuming. We picked artists who were adaptable and were happy to have a go at leading sessions over facebook live (which was a new medium for them). They designed their art sessions to use objects from round the house that people might already have. Sessions covered creative animals, origami, flower prints, cherry blossom paintings and lots more.

These can be viewed on our YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIGguDIZgJG-4KkN2bGWpqKg/playlists?view_as=subscriber

COVID19 Online Artist Takeovers

We supported artists to lead Facebook Live Artist Takeovers in the form of 20min live talks from March onwards. These were a response to COVID19 as we recognised that artists would have their funding on hold for projects and would potentially struggling financially. So to keep morale up we gave these 20min sessions and supported them to talk about their artistic journey and showcase their work.

These can be viewed on our YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIGguDIZgJG-4KkN2bGWpqKg/playlists?view_as=subscriber

COVID-19 RESPONSE

MOTIVATIONAL
MORNINGS

Everyday at 11am!

Artcore
CRAFTERNOONS

Creative Family Afternoons Together Everyday at 1pm



ART IN MODERN CULTURE

Artcore is an international centre for contemporary art and creativity, based in Derby, UK, and is home to Artcore Gallery, studios and work spaces as well as a shop and cafe. A vibrant hub for commissioning, production, presentation and debate, we offer opportunities for diverse audiences to engage directly with creative practices through participation and discussion. Here at Artcore Gallery we believe that contemporary art and creativity are central to the development of people and places. We have an extensive exhibition and residency programme which helps support early, mid-career and established artists to create work which deals with pressing social, political and environmental issues. Each year we welcome over 4000 people from all sections of the diverse communities of Derby to experience inspiring, innovative and high-quality exhibitions and events. Over 25 years we have developed links all over the world. These cement a global creative community and helps us support the aspiring artist into this contemporary world.

Artcore Gallery is newly located in Artcore's second building in Derby's City Centre, which opened to the public in August 2019. This is a base of operations for our contemporary art activities. The gallery is a versatile space, and our busy exhibition programme of ten shows each year supports the development of emerging artists from Derby and the East Midlands, as well as featuring the work of more established UK and International artists. Over this year, our programme is focused on working in the urban public space domain with three group shows and a symposium addressing this same theme. We will also host two solo residencies of established artists working with sculpture as well as three residencies and exhibitions of work by emerging artists in the region. In March 2020, in response to COVID-19, we actively moved a lot of our operations online which included curation of In Isolation Together, a 6 week international online visual arts festival. With over 50 artists from around the world responding to different aspects of being in isolation or lockdown, it showcased Artcore Gallery's dynamic adaptability in being not just a physical gallery space but also an equally robust virtual entity.



RESIDENCIES

Artists residencies are central to Artcore's work. We support and promote the work of contemporary artists and makers at all stages of their development and aim to use art to bring about positive changes to the lives of people of every age, ability and cultural background. Our residencies are shared with our audiences through exhibitions, screenings, talks and events. This year we have had 4 Residency programs and 1 International Residency program.

We are Asteroids

Residency Dates: **08/04/2019-03/06/2019**

Exhibition Date: **21/06/2019-05/07/2019**

Borrowing the title from a phrase from used by eco-philosopher Timothy Morton, who calls out the human effect on the planet, Artcore invited artists to apply to We are Asteroids, a two months residency for artists to provoke new thinking, and focus attention on and developing future scenarios as an urgent response to climate change.

As scientists warn us of the consequences of our human impact on the environment, the arts help us visualise the consequences of climate change and natural catastrophe, eliciting emotional responses that prompt action. By looking to the past, we can understand historical examples of conflict and climate and the unintended consequences brought about by attempts to mitigate the effects of climate warming.

Artists

Victoria Sharples
Gareth Bunting

Mentor

David Gilbert

Artist Talk

24/05/2019

In Conversation with Imtiaz Choonara.

07/06/2019

In Conversation with John Newling.



**2 ARTISTS
1 MENTOR
2 ARTIST TALKS
2 CATALOGUES
15 NEW ARTWORKS
PRODUCED
1 EXHIBITION
80 VISITORS**

No Matter How Strong

Residency Dates: 27/06/2019-27/08/2019

Exhibition Date: 05/09/2019-19/09/2019

The fragile nature of the human condition has been an enduring subject for artists throughout history. The 'No Matter How Strong' residency and exhibition was a contemporary exploration and sensitive response to both the physical aspects and allegorical connotations of the materials with which the residency artists work. This was manifested in deeply personal engagements with the human body, nature, and the passage of time and expressed through the media with which they worked and the forms it took – simultaneously ephemeral and resilient. The work alluded to the impermanence of the object and its inevitable disintegration. Probing the binary distinctions between corporeal and transcendental, emergence and decay, belonging and displacement, life and death, the residency artists revealed and questioned the political, spiritual, and psychological forces that shape who and what we are and questioned the political, spiritual, and psychological forces that shape us.

Artists

Nisa Khan
Charlotte Cullen.

Mentor

David Gilbert

Artist Talk

02/09/2019

In Conversation with Anna Mawby and
Rebecca Beinart

**2 ARTISTS
1 MENTOR
1 ARTIST TALK
2 CATALOGUES
21 NEW ARTWORKS
PRODUCED
1 EXHIBITION
300 VISITORS
1 NEW
PARTNERSHIP**

Home

Residency Dates: 15/09/2020-15/11/2020

Exhibition Date: 28/11/2019-04/01/2020

Home represents a place where we can be our true selves, a space redolent with childhood memories, or a refuge and shelter.

Home can be a site for developing rituals, family relationships, and acting out cultural expectations. Like the personal, social, and cultural elements out of which they are constructed, homes can be not only comforting, but threatening too; who knows what goes on in secret behind closed doors?

The notion of 'Home' is increasingly problematic, with the constantly increasing cost of home ownership making it an impossible aspiration for many, and affordable social housing in short supply. Both internationally and within countries, populations are constantly on the move, seeking better opportunities and living conditions, or an escape from violence and conflict.

Artists

Delpha Hudson
Natasha Joseph

Mentor

David Gilbert
Rhiannon Pinchbeck

Artist Talk

6/11/2019

In Conversation
with Steve Pool

**2 ARTISTS
1 MENTOR
1 ARTIST TALK
1 CATALOGUE
8 NEW ARTWORKS
PRODUCED
1 EXHIBITION
300 VISITORS**



Winter Narratives

[International Residency]

Residency Dates: 07/12/2019 to 21/12/2019

Exhibition Date: 20/12/2019 to 21/12/2019

Winter Narratives was an International Residency in Vadodara, India which included 7 artists, 2 from the East Midlands, and 5 from within India who all focus on narrative as a central aspect of their work. While the English artists created works that responded to their experience of India the major takeaway from this Residency was an interactive and proactive discussion between all the artists as to the role of the narrative in contemporary art and the abiding traditions of the narrative in both European and Indian art.

Artists

Dr. Chris Wright
Jenny Bramley
Prantik Chattopadhyay
Kamal Pandya
Astha Patel
Maneesha Doshi
Hannah Marsh
Sudipta Das
Sashi Dharan Nair
Roshan Chhabria



**10 ARTISTS
1 MENTOR
1 ARTIST TALK
15 NEW ARTWORKS
PRODUCED
1 EXHIBITION
200 VISITORS
1 NEW
PARTNERSHIP**

East Midlands Graduate Residency

Residency Dates: 07/12/2019 to 21/12/2019

Exhibition Date: 20/12/2019 to 21/12/2019

We invited five of the most talented Fine Art graduates of 2019 to join us for a month-long residency, supporting them to develop into the next generation of professional artists in the region through small group and individual mentoring and training, giving them the skills and knowledge they will need to succeed in the art world. Working in partnership with the University of Derby and other East Midlands universities, Artcore showcased the artwork made during their residency in a group exhibition in January.

Artists

Jenny Bramley (Derby)

Sinead Kerr (DMU)

Rachel Phillips (Loughborough)

Theodora Prassa (NTU)

Thomas Wynne (Derby)

Mentor

David Gilbert

Artist CRITS

CRIT 1

17/01/2020

CRIT 2

24/01/2020

**7 ARTISTS
1 MENTOR
2 ARTIST CRITS
1 CATALOGUE
12 NEW ARTWORKS
PRODUCED
1 EXHIBITION
300 VISITORS**



EXHIBITIONS

Home From Home

Exhibition Date:

17/06/2019 - 21/06/2019

Home from Home was a digital exhibition showcasing works from migrants and refugees exploring their stories through creativity. As part of Refugee Week Artcore organised a day event of workshops surrounding the theme of refugees with the launch of Home from Home.

Otherlings

Exhibition Date:

18/10/2019 - 8/11/2019

Otherlings was an exhibition featuring work from Ang Bartram, Steve Baker, Huw Davies and Phil Basi, Paula McCloskey and Sam Vardy, Stephanie Rushton and Christine Parker. The overarching theme of the artworks within the exhibition suggested something beyond the parameters of dominance and its cultural representation. The work in many ways offered explicit or implicit ways to connect us to other perspectives, and experiences through different and often unseen and discussed encounters. It thus opened up new paradigms for debate, for how we might live with care and compassion and function with others, as part of a world shared by many.



Only The Lonely

[Solo Exhibition by Tony Fisher]

Exhibition Date:

14/12/2019 - 20/12/2019

'Only the Lonely?' an exhibition of photographs by Tony Fisher. Through this project, Tony researched and explored loneliness, isolation, and well-being; something he has battled with personally for over 40 years. The project took Tony on a journey of reflection and self-discovery and introduced him to others who suffer loneliness and isolation too.

He said, "I want to do specific research on the theme of loneliness, isolation, and well-being. I am proposing to work with anyone suffering from isolation and I will produce an image to reflect this. The photograph will capture the issues and essences of what is loneliness but will also celebrate the life of the individuals."



Our Fragile Planet

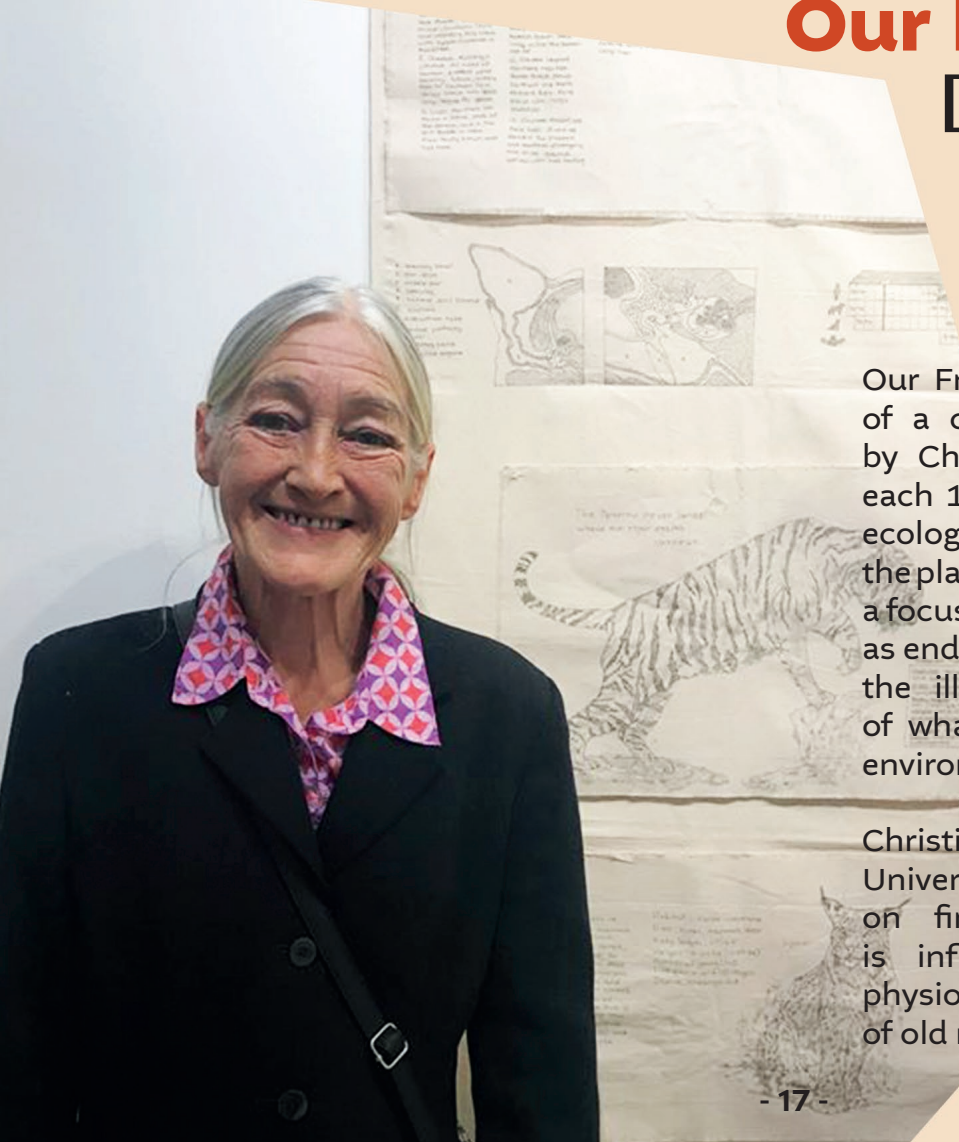
[Solo Exhibition by Christine Martin]

Exhibition Date:

13/12/2020- 10/02/2020

Our Fragile Planet was a solo-exhibition of a collection of drawings on textiles by Christine Martin. The large textiles, each 1.5m by 1m, told a narrative of the ecological devastation being wrought on the planet in the contemporary world. With a focus on the animals which are classified as endangered, such as the Siberian Tiger, the illustrations tell a considered tale of what will be lost if current trends of environmental destruction continue.

Christine Martin graduated from the University of Derby in 2004. With a focus on fine detailed drawings, Christine is influenced by anatomical studies, physiology, and the preparatory sketches of old masters.





Arise & Thrive

Exhibition Date:

19/02/2020-21/03/2020

Arise and Thrive Exhibition showcased the works of six artists who also work with us as wellbeing artists and workshop leaders. Their work and practice are used as a means of promoting wellbeing. The exhibiting artists were Kathryn Borg, Dawn Campion, Victoria Brown, Magdalena Aron, Marie Hegarty and Nicki Dennett. The exhibition launch coincided with the Arise & Thrive event, a day of health and wellbeing with workshops and talks through the day.

Stand Up!

Exhibition Date:

March 7-Ongoing (Suspended Due to COVID-19)

STAND UP! was the spring show at Artcore Gallery which showcased 35 international and national artists to celebrate International Women's Day. STAND UP! investigated the role of women in the arts, and their huge impact on the cultural fabric of contemporary society. It was a platform for artists to re-imagine citizenship, identity and women's labour with a view to informing new visions for the future, in testing times.

STAND UP! also concentrated on artworks focused within the political structure of feminism as well as women impacted by the movement. All media were considered for inclusion—including painting, sculpture, photography, film, video, and performance art—along with all themes based under the wider umbrella of feminism.

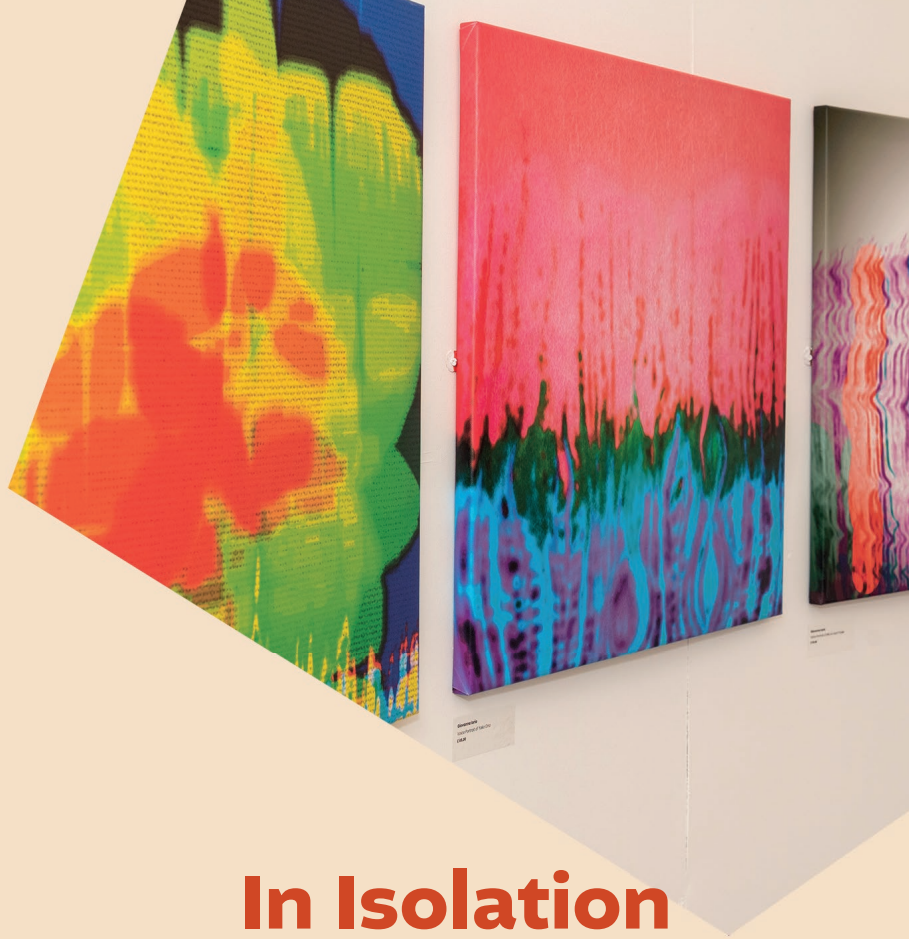


Stand Up! Virtual

Exhibition Date:

19/02/2020-21/03/2020

Due to COVID-19, Stand Up! had to be suspended but with the help of a 360-degree camera and technology we were able to launch Stand Up Virtual only a few weeks into the lockdown. The Stand Up! Exhibition is live and available to visit as an interactive virtual tour. Users can explore the work of 35 international and national UK artists in our gallery space from the comfort and safety of their homes.



In Isolation Together

Exhibition Date:

Launched in April 2020

IIT was a direct response to lockdown and quarantine. We had an overwhelming response to what had started out as one singular exhibition and with that support, we developed IIT into a 6-week festival. This festival showcased the work of over 50 artists in a carefully curated and designed online platform. There was no effort spared in giving creatives a platform. Through the 6 weeks, we had a talk every week from one of the exhibiting artists who were part of that week's exhibition.

Art has always reflected the voice of people, both in times of celebration and in dire circumstances. This crisis was no different. We are at a point in time where technological advances are at its peak and it seemed necessary to utilise it. We knew there were many people, creatives and non-creatives alike that were home either in self-isolation or quarantine.

IN ISOLATION TOGETHER

“The question that looms above us all is how do we isolate but not feel isolated?”

Art has always reflected the voice of people, both in times of celebration and in dire circumstances. Now is no different. We know there are many people, creatives and non-creatives alike that are home either in self-isolation or quarantine. As a result of this, we think this is an opportune moment to have a series of themed online exhibitions. We will be releasing a new exhibition every Friday for the next 5 weeks. We have artists from over 20 countries participating. In Isolation Together is a testament to the spirit of humanity and bridges that creativity has always extended towards society in times of hardship.

EVENTS

Artist Meet

Event Date:

11/11/2019

As an organisation with a clear focus on supporting artists, our vision is to serve, advance, and lead the diversified community in our area and individuals who cultivate, promote, sustain, and support through arts in the UK. The Artist Meet was an opportunity for artists to find out about getting involved with delivering workshops with us, being part of our Craftcore Shop and exhibiting in our gallery spaces. We discussed our opportunities and getting to know some of our future delivery artists and facilitators.



Visual Arts Networking Forum

Event Date:

10/02/2020

Artcore invited local art organisations in early 2020 for a conversation about the Visual Arts sector in Derby, and the potential to create a Visual Arts Network for Derby.

Having read the recent CVAN EM report 'It Takes a Region to Raise an Artist', we were struck by how closely the needs of artists expressed through that research match with Artcore's findings from the last two Derby Visual Arts Summits. Having talked to some of these art organisations, and to Mike Brown at DCC, about how we could work collaboratively in developing a more effective infrastructure to retain graduate artists, and support emerging and mid-career artists in the City, now seems like the right time to consider the potential for a Visual Arts Strategy for Derby. Elizabeth Hawley-Lingham, Director of CVAN EM, kicked us off with a presentation about the 'It Takes a Region to Raise an Artist' report, which set the scene for our discussion.



Craftcore

Craftcore is an onsite craft shop at Artcore Gallery supplemented by a brand new online store, craft fairs and events. It's a great way for artists and makers to sell their work such as jewellery, ceramics and textiles and for visitors to buy unique handmade items. Craftcore enables designer-makers to produce and sell their jewellery, textiles, ceramics and other craftworks. Currently, Craftcore has 11 artists and local makers selling their work. Craftcore also showcases and sells works from the Makers in the Making of Arcore's programmes.

Craftcore has artist & maker studio spaces available at our Albert Street building. This is a great opportunity to have a high-profile workspace at our creative hub in the center of Derby. Craftcore is developing into a lively creative hub for the City, provides artists with an opportunity to work closely with us to make and sell artworks, and to promote and develop their creative practice.



Makers and artists actively use the studio spaces to make work, as well as show and sell it, and there are also opportunities for delivering art sessions for public, as well as working alongside other creatives based in the building. Craftcore currently offers 5 artist studios spaces.

In February 2020, Craftcore began a series of Master Classes with evening workshops for beginners in ceramics, printmaking and batik at the Albert St building with taster events held beforehand to promote and market the workshops and workshop leaders.

Another new initiative for Craftcore is The Art Market held on the last Saturday of every month. The artist studios are open for a meet & greet. This is also an opportunity for local artists and makers to sell their own handmade works and promote their business. It offers stalls in the craft market as well as live music, workshops, food, and games.

ART IN THE COMMUNITY

Artcore continues to forge a path using the creative arts to create greater community cohesion through its innovative dynamic programming and workshops which engage different communities across Derby.

We work hard to make art accessible to all, from virtual arts tours, online classes, evening workshops, free daytime sessions and dedicated programmes focusing on celebrating community and the places people come from.

At Artcore, we believe that art has the power to bring people together to share positive experiences, new ideas and old traditions and endeavour to build opportunities for everyone to be more involved in community life.

We now have two fantastic buildings which activities are run from. Our new city centre location on Albert Street is easily accessible from public transport which makes it even easier for communities to access our exhibitions, classes and shop.

Projects

AEL Community

Special Projects

Create your future

Dare to dream

Silent Library

COVID19 Online Motivational Mornings



AEL Community



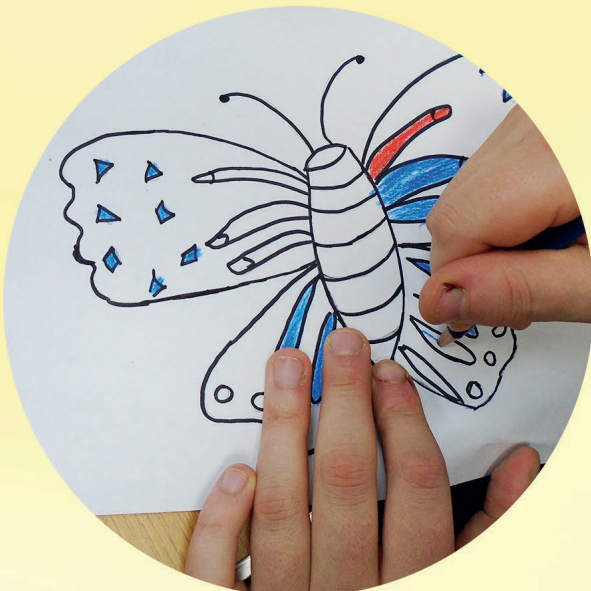
SESSIONS: 44
ARTISTS: 8
PARTICIPANTS 82
VOLUNTEERS: 5
VISITORS: 60
1 NEW PARTNERSHIP

Every Monday at Artcore we ran creative activities to support diverse communities to become engaged with the arts and each other. We worked with a variety of experienced delivery artists to run art sessions that explored various themes and mediums with a focus on facilitation of conversations, skills sharing and celebration.

Participants explored the mediums of printing, ceramics, painting, mosaics, textiles, digital illustration and 3D sculpture. They also learnt technical skills in painting exercises with the colour wheel.

We saw the change over the year with new participants who initially started sessions with low confidence growing over the year to become fully fledged members encouraging others to participate and showing the skills they have learnt supporting others to engage.

A key outcome of the programme was the cross cultural inter-generational engagement and the friendships made over the year on the programmes.



“I’m pleased with putting my illustrations of my cartoon characters into mosaic. It was chosen to display in the cabinet. Using a new medium was fun.”

- Fiona

Create Your Future

The aim of Create your Future was to support people who were unemployed to learn new crafts and skills needed for employment. We ran Create Your Future art workshops, training and support and gave the participants the opportunity to learn mosaic making, pottery and fabric toys under the guidance of local artists. The project also gave participants a hands on role to put on their very own craft fairs and sell items at Craftcore. Woven through this programme were opportunities to improve employability and gain the skills needed to take their art hobby to the next level.

We saw the progression of many of the participants, not only growing in skill level, but in their ability to design and think through marketing, graduating at selling in our Craftcore shop.



SESSIONS: 26
ARTISTS: 3
PARTICIPANTS: 30
VOLUNTEERS: 2
1 NEW
PARTNERSHIP



“ I just moved from Swaziland before joining the course. It helped me to develop my skills quickly and also to make some good friends. I’ve enjoyed doing the craft fairs and selling in the shop”

- Precious



Dare to Dream

Our dynamic six month craft course started in February with a focus on supporting people who are out of employment living in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to learn new craft skills. The course not only offers practical making workshops but also supports participants to design their own line of crafts to sell at our Artcore monthly craft markets.

Over March this course moved from physical workshops to online ZOOM sessions with materials packs sent out. They worked on pattern cutting to make Japanese style bags and wallets with embellishments. Our delivery artists running the course were picked as they have experience selling their own crafts so could offer inspiration to participants and help them to think through pricing, packaging, logos and selling methods.



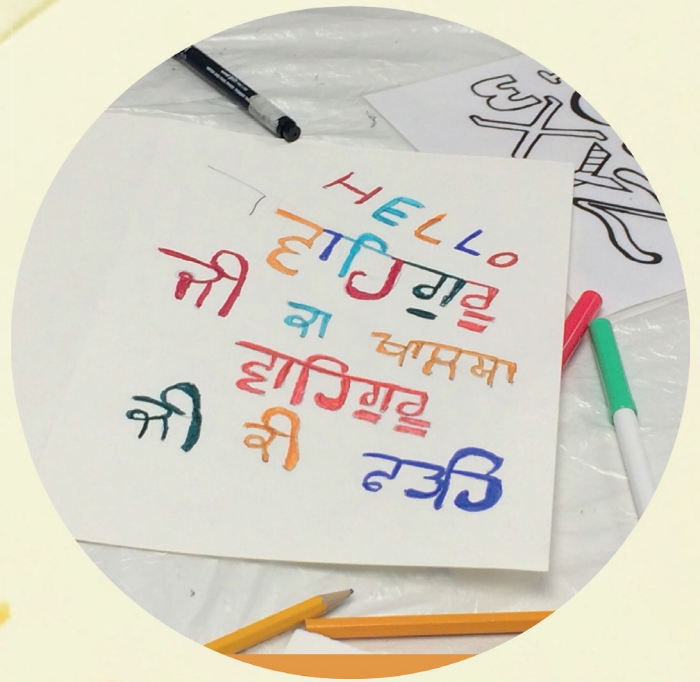
SESSIONS: 3
ARTISTS: 1
PARTICIPANTS: 7
VOLUNTEERS: 2

Silent Library

Over 10 weeks we worked with Migrant Help to facilitate this project. Our artist and volunteer worked with refugees and asylum seekers at their accommodation to welcome them to the UK and engage them with art. The sessions were a great success and there was an enthusiastic response. Participants interacted more with each other, the culture and shared their stories with others, while also learning about Britain and the English language.



SESSION 1
ARTISTS: 1
PARTICIPANTS: 80
VOLUNTEERS: 2



ART IN EDUCATION AND LEARNING

We are committed to bringing high quality arts education to people who would not usually be able to access it. Over this year we encouraged people of all ages to express their creativity. We did this by running educational workshop strands for adults and children alike.

Young people were encouraged to develop new skills and try new mediums.

Artcore's involvement with schools, clubs and youth groups continued to give young people the opportunity to engage with artistic activities and materials which might not be offered on their school curriculum, allowing them to find new ways to bring their imagination to life. Building transferable and social skills was a key element to this work and we did this by supporting them to have positive interactions with one another and giving them activities which would enhance their planning, organisation and time management skills.

Young people were given opportunities to volunteer with us and come on a work experience placement. Over the year we continued to work with Derby College and the University of Derby to offer their students the chance to work with programme participants and artists, and to help with the many events we run, from trips to special days. They also got involved with the opening of the new building and exhibition launches over the second half of the year.

This is the third year of our Art Enhancing Life Education programme which taught participants new skills and techniques that they can use in their artwork and everyday life. They built natural habitats, created digital insects and explored 3D forms using the world around them as inspiration. The Innocence and Expression programme, encouraged children's imagination and creativity. Children spent three weeks learning a skill then used their imagination to design and make a large collaborative piece, building their teamwork, confidence and friendships. Our Family Days were a success, engaging both parents and children in an activity together.



Projects

AEL Education
Family Days

Special Projects

STEAM
This is Derby #Reimagine
Innocence and Expressions
COVID19 online Crafternoons

AEL Education

This year we delivered creative construction, nature, science and digital activities to increase young people's knowledge and confidence in these areas. The course supported children to grow in self esteem and to work together as a team, but also to explore art mediums that they wouldn't have time to do in school.

Over the year the young people worked on puppet design, 3D insects, digital landscapes, illustrations for a fantasy travel agency and natural habitats of frogs. They also had fun creating catapult constructions on our festivities in motion project, exploring space through clay, learning about beaver dams as they created a giant beaver world and illustrating wildlife.

Over the course we gave the young people time to explore their own thoughts. Those who needed extra support to engage were given help from our dedicated volunteers and produced work they were proud of. We held an awards ceremony for the children at our Christmas party and the Lord Mayor of Derby Cllr Harwood presented the certificates. The children who attended were very proud of their achievements.

SESSIONS: 36
ARTISTS: 11
PARTICIPANTS: 85
VOLUNTEERS: 4

*"They are a very lively group.
I have seen them grow from
when I first came in. I've learnt
to give the most active ones an
extra role to do such as being
the photographer for the ses-
sion which they enjoy."*

*- Bob Moulder
(Artist)*



Innocence and Expression

Young people explored their creativity over each of these six week projects. Three weeks of each session block was spent exploring an art medium and three were making a large piece of work together to display in a public space. The artists were picked for the project for their skills of taking the children's ideas and making them into a reality.

They worked on a dynamic street art project, learning how to spray paint and use stencils, creating an installation for Charnwood Street. On the lead up to Christmas they made giant festive elves out of recycled boxes and plastics. These were the centre piece for our 'Elfie Selfie' booth at the Christmas party. This year they learnt technical painting skills and working in charcoal but the final piece wasn't able to be realised due to COVID19 lockdown. The delivery artist ran some Crafternoon online technical drawing sessions for them instead on facebook live.

Participants enjoyed the range of activities and had fun using their imagination, growing in confidence and artistic skill over the sessions.



SESSIONS: 18
ARTISTS: 3
PARTICIPANTS:
80
VOLUNTEERS: 6

Family Days

Family days are an integral and special part of our art session delivery. We provided engaging activities to bring families together to create in the areas of community, health and well-being, and education. Over the past year we have run Easter print making, memory box decoupage, Lego building, paper gardens, mosaics, book making, paper puppets, bunting and plant pot decoration. We use activities which will go on to support families to create memories.

SESSIONS: 11
ARTISTS: 5
PARTICIPANTS:
152
VOLUNTEERS: 5

*'I was amazed as always
& I will miss every class
I've had. It let my inner
artist out'*

*- Jigisha
(Parent)*



STEAM

We ran two STEAM projects this year. The first was with Village Primary School engaging 90 young people. The delivery artists supported them to express their creativity through sculpture, clay work and mosaic as part of a year-long project. Using their imagination and creativity they produced a large collaborative tree sculpture for the school library as an artistic legacy to inspire others.

The second was working with 90 young people between 2 schools, Dale Primary and Zaytouna Primary School. Zaytouna working on a Solar System sculpture project and Dale Primary working on a Nature related wall mural project with artist Kathryn Borg.

They developed their artistic abilities while gaining transferable and social skills alongside achieving Arts Award Discover.



SESSIONS: 80
ARTISTS: 6
PARTICIPANTS:
180
VOLUNTEERS: 3

Street SmART

The Street SmART Project took the theme of Urban Paradise. We worked with street artist Lucie Maycock to create large boards of Graffiti which will be installed in the Cavendish area of Normanton with support from Derby City Council and Western Power.

We worked with St James School and ran outreach sessions from Charnwood for this project. The young people used spray paint and stenciling to create large colourful motifs of the Derby skyline, along with original abstract flowers, plants and bird designs.

SESSIONS: 26
ARTISTS: 1
PARTICIPANTS:
90
VOLUNTEERS: 3



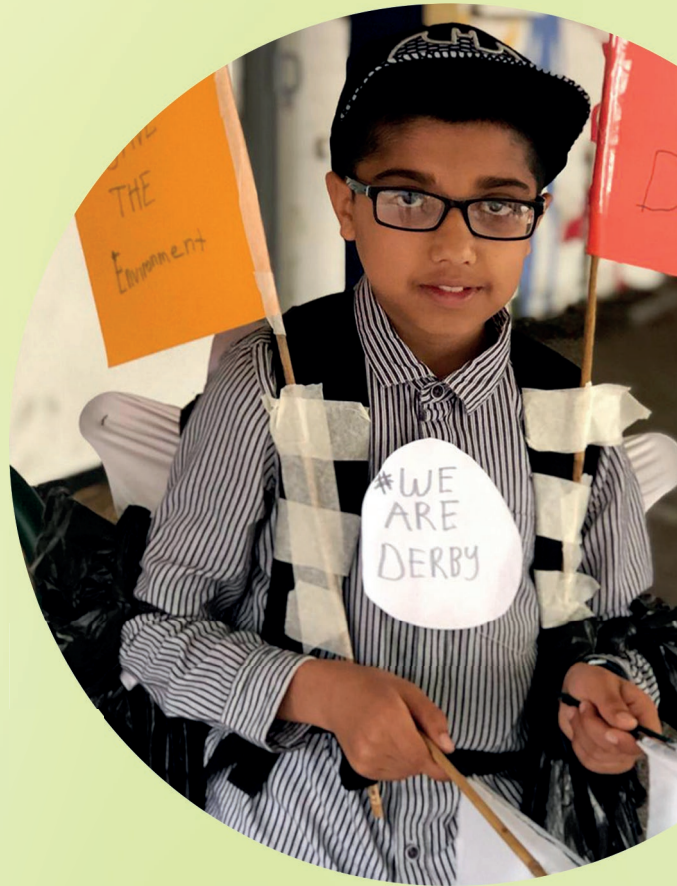
This is Derby #Reimagine

We have been a key partner delivering a city wide project called THIS IS DERBY. The programme was an exciting and innovative mix of arts, culture and sport providing young people with the opportunity to develop essential life skills, engage within their community and celebrate their talents and achievements, working with a range of artists and coaches to inspire and support them along this journey. In August we finished with a summer celebration.

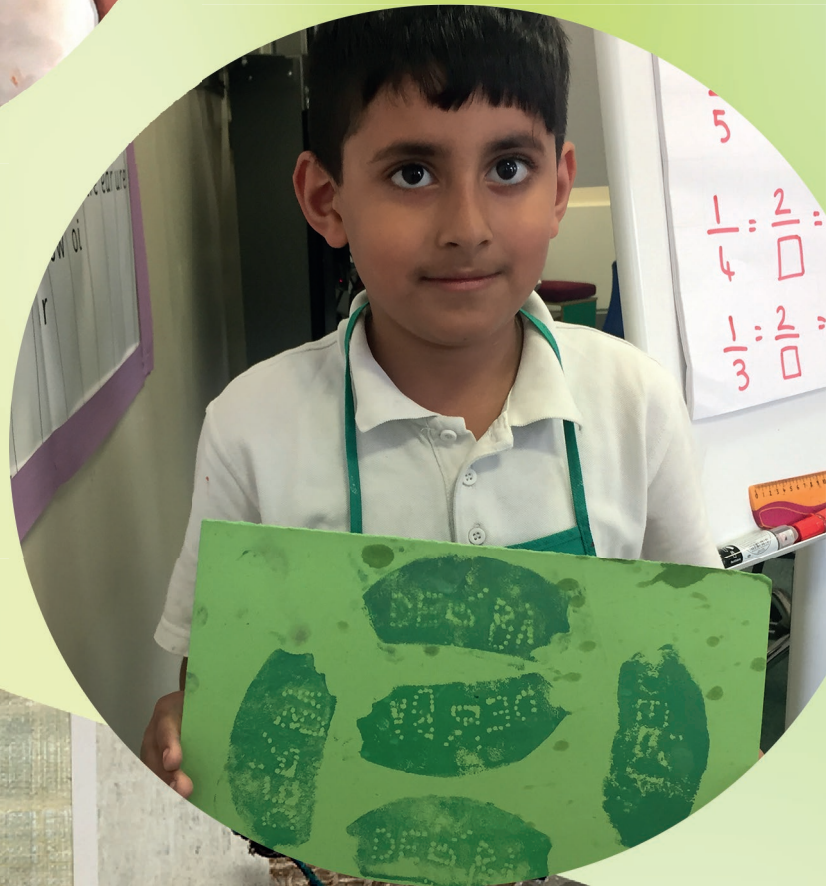
This is Derby #Reimagine took the form of a collaborative SHED project supporting young people to reimagine space and try out a variety of different art forms including music, movement, theatre and visual art. We ran creative sessions as part of the touring SHED project across Firs, Pear Tree, St. Martins, Derwent, Kingsmead and Castle School in Derby.

Our illustrative delivery artist ran taster sessions for the Treasure Island performance project in Abbey Ward Bemrose, Firs and Becket, creating treasure chests and props.

Celebrating Surroundings was the outcome of our initial tasters, with 15 children from Pear Tree and St James primary working with an illustrative delivery artist designing stage scenes as part of a wider performance with our delivery partners. The Arts Award Journey was also part of this project.



SESSIONS: 33
ARTISTS: 2
PARTICIPANTS:
211
VOLUNTEERS: 2



ART IN HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Artcore is passionate about bring communities together to experience the positive impact of the arts on health and well-being. With this in mind we have built a programme which not only supports participants to try new art skills and mediums but also gives them space and time to explore their thoughts, feelings and personality which they can express in the work they create.

The programmes we delivered worked with people with learning difficulties, older people, adults and children with special needs, and people with mental health problems. Delivery Artists for these programmes were chosen for their backgrounds in delivering health related sessions, having empathy and experience in supporting participants to grow in confidence whatever their background.

Projects

Art for Life
AEL Health

Special Projects

Arise and Thrive
Creative Living



AEL Health

This course supports health, wellbeing and builds confidence. Over the last year we have done marbling and collage, upcycling, painting, felting, printing, jewellery making and wire work with participants. The focus in these sessions is on the process rather than the outcome and the techniques learnt are simpler than the other courses giving time for participants to chat and discuss what they are doing. Points of celebration and looking at the small but vital improvements people are making are integral to this course. We have a variety of participants with mental and physical health issues, who have dedicated their Wednesdays to attending despite the barriers they face.

“The staff know me really well. Sometimes I faint for no reason. They always make sure I have a seat with arms on and loads of space. I can’t stand being hemmed in. I’ve made loads of friends here.”

SESSIONS: 43
ARTISTS: 8
PARTICIPANTS:
85
VOLUNTEERS: 4



Creative Living

Creative Living Project was a three year project supporting older people in Derby to live rich and fulfilling lives within their communities through engagement in art and creative movement workshops. It engaged the talent, experience and enthusiasm of over 55s in the creative arts through weekly visual arts and dance workshops in the community. In partnership with Déda, Derby 50+ Forum, Derby City Council, Metropolitan Housing, Derby Homes, DCCT and The University of Derby.

We started our taster sessions programme at Charnwood Street and Albert Street to engage a new audience, as well as continuing to work with Metropolitan Housing, Derby Homes and DCCT to deliver sessions. Participants learnt how to do pottery, collage poems, crochet, paper crafts and painting in the art sessions. The dance sessions explored a variety of forms from hand jive to swing and choreographed dance performances.

In September there was an exhibition of participants work at Charnwood Street gallery and an Older People's Celebration Day with activities, stalls and food on 1st October at Albert Street. We also ran two trips, one to A New Beginning Dance Show at DEDA, and A Christmas Carol at Derby Theatre.

Link to Creative Living Health and Well-being Video

<https://youtu.be/psw5Z7SJq3Y>

Website

www.creativelivingderby.co.uk

SESSIONS: 68
ARTISTS: 5
PARTICIPANTS: 158
VENUES: 5
AMBASSADORS: 7
VOLUNTEERS: 18



Art for Life

Our Art for Life sessions have given one to one art support to a small group of participants on a Wednesday afternoon. Over the year our in house artist, Nicki Dennett, worked with the group to do tie dye, card making, printing, sculpture and drawing. The participants have grown in confidence and improved their skills in art and communication over the year. They are so enthusiastic that they now bring ideas to Nicki and she works with them to see what they can make together.



SESSIONS: 50
ARTISTS: 1
PARTICIPANTS:
10
VOLUNTEERS: 6



Arise and Thrive

On Wednesday 19th Feb we celebrated our health and well-being open day, Arise and Thrive 2020. The day comprised of an interesting panel discussion on arts and wellbeing with inspirational women discussing the positive impact of arts and wellbeing. There was a Zumba fitness session and we shared a healthy lunch. An artist led children's card making and adult brooch making activities. We had a raffle with work kindly donated from our artists. We also had stalls from Enrich, Derby Carers, YMCA, Pam Sidhu Mindfulness and DEDA.

Along side all the activities we staged the Arise and Thrive exhibition opening with works of our wellbeing artists Kathryn Borg, Dawn Campion, Victoria Brown, Magdalena Aron, Marie Hegarty and Nicki Dennett which was displayed in the gallery and visitors could chat to the artists and look at their work. The exhibition continued for a month so that visitors who couldn't make the day could come and see the work.

SESSIONS: 1
ARTISTS: 2
PARTICIPANTS:
65
VOLUNTEERS: 6

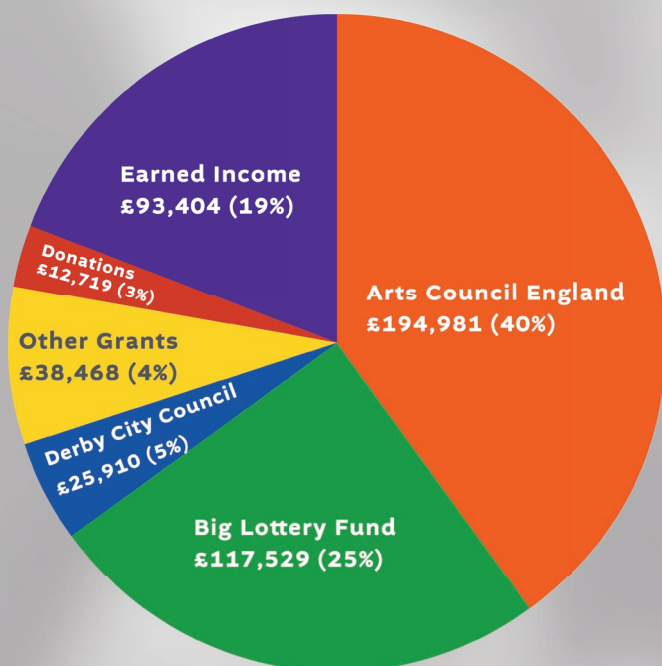




Learn



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

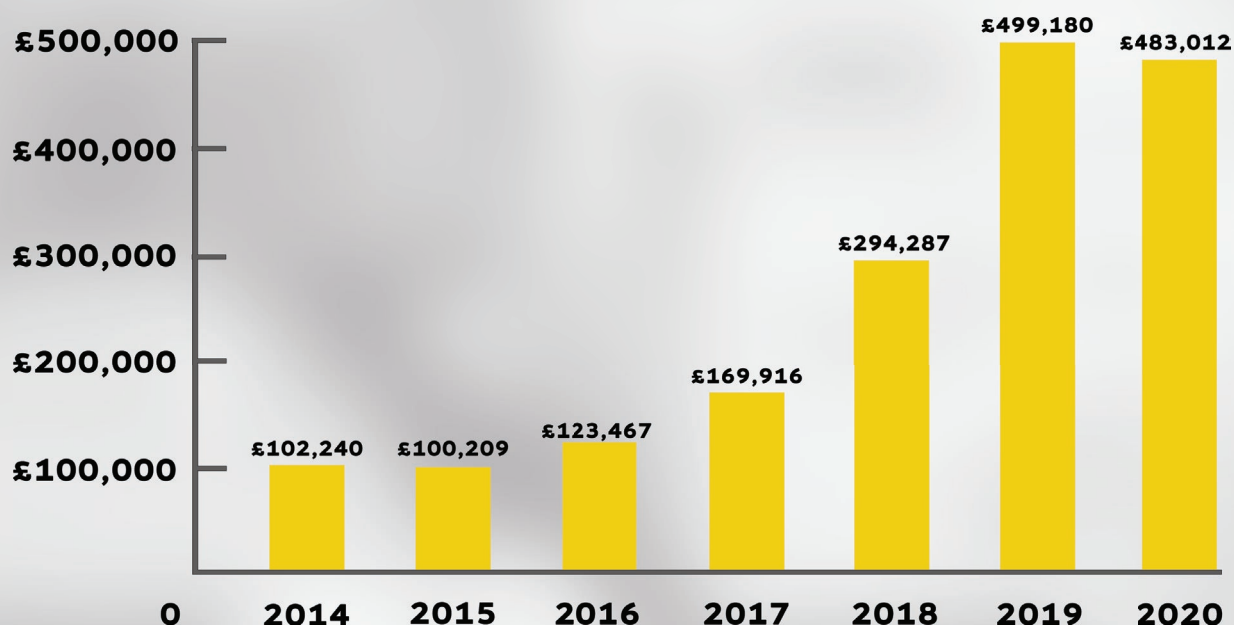


**INCOME BY SOURCE
2019-2020**

The year ended 31st March 2020 was a period of consolidation, with Artcore's income of £483,012 (2019: £499,180) being largely in line with the previous year.

A number of long-term funding grants for projects across the organisation's portfolio of activities continued in the 2019/20 year. 2019/20 was the second year in which Artcore held National Portfolio Organisation (Arts Council England) status, and this has continued to strengthen the financial position. There was an increased focus on creative and innovative ways of generating other income in the form of venue hire, the undertaking of work for commission, and the sale of artistic work. The new city centre premises provided increased opportunities for self-generated income, though this was put on hold towards the end of the financial year due to Covid-19.

INCOME ANALYSIS



OPPORTUNITIES



Artcore prides itself on its progressive and forward-thinking board members and staff, who provide a strong diverse backbone to the organisation. The continued support, effort and involvement from project volunteers brings immense value to Artcore and its activities. Artcore seeks to support an artist's professional as well as creative development, and to support participation in the arts by diverse communities. Through a range of opportunities, we provide a platform for engagement, learning new and professional skills and sustaining ambitions. Our activities act as an alternative learning tool, breaking down barriers to provide learning and education strands that are accessible to all. Artcore focuses on engaging audiences on-site as well as online through a variety of multi-media and new technology tools designed to maximise audience experience and impact.



ABOUT DESIGNCORE

Designcore is a non-profit ethical social enterprise that provides high-quality design services for the benefit of local communities. Their innovative ideas, affordable prices and professional design services open opportunities for charitable organisations and small groups to develop. Their services include branding, print design, advertising, website design, SEO, and online marketing.

VALUES

They endeavour to actively support and manage young talent by offering a platform of practice and opportunities for personal and career development. It gives skilled individuals, who may not currently be in employment, education or training to build their professional portfolio.

PARTNERSHIP WITH ARTCORE

They work predominantly with Artcore, supporting their wellbeing, education, community and contemporary art programmes. Their core values are integrity without compromise, delighting customers, building on its people, innovation, adding value, caring and giving back. This aligns with Artcore's values and make it a positive partnership.





Funders and Supporters



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





OUR PROJECT WEBSITES

<http://artcoregallery.org.uk>
<http://artattachments.co.uk>
<http://creativelivingderby.co.uk>
<http://chaiandthecity.artcoreuk.com>
<http://invisibleboundaries.co.uk>
<http://thewebofwater.com>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: /ArtcoreUK
Twitter: @ArtcoreEngland
LinkedIn: ArtcoreUK
Instagram: /artcoreuk

The Artcore logo is a stylized, handwritten-style wordmark in black ink, featuring a signature-like flourish at the end.The Artcore Gallery logo consists of a graphic of three overlapping squares to the left of the text "Artcore Gallery", which is in a clean, sans-serif font.

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Registered Charity Number: 1148022
Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales Number: 802175

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