

ARTS EMERGENCY

2019



IMPACT
REPORT



160
MENTOR
PAIRS
MATCHED



88%
OF MENTEES
COMPLETED
THE YEAR

1,903
HOURS OF
MENTORING

1,734
YOUNG PEOPLE JOINED
OUR TALKS ON THE ARTS
AND HUMANITIES



85%
OF OUR WORK
WAS FUNDED BY
INDIVIDUALS

79%
OF MENTEES MADE
PROFESSIONAL
CONNECTIONS



95%
OF MENTEES
PLAN TO APPLY
FOR UNIVERSITY

92%
OF TEACHERS SAID
STUDENTS ARE MORE
PREPARED FOR
FUTURE CAREERS



217
TRIPS AND
OPPORTUNITIES
SHARED



95%
OF MENTEES FEEL
MORE PREPARED
FOR THE FUTURE

Nish Kumar gave the annual arts lecture at Queen Mary University in partnership with Arts Emergency in 2019.



I've not encountered a single person who's been successful in any artistic field without a supportive community behind them.

If you're coming from a background that isn't basically rich white man or if you're trying to write about an experience that's outside of the norm you will not be supported by the system and so you have to have a creative community to support you. I think Arts Emergency is an amazing network that helps young creatives make these crucial connections.

Once you've broken through in your industry it's so important to look at the path that you've taken and throw a line back. The young people you'll read about here have so many brilliant ideas, passions and skills. They are putting in serious graft to make it in hard to crack industries like TV, theatre and publishing. I think it's on all of us to help them on their way.

So, if you're supporting Arts Emergency already thank you and if not it's about time you joined us.

Nish Kumar
Comedian, writer and Arts Emergency supporter

WHAT WE DO

Arts Emergency was founded in 2013 to help a generation of young people vexed by rising tuition fees and shrinking opportunities.

Our mission is to help them participate in higher education, succeed in the creative industries and contribute to the culture in which they live.

2019 was an incredible year for us. We launched a new mentoring project to support students in Thanet in East Kent, grew our work in London and Greater Manchester, and created a new Community Manager role to generate more opportunities and support for our alumni aged 18 and over.

We provided 160 sixth-formers with a trained mentor for a year of one to one support. Every one of the young people who completed the programme will now receive opportunities and access to our well-connected network until they are 25.

OUR MENTEES

We work with state school sixth forms and colleges to find the young people who are least likely to have the connections to study or work in the creative and cultural industries. Using academic research we've devised a rigorous set of criteria to identify the young people who most need our support. Every mentee must meet at least one of our criteria and 73% meet two or more.



OUR YOUNG MEMBERS

- 53% of mentees' household income was below £25,000 p/a
- 63% of mentees' parents haven't attended university
- 58% identified as a person of colour.

OUR NETWORK

Our young people are supported by a network of over 7,000 arts and humanities professionals working in visual art, theatre, academia, music, film, journalism, TV, games, museums, design and more. These are people who can and do open doors to our aspiring creatives and cultural leaders.

MENTORING

In 2019 we matched 160 young people with their own expert mentor to help them turn their passion into a reality. Our incredible volunteers gave over 1,900 hours of their time to coach future journalists, architects, filmmakers, artists and historians.

The students gained tailored advice on university, apprenticeships and creative careers at a critical point in their lives. It was a transformational year, with **95% of them reporting that they now feel more prepared for the future.**

“ I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER WATCHING NADE IN HER PROFESSIONAL STAGE DEBUT. MY HEART NEARLY BURST WITH PRIDE. THE CHANGE IN JUST 12 MONTHS HAS BEEN INCREDIBLE. ”

Aaron is Nade's mentor and a Marketing Manager at the Almeida Theatre



NADE APPLIED FOR A MENTOR BECAUSE SHE WANTS TO BREAK INTO ACTING

“ When Arts Emergency came to my school I was ecstatic because it was the first arts opportunity I'd seen. Loads changed for me over the year, beginning with my successful audition for a free place on The National Youth Theatre's summer course. I made my professional stage debut in 'Extremism' at Theatre Peckham and I've also been invited to join a theatre company for a show at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Aaron would set me monthly goals which I would reflect on every time we met. My work ethic has grown, I've become more self motivated and I believe in myself so much more now. ”

**OUR YOUNG NETWORK
CAN NOW BE FOUND
AT UNIVERSITIES
ACROSS THE UK**



Abdur-Raheem on a trip to Hachette Publishing House.



HIGHER EDUCATION

A degree doubles the chances of a working-class student attaining a creative or cultural career, so we focus on increasing access to higher education.

In 2019, 79% of our mentees said they gained a better understanding of university and 95% said they planned to apply. We'll be there to support them as they make that challenging transition into higher education and during their degree; offering opportunities, guidance and pastoral care.

ABDUR-RAHEEM IS NOW STUDYING ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS AT QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

“ My mentor was knowledgeable and kind in equal measure. She gave me valuable advice regarding my next steps which helped me to make decisions about universities and courses.

Through Arts Emergency and my mentor I've attended a four-day publishing course, entered into a number of writing competitions and visited two different publishing houses (both from the Big Five). Learning about the normal, understandable structures and roles within the publishing industry really helped dismantle my perception that it was impenetrable! ”

WORK EXPERIENCE

Organisations across the creative and cultural industries have opened their doors to our young members. These high quality work experience opportunities and paid internships are crucial for our young people who have all the passion but none of the connections. Now, **76% of our mentees feel more confident in a place of work.**

In 2019, our network provided 50 inspiring placements. Our students gained experience at the Houses of Parliament, Big Issue North, Google Creative Labs, the National Theatre, Netflix, Nosy Crow, Tiger Aspect Productions, Threads Radio, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the Victoria & Albert Museum and many more!

“ MY HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR WAS BEING TOLD BY THE TEAM AT BJL THAT MAX WAS ONE OF THE BEST STUDENTS THEY’D EVER HAD. ”

Kevin is Max's mentor and a lecturer in Design and Creative Advertising at the University of Central Lancashire



MAX COMPLETED A TWO WEEK PLACEMENT AT BJL, AN ADVERTISING AND MARKETING AGENCY IN MANCHESTER

“Through my placement I've learnt industry specific skills, like how to have great ideas and stick by them, but also transferable skills like resilience when things get tough, confidence in promoting yourself and importantly pushing yourself out of your comfort zone.

I feel much more confident speaking to industry professionals now. My network consists of advertising graduates, academics, the creative team at BJL and people at the top of the industry.

I feel even more certain that I'm heading down the right path and the encouragement from my mentor has made me believe I can make anything possible.”

OPPORTUNITIES

We shared over 200 free trips, networking opportunities, workplace tours, workshops, conferences and courses with our young people in 2019. These opportunities help them to explore their options, expand their networks and build their confidence.

We encourage participation in arts and cultural events, offering free tickets to exhibitions, festivals, plays and gigs every month. Experiences like these help develop students' cultural capital which can be crucial when they pursue creative careers. As a result of our programme, **74% of mentees now feel more at ease in cultural spaces.**

CHAKIRA WAS THE FIRST ARTS EMERGENCY STUDENT TO DO A FELLOWSHIP AT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY KUDOS

“ Arts Emergency provided me with so many contacts and opportunities. I was introduced to the founder of a record label and the executive producer of a TV company, I've also been on a tour of Columbia Records and a Netflix set!

My favourite part was doing an extended placement with Kudos. I got to attend a day's filming on set, met some famous actors and I reviewed scripts for potential TV shows. ”





BREAKING INTO INDUSTRY

Our young people want to pursue fulfilling careers that match their talent, creativity and passion. But in the creative industries they'll have to contend with sector-wide elitism. In fact there is less social mobility in the creative and cultural industries than any other sector.

Arts Emergency tackles this by offering training and guidance to industry gatekeepers and by helping young people to build up their professional networks and insider knowledge. In 2019 we've seen more and more of our young members grow in confidence and connections as they begin their careers.

SINEAD IS NOW AN ILLUSTRATOR AND YOUNG FREELANCER AT THE LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM

“ Before being part of Arts Emergency I was a cleaner at major London museum, working early hours of the morning and feeling worthless. I nearly gave up on my ambition of working in the arts. Once I'd joined Arts Emergency the team would regularly check in with me and even helped me with my interview to get onto the Young Freelancer's programme.

As a Young Freelancer I'm part of many teams, one week I'll be working with children, the next I'll be helping young people. I've grown in so many ways, from believing in myself more to learning practical skills like how to do my taxes. Most importantly I've learnt that I can go into any career I want to after this. ”

HOW TO HELP

Arts Emergency is an open door into the world of culture, learning and creativity, underpinned by long-term personal and practical support.

At the moment we work in London, Greater Manchester and Thanet but we've identified 12 other towns and cities where we're urgently needed and have already got volunteers waiting to go. With your support we can meet the national need and fulfill the potential of the movement we've been building.

Please consider a monthly or annual donation. In 2018-19, 85% of 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, it will go towards funding mentors, opportunities and life-changing support for young people nationwide.

www.arts-emergency.org/donate

Joining the Arts Emergency network is an incredibly easy way for you to help aspiring young creatives.

As a member there are a number of things you can do to support Arts Emergency:

- make a monthly donation
- become a mentor
- set up a work experience placement
- share paid internships and entry-level jobs
- donate tickets
- ask your friends and colleagues to join the network.

www.arts-emergency.org/join-us



THANK YOU

Arts Emergency would like to say a huge thank you to our community of donors, whose valuable support allows us to run and support hundreds of young people across the country every year.

Massive thanks go to every single one of our 1,600+ monthly donors as well as Bursars, major donors, companies, trusts and foundations.

Together, you are the lifeblood of Arts Emergency.

COMPANIES

The Agency
Haworth Tompkins
Imaginary Friends Productions
INCK
IS Oxford
Kudos

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

Belacqua Charitable Trust
Discworld Foundation
Gaia Charitable Trust

LAURA KINSELLA FOUNDATION

AKO Foundation



**“I’VE MET SO
MANY AMAZING
PEOPLE”**



**“I’VE LEARNT TO
BELIEVE IN MYSELF
MORE AND TO BE MORE
CONFIDENT IN MY
PASSIONS”**



**“IT’S BEEN ONE OF
THE BEST THINGS
TO EVER HAPPEN
TO ME”**



**“OUR STUDENTS ARE
SO EXCITED BY THE
OPPORTUNITIES IT’S
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**“IT’S OPENED
MY EYES TO
MORE CREATIVE
FIELDS”**



**“MY MENTEE
INSPIRED AND
MOTIVATED ME
AS MUCH AS I
HELPED HER”**



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Photos courtesy Lilla Nyeki, Charles Leek, Adam Wenham and Being Human Festival.

**“IT’S A
ONCE IN A LIFETIME
PROGRAMME”**