

ARTS EMERGENCY

2018

IMPACT REPORT

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We love Arts Emergency. The young people you'll read about here all have such wisdom. They are so talented and bright and interested in making good lives for themselves, and they come up against so many different barriers. It's a privilege to be able to get to know them and to give them support and opportunities they otherwise wouldn't have access to.

We work nationally now, right across London, Manchester, Oldham, Wigan and Kent, and we have plans to fund and launch new projects in at least 14 more towns and cities over the next few years. It's been a case of slowly and steadily building - from just ideas, passion and enthusiasm, into an award-winning charity that is changing people's lives so much for the better.

On behalf of Neil and myself, thank you for being part of this journey with us, you have literally been the difference between us being able to run or not, and it absolutely means the world. We're serious about changing society and culture in a broad, long-term, far-reaching way. With your help we're defending imagination and intellect as things that have beauty and value and importance all in themselves, and we're showing that studying an arts or humanities degree is something for everyone, and helping more people pursue a life that they truly want. That's such a good thing for all of us.

Josie Long and Neil Griffiths, co-founders of Arts Emergency

OUR MISSION & VISION

Our mission is to help marginalised young people overcome barriers to participation in higher education and the creative and cultural industries.

Our vision is of a society where every young person gets a fair chance to flourish and every opportunity to contribute to the culture in which they live.

OUR AIMS

1. Those in the poorest areas can access local support and opportunities.
2. Cultural and social capital is redistributed and available to all regardless of class, gender or ethnicity.
3. Gatekeepers acknowledge not just the diversity problem but the structural causes behind it and act to address these.
4. Marginalised young people are exposed to arguments for, and accurate information about, higher education and careers.

WHY WE DO IT

Culture shapes our lives as much as politics. For a number of years now the government has been dismantling traditional ways working-class young people have made their way into academia and the industries that produce culture. In fact those industries are more socially exclusive than any other sector. In 2018 we collaborated with Create and academics from the Universities of Sheffield and Edinburgh on a report titled 'Panic! Social Class, Taste and Inequalities in the Creative Industries'. We learned that **young people from privileged backgrounds are four times more likely to make it into the creative industries**. This imbalance is in large part due to whether a young person can afford to take on unpaid work and if they have access to personal networks and insider knowledge.

WHAT WE DO

We provide 16-18 year olds with a trained mentor working in their field of interest so that they can achieve their goals. This year of mentoring then acts as a gateway to our alternative 'old boy' network which offers young people real world opportunities and a supportive community until the age of 24.

We only work with the young people who are least likely to have the connections or a 'leg up' to study or work in the creative and cultural industries. The three most common criteria for our 2018 mentees were neither parent went to university (71%), household income below £25,000 p/a (56%) and person of colour (56%). Significantly 77% selected two or more eligibility criteria.

2018 IN NUMBERS



88% of mentees feel more supported when making choices about the future



96% of our mentees applied to university



We offered **289** opportunities to our young network



100% of teachers believe their students are more prepared for future careers



Our young people completed over **1,800** hours of mentoring



It cost less than **£1,000** to support each young person through our mentoring programme

LIFE CHANGING MENTORING

Mentoring gives young people regular access to professionals across the creative industries.

We match young people with an expert mentor who shares their interests. Our mentors are at the top of their fields across the creative and cultural industries: they are journalists, architects, filmmakers, artists, historians and more. The students we work with gain tailored advice on university, apprenticeships and creative and cultural careers at a critical point in their lives. It's a transformational year, with **95% of our young people reporting that they felt more prepared for the future** as a result of their mentor's support.



DEJI AND YOAV

DEJI: This year I learnt how the film industry works at a basic level and how if I want to succeed I'm going to have to work very hard at entry level to get where I want to be. Arts Emergency has done more for me than I ever thought possible, it has opened doors I thought were closed. It has given me hope.

YOAV: Deji has an amazing passion and hunger to learn and grow. He's an excellent writer and it's been a treat to see his script go from strength to strength and impress industry professionals. We also drove really hard for exciting work experience opportunities – at post-production/edit houses and on-set experience. Deji stepped up to the plate every time.

KHADIJAH AND LEVIN

KHADIJAH: I would like to become an illustrator. The best bit of mentoring is being able to talk to somebody who has like-minded ideas and gives good advice. Arts Emergency has really helped me to get up on my feet and gave me confidence in my work.

LEVIN: Having the chance to share in the excitement of witnessing Khadijah's artistic practice grow and to see the beautiful pieces she created was a real joy. The most rewarding thing was the way Khadijah took ownership of her journey and challenged herself to advance her artistic technique and content. It was very inspiring to understand the pieces through her perspective and narrative.

“Students have really committed to the scheme gaining insight into their chosen career and establishing excellent networks to help them in the future. They are far more confident in pursuing what really interests them in the arts and we have seen them progress on to some really creative courses and jobs.”
Jo Bishop, Head of Careers, City and Islington College

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ALL

Arts Emergency supports young people into university and beyond. Our participants can now be found at universities across the UK.

We are founded on the conviction that everyone should have the opportunity to pursue the subject areas they're interested in and that culture is for everyone.

Statistics show **a degree doubles the chances of working-class students being able to attain creative and cultural careers**, so our focus is on increasing access and understanding of higher education. We provide practical help with the UCAS process and support student retention at university through pastoral care and additional opportunities.



Sadia is studying Photography at Falmouth University

Arts Emergency is important to me as I don't think I would have been able to attend university to study photography without it. Through the network, I was able to build my confidence and work on my skills as well as realise how passionate I am to study the arts.

74% OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL THEY HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT UNIVERSITY WILL BE LIKE



Amanzhol is studying Architecture at the University of Edinburgh

My mentor's advice was invaluable when it came to applying to university, preparing for interviews and portfolio submissions and getting ready to begin the course. Above all, I was able to undertake two weeks of work experience, strengthening my UCAS application and CV.

Jenna is studying Classics II & English at the University of Oxford

The best feeling was being able to tell my mentor that I got an offer from Oxford – that really felt like a big moment for both of us. At university, I constantly have contact with the Arts Emergency team who never fail to put me in touch with people who can help me pursue my interests in writing.



TOP QUALITY WORK EXPERIENCE

We help young people gain valuable experience in the creative and cultural industries.

Our work experience programme levels the playing field. We utilise our network to find high quality, inspiring placements. We want all our opportunities to be fair and accessible so we advocate for organisations to offer expenses for short placements or payment for internships.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE COMPLETED WORK EXPERIENCE AT:

- Netflix • Rankin Photography Ltd • The Bureau
- The Victoria & Albert Museum • CBBC
- Shakespeare & Company • NME
- The Financial Times • MixMag • Sadler's Wells
- Tes • Dazed & Confused • Portico Gallery
- The Globe Theatre • Greenpeace • The Farm
- Imperial War Museum • MTV • Burberry
- Quarto Publishing • Net-a-Porter
- The Independent • Cowboy Films

85% OF YOUNG PEOPLE MADE PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS THROUGH THEIR WORK PLACEMENTS

“ Zaid's work was outstanding. I asked him to help with a new business research task and he went so far above and beyond what I asked him to do. The effort he put in was amazing and it was a big help to the agency. ”

Hannah, Account Director, Kindred Agency

Charlotte spent the summer at Shakespeare & Company in Paris

Alongside working in the bookshop and the antiquarian next door, I worked on events, publications and the company website. I had the chance to develop so many skills in such a short space of time. The most important part was my boosted self-confidence and the knowledge that because I made that initial leap with applying, I was capable of anything I set my mind to!



Charlotte outside the bookshop just before introducing Kate Tempest



Munaiba and friends on set at Elstree Studios

Munaiba spent a week on the set of 'The Crown' at Elstree Studios

The best bit for me was my last day where I was given the opportunity to have my own edit suite and was given a few scenes of one of the episodes to edit. In the end it was shown in front of everyone including the editors and the producer. Questions that I had bottled up inside me for such a long time about how it all works behind the scenes were answered and it all made sense to me! I now know for sure that it is something I definitely want to do and I can see myself one day editing for TV or film.

HIGH CALIBRE OPPORTUNITIES

We offer a wide variety of trips, tickets, networking opportunities, workshops, advice and courses.

We spotlight the many paths available in the cultural and creative industries showing young people how they might carve out a career for themselves. We encourage visits to creative workplaces and participation in arts and cultural events, regularly offering free tickets to exhibitions, plays and gigs. As a result of our programme, **69% of mentees feel more at ease in cultural spaces** like galleries, museums and theatres, and this is an area of activity we will develop further in 2019.

NATHALY'S ALRA SCHOLARSHIP

ALRA drama school committed to providing a free scholarship place on their 'Foundation in Acting' course to one Arts Emergency student.

NATHALY: We learn how to work in front of the cameras, how we should take care of our bodies and voices as actors, and there's even a hint of period dancing which is so much fun! I know now that because of this amazing opportunity my future will be brighter!



Visiting Playdeo's games studio



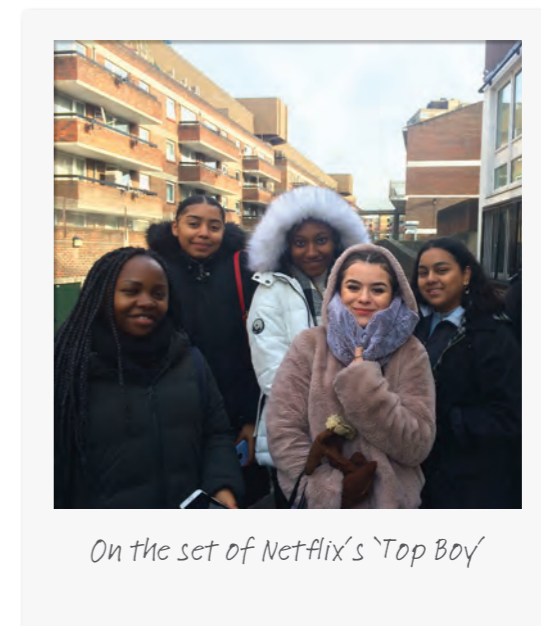
Visit to Kingston University's Art department



The National Youth Theatre offer free auditions to Arts Emergency students



Backstage at The Lowry for 'Rita, Sue and Bob Too'



On the set of Netflix's 'Top Boy'



Free six week Write Like a Grrl course



Trip to Hachette UK publishing house



Arts Award poetry reading

BREAKING INTO INDUSTRY

We are supporting young people long-term into careers they love.

The work we're doing is making a difference. We know this because we're beginning to see our talented young people grow in confidence and connections and start their careers. Out of the 22 young people who took part in our 2012 pilot project 21 have recently graduated from university and half of them are already working at cultural institutions including The Royal Opera House, HBO, Netflix, the BBC and NME.

**79% OF OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE
FEEL MORE
CONFIDENT
WHEN IN A
PLACE OF WORK**



SILÉ, LITERARY ASSISTANT, CURTIS BROWN

Arts Emergency helped me by setting me up with the most fantastic mentor (and friend) who still keeps me sane and pushing for the best. Being part of the Arts Emergency family gives me a real sense of self and a safety net that I could not get anywhere else. Everyone at Arts Emergency continues to make me feel valid and able to achieve whatever I put my mind to by letting me know I am supported by the best cheerleading squad in the business.

I would not be where I am now, neither would I consider where I want to be remotely attainable, if it wasn't for Arts Emergency.



HOSANNA, TECHNICAL THEATRE APPRENTICE, ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

When I joined Arts Emergency I didn't know what I wanted to do after school but once I was matched with a mentor I had someone to figure it all out with. I didn't even think I would do an apprenticeship, so it was really helpful to have someone to practice interviews with and read through my applications.

Without Arts Emergency's help and support I might not have had the confidence or belief that I could do this, or anything else that I want to achieve.

OUR NETWORK

Our community of over 7,000 creative and cultural professionals acts as an alternative 'old boy' network providing connections, confidence and opportunities for young people.



Julie Hesmondhalgh

Actor, writer and theatre maker

Julie has spoken on behalf of Arts Emergency in sixth form and further education colleges and has provided opportunities to our mentees in Manchester. All royalties from 'Julie Hesmondhalgh: A Working Diary' will be generously donated to Arts Emergency.

"I love Arts Emergency for stepping in and providing mentoring opportunities and encouragement for young people from low income families and providing a network of professionals ready to champion and cheerlead them all the way."

Reni Eddo-Lodge

Author and journalist

Reni mentored Silé who is featured on page 14.

"It's great to work with a young person who is very driven and bright. I never really had any mentoring help, I had to navigate everything largely by myself. . . so it's been nice to be able to pass on some of the knowledge I've accrued in the last seven years."



Marianne Shillingford

Creative Director AkzoNobel Dulux UK & Ireland and founder of the Colour in Design Awards

Marianne is a mentor for students interested in creative design.

"The best part of mentoring has been finding lifelong new friends – and realising that you can actually make a positive difference to someone's present and future, even if it's just to boost confidence levels and explore fresh avenues of opportunity."

Jack Dee

Comedian and actor

Jack donates to Arts Emergency every month.

"In this country we often boast about our rich cultural scene but it can't be truly rich if it is still not properly accessible to some sections of society. Arts Emergency opens doors to those people and helps as they begin the daunting task of carving out a career in the arts."



Faith Alabi

Actor

Faith mentors young people interested in acting, theatre and TV.

"The best part of mentoring has been securing my mentee a top talent agent and helping her get offered a place at a leading drama school. Arts Emergency helps to create more equal opportunities and we need it now more than ever."

Amber Butchart

Fashion historian, author and broadcaster

Amber is a mentor for young people interested in fashion, history and design.

"I'm really passionate about Arts Emergency. Mentoring is so rewarding and it's increasingly important in the arts with the lack of governmental support. It's been fantastic to see my mentee gain more confidence and get an arts foundation place at college."



Jeremy Till

Head of Central Saint Martins and Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of the Arts London

Jeremy is a regular monthly donor and at an institutional level has supported Arts Emergency by hosting two of our mentor pair introduction events at Central Saint Martins.

"There is a generosity of spirit that is palpable, and real success stories emerging... Arts Emergency provides an empowering platform for younger people who might otherwise not have access to the creative arts."

SUPPORT US

Young people from privileged backgrounds are over five times more likely to attend university and four times more likely to make it into the creative and cultural industries.

Arts Emergency is how we're helping to change this. We are an open door into the world of culture, learning and creativity, underpinned by long-term personal and practical support.

We now work in 30 schools and colleges across Greater London, Greater Manchester and East Kent. You've seen how life changing and unique our project is and we're so, so proud of all our young people. But there are 30 other towns and cities where we've already got volunteers waiting to go, and we need donations now.

Please consider a monthly or annual donation. In 2017-18 **97% of all our work was funded by you, our community and allies.** The average gift is £8 per month but please give whatever your equivalent of that is, be it £2 or £2,000, it will go towards funding more handpicked mentors and up to eight years of support and opportunity for young people nationwide.

WWW.ARTS-EMERGENCY.ORG/CHARITY



“Arts Emergency has given me the confidence to pursue the career I've always wanted and crucially, has helped me realise that I have as much right to do so as anybody else. The opportunities keep on coming and I've done so many things that at one time, I thought wouldn't have been possible for me.”
Young Network member Millie-Jo is now studying English at the University of Birmingham



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Donating monthly or annually to fund student places
- Mentoring
- Providing work experience
- Offering free tickets to plays, exhibitions and events
- Raising money through a sponsored event, bake sale or concert
- Telling your friends, family and colleagues about Arts Emergency
- Offering internships, jobs and training opportunities

THE ARTS EMERGENCY MANIFESTO

- 1. There are things that are bigger and better than money.
We have things that those in power will never understand.**
- 2. We take it as a given that a civilised society values education,
lifelong learning and creativity as a public good.**
- 3. We are a social justice not social mobility organisation.
Arts Emergency is no substitute for justice withheld.**
- 4. Be fearless. You are just as entitled as anyone to have the life you want.**
- 5. There is no recession of the imagination.**
- 6. The future is another place. Allow yourself to believe a better life is
possible. Say it loud, defiantly, to everyone.**
- 7. To think creatively and critically is to free yourself from the limits
of circumstance, class and context.**
- 8. Be generous. Now be more generous. Share your privilege.**
- 9. Do something. Start small, start local, keep going.**
- 10. Optimism is a weapon and if all else fails be silly.**

