

Making Creative Connections

Suffolk Artlink Annual Report 2011/2012

Thank you

Our artists: Tim Ainslie, Lester Bennett, Rachel Bennett, Amelia Bird, Ian Bishop, Chris Coe, Bridget Cousins, Filomena Cristallino, Emma Curtis, Simon Doling, Chris Draude, James Fletcher, Dirk Forsdyke, George Fothergill, Mhari Gallagher, Yves Green, Bryan Hall, Bryony Harding, Cosmo Hardy, Sara Harrington, Julie Heathcote, Mel Horwood, Alex Jones, Adam Keeton, Michael Laskey, Steve Law, Mike McManus, Caroline Mummery, Molly Naylor, Jenny Nutbeem, Dean Parkin, Ruth Philo, Albert Robb, Jana Rowland, Mike Rowland, Matt Shepherd, Anusha Subramanyam, Catherine Taylor, Rachel Vaughn, Robert Vaughan, Vijay Venkat, Laura Watson, Liz Waugh-McManus, Vicki Weitz, John Wilmshurst, Margaret Wyllie

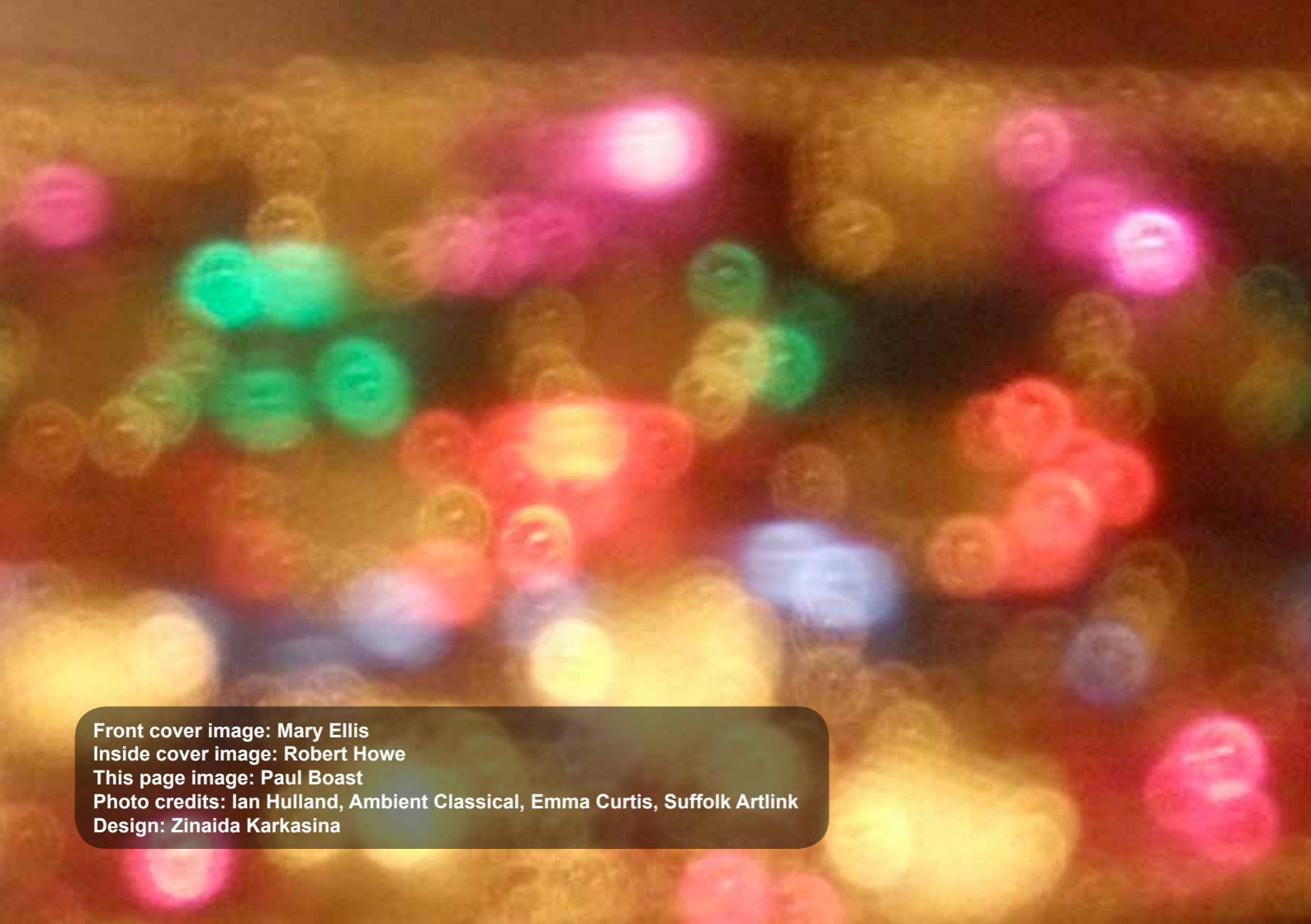
Our volunteers: Jonathan Bower, Robert Gridley, Chris Hart, Amanda Potter, Wendy Rees, Sharon Riley, Miles Row, Louise Stratford, Leeza Wigg

Our partners: Age UK Suffolk, Aldeburgh Music, Alzheimer's Society, Babergh DC sheltered housing schemes, Beeja Dance Company, Colchester Hospital, Gainsborough Library, Gomito Puppet Company, Hillside Community Special School, Ipswich Academy, Ipswich Hospital, James Paget University Hospital, Moyse's Hall Museum, Oasis Day Service, Quidenham Hospice, R-age, Suffolk Family Carers, Stone Lodge Youth Club, Suffolk County Council, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, The Seagull Theatre, The Treehouse EACH, Time 4 You, TIN Arts, Warren Community Special School

Our trustees: Kate Bushell, Anita Cameron, Stephen Collins, Angela Corrie, Mike James, Penny Otton, Jim Wyllie

Our staff: Bridie Bedingfield, Rachel Bennett, Alex Casey, Gabby Cox, Hayley Field, Jenny Holland, Blue King, Charlie Meyer, Jo Poole, Miles Row, Fran Speight, Chris Warner, Alistair Winch, Candida Wingate





Front cover image: Mary Ellis
Inside cover image: Robert Howe
This page image: Paul Boast
Photo credits: Ian Hulland, Ambient Classical, Emma Curtis, Suffolk Artlink
Design: Zinaida Karkasina

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Chair's Report by Anita Cameron



Alex and Hayley are just coming to the end of their first year as Co-Directors – and have provided exactly the leadership and clarity that we needed. It was good timing that we were able to benefit over the year from the support of Pilotlight, whose expert volunteers have helped us think through how we now need to develop and continue to be sustainable and efficient. We have also benefited from the continued support of Suffolk County Council and the Baring Foundation - and a successful Big Lottery Funding bid to support our JumpstART! project (a modular arts course for people with learning disabilities).

Last year I commented on how we continued to rise to the challenges of the times – thanks to the skills and commitment of our staff, colleagues and supporters. You will have to forgive me for repeating myself, as those challenges continue – and together we have achieved another successful and exciting year.

Anita Cameron
Chair

Director's Report

2011/12 was an exciting year for Suffolk Artlink with a successful programme of projects delivered across the county and a raft of new projects in development.

We would like to acknowledge the quality and experience of our artists and project staff. They are the people who represent Suffolk Artlink's frontline, our participant's experience of us, and they justly deserve special appreciation for the professionalism and inspiration they bring to their work and to the people they engage with.

Thanks to the Big Lottery Fund, JumpstART! started its new full programme of work in Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft. Exciting partnerships and opportunities have begun to emerge for its students as the project continues.

We are really pleased that during the year we have been successful in raising funds for a number of projects that will be delivered in 2012/13. We have secured funding for Creative Carers, a project

that trains care home staff in delivering creative activities. There will be new activity in Suffolk and Essex, along with an external Social Return On Investment evaluation of the project to clarify its benefits to the care sector and future funders.

The current Clown Round project ends in October 2012, but thanks to BBC Children in Need the programme will continue for another three years from November.

TESTBED, a programme of pilot projects funded by Arts Council England, will begin work to develop new partnerships, test new ways of working and reach new participants in 2012/13.

We would like to personally thank all the artists, volunteers, trustees and in particular the staff team for their support and hard work over the last year.

Alex Casey and Hayley Field
Co-Directors

About Suffolk Artlink

Suffolk Artlink works to improve the quality of life of people of all abilities through participation in creative activities.

We believe in the instrumental value of the arts and promote participation in high quality creative activities as a positive way of improving health and wellbeing for disadvantaged people. We achieve this by providing a varied programme of artist-led projects based in the community in partnership with arts, voluntary and community organisations. The projects all have a focus on *being creative together* - either in pairs or small groups or within the wider community.

Our strategic aims:

- To address the needs of more people
- To be recognised as a sector leader within participatory arts
- To be a more sustainable organisation

What we did in 2011/12:

Managed **10** projects

Engaged **2056** participants

Delivered **462** workshop sessions

Reached **4974** audience

Employed **46** artists

Our work with older people

“Good to try something new...”

“Good to go out into the local area - you forget what’s on your doorstep”

“...gets your mind working again”

Pack Up and Tour

Creative activities for groups, providing a series of artist-led sessions to select from a menu of choices, including: visual arts, crafts, photography, creative writing, dance, drama, music and singing. Alongside sessions, groups access local cultural opportunities, linked to the activities provided. The emphasis of the project is to encourage inspiring, stimulating creative activities in a sustainable way, developing a group’s skills and experience and supporting them to continue working creatively together in the future. We piloted the project this year and will develop it as part of our ongoing portfolio of projects.

Artists: Bridget Cousins, Bryony Harding, Julie Heathcote, Michael Laskey, Jenny Nutbeem, Ruth Philo, Albert Robb, Catherine Taylor, Laura Watson

Settings: Felixstowe, Framlingham, Hadleigh, Halesworth, Kessingland, Lowestoft and Sudbury Libraries, Salvation Army day service Sudbury, Bangladeshi Befriending Service Ipswich, St Nicholas Hospice day service Bury St Edmunds, West Suffolk Association for the Blind Haverhill, Briars residential home Glemsford

Partners: Gainsborough’s House Sudbury, Christchurch Mansion Ipswich, Framlingham Castle, Marina Theatre Lowestoft, New Wolsey Theatre Ipswich, The Cut Halesworth, Red Rose Chain

Funders: Suffolk County Council POPs and the following charitable trusts and foundations: 29th May, Anton Jurgens, Austin and Pilkington, Coutts, Fitzmaurice, Ganzoni, Geoffrey Watling, Lionel Wigram Memorial, Mrs Smith and Mount, Roger Vere, Santander, Sir Jules Thorn, Steel



Our work with older people

“Excellent, relaxing, joyful... surprisingly fascinating beautiful ... interesting ... wonderful, very enjoyable...so artistic”

Culture Club Tours

The project brings high quality performances and participatory workshops to tour community venues around Suffolk, aiming to reach people who may not normally access them. Tea and Tiffin was the third in a run of annual performances. It was a specially commissioned piece by Indian dance company Beeja. A dancer and musician performed and encouraged the audience to join in with gentle exercise, movement and singing whilst also bringing a taste of India to people – encouraging them to sample some traditional Indian foods along with a cup of tea.

Artists: Anusha Subramanyam, Vijay Venkat
Partners: Babergh District Council sheltered housing schemes, Jubilee Court sheltered housing scheme, Mills Meadow Community Wellbeing Centre, Steeple View sheltered housing scheme, Oasis Day Service, Suffolk Circle

Funders: Arts Council England, Suffolk County Council POPs



Our intergenerational work

“Other people’s memories are priceless.”

“I’m much more knowledgeable now; the young people showed us how to use the computer to make the animation and I made friends with both generations.”

Art of Play

A creative memories project, bringing different generations in a community together around the theme of ‘play’. It provides training in working with reminiscence, series of intergenerational reminiscence sessions and creative animation sessions for groups of older people and young people to take part in together. The project culminates in a community event with the launch of a booklet of memories and photographs captured during the sessions and a screening of the new animation work by the groups. An online resource pack has also been developed to support groups

wishing to run their own reminiscence projects.

This year saw the first in a series of three projects take place. We worked in Ipswich with students from Ipswich Academy and Gainsborough Library users.

Reminiscence worker: Julie Heathcote
Artist: Emma Curtis
Project volunteers: Jonathan Bower
Partners: Ipswich Academy, Gainsborough Library
Funders: Transforming Suffolk Innovation Fund, Suffolk County Council POPs



Our work with young people

"Lightening a very serious time - worth everything!"

"They bring warmth and joy so the hospital is not just a 'sick child's place'.

Glad to have them around."

Clown Round

A project to engage children and young people in hospitals and hospices in clowning, storytelling, music, magic, circus skills and improvisation, helping to distract them from what can be a very difficult time. Our team of Clown Doctors have a child-centred approach, working with the children and young people on an individual basis to bring them laughter, support, and empowerment. The project programmes series of regular sessions at James Paget, Ipswich and Colchester Hospitals and also arranges visits to children and young people in EACH hospices in Suffolk and Norfolk.

Artists: Dr Fillie Fidget (Filomena Cristallino), Dr Christobell Misschief (Chris Draude), Doctor

Professor Hadron Klutz (Cosmo Hardy) and Dr Hyacinth Haystack (Vicki Weitz)

Volunteer: Chris Hart

Partners: James Paget University Hospital, The Ipswich Hospital and Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trusts, The Treehouse Ipswich and Quidenham Norfolk EACH hospices

Mentors: TIN Arts

Funders: BBC Children in Need and the following charitable trusts and foundations: Archant, D.C. Moncrieff, Garfield Weston, Kerrison, Norfolk Community Foundation, Suffolk Foundation, Suffolk Life, Souter



Our work with young people



Upbeat

A rock and pop music project providing after-school sessions in community venues for young people with additional needs with the aim of increasing their confidence and skills. Young people got to play a wide variety of instruments, from electric guitars to keyboards, DJ equipment to African drums. The project delivered a high quality experience for all involved, providing a training programme for community musicians to increase their skills and confidence, and also opportunities for four trainees to work alongside the Music Leaders and gain valuable new experience and skills. Upbeat will be sustained by Music Leaders Amp and Deck, who

have secured community funding to continue sessions for a further 12 months to March 2013.

Artists: Tim Ainslie, Ian Bishop, Simon Doling, Dirk Forsdyke, George Fothergill, Bryan Hall, Alex Jones, Adam Keeton, Steve Law, Mike Rowland, Jana Rowland, Matt Shepherd, John Wilmshurst

Settings: Stone Lodge Youth Club Ipswich, R-age Youth Club Bury St Edmunds, Seagull Theatre and Topcats Lowestoft

Partners: Suffolk County Council
Project volunteers: Miles Row
Funders: Youth Music, Activities Unlimited

“It makes me feel really good – I love it.”

“I’ve learnt a lot about being a DJ – I didn’t think I could do it, but I can and I really like it.”

“Upbeat has been a god-send ... it’s brilliant that he can come here and be treated as an individual”

“Everyone’s here because they want to make music, not just because they can, so they’re really dedicated”

Our work with young people



Beaming

An assistive music technology project developed with Ambient Classical enabling children and young people with complex needs in school to create and express themselves musically. Experienced music tutors work with Soundbeam music technology and traditional instruments, encouraging students to explore their own interests and creativity and develop new pieces of music. In this way, the project encourages and enables individual expression whilst supporting the development of key social skills, such as group work, negotiation, taking turns and listening. By fully involving staff in the sessions,

we have also developed a legacy of skills and knowledge that will enable the work to continue beyond the sessions.

Artists: Ambient Classical (Jana Rowland, Mike Rowland), Candida Wingate

Partners: Warren Community Special School
Lowestoft, Hillside Community Special School
Sudbury

Funders: Activities for All, The Suffolk Foundation,
Jessie's Fund, Lowestoft and Sudbury Education
Cluster Funds

“Some pupils really practised specific movements and others a range of movements. This alone is a great achievement for these pupils whose mobility is severely restricted and who have to work really hard to make controlled and purposeful movement”

“The sessions were always based around the needs, talents and preference of the pupils involved and this together with the expertise of all of the adults is what has made it such a brilliant experience for all concerned”

Our work with people with learning disabilities

“Everyone’s confidence has grown and lots of friendships have started – I think that’s really good.”

“This course has made me realise what I can do.”

JumpstART!

A modular arts training programme for people with learning disabilities. It provides taster sessions, Explore days and a programme of 15 weekly sessions, allowing students an in-depth exploration of an artform and the opportunity for personal development. Subjects for modules varied this year from photography to scriptwriting, puppetry, animation and filmmaking. These person-centred courses allow people to gain new skills and confidence, experience of working with professional artists, visits to arts and cultural venues and to have their work seen at public events. JumpstART! also offers its students advice and guidance to progress on to volunteering, work experience and further training.

Artists: Amelia Bird, Chris Coe, James Fletcher, Mhari Gallagher, Mike McManus, Albert Robb, Robert Vaughan, Laura Watson

Settings: The Centre Bury St Edmunds, The Apex Bury St Edmunds, Seagull Theatre Lowestoft, Lowestoft Library, The Pond Gallery Snape Maltings, Atlas Photography Gallery Snape Maltings

Partners: The Seagull Theatre, Aldeburgh Music, Travel Photographer of the Year, The Centre St Johns Street, Gomito Puppet Company, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds, Moyses Hall

Project volunteers: Sharon Riley, Robert Gridley, Leeza Wigg, Wendy Rees

Funders: Arts Council England, Big Lottery Fund, Baily Thomas Charitable Fund



Our work with family carers

“I have enjoyed everything we have done, and Eric and I are going to do clay making at home”

“I have enjoyed the company and friendships”

“We both enjoyed the sessions very much and looked forward to them each week”

“Good to be with like-minded people”

Side by Side

A project to provide creative workshops for family carers and the people they care for together, taking away the roles of carer and cared-for and allowing people to enjoy a shared creative experience. The project aims to encourage new social networks, assist people to try similar activities at home together and to find out about other local arts opportunities. Artist-led activities have included dance, painting, clay work, singing, movement and reminiscence. Sessions are supported by project partner staff and a small team of volunteers Suffolk Artlink has developed.

Artists: Bridget Cousins, Bryony Harding, Jenny Nutbeem, Albert Robb, Dean Parkin, Margaret Wyllie, Caroline Mummery, Molly Naylor, Sara Harrington, Yves Green, Mel Horwood

Project volunteers: Amanda Potter, Louise Stratford
Settings: St Johns Church Felixstowe, the May Centre Beccles, Devonshire House Cavendish, Lowestoft Community Church, the Hyndman Centre Bury St Edmunds

Partners: Alzheimer's Society, Suffolk Family Carers, Time 4 You

Funders: Arts Council England, Suffolk County Council Family Carers Innovation Fund



Our work for the Olympics



Lap of Honour

A project to record and celebrate the achievements of the past, present and future Suffolk Olympians and Paralympians and people who have been involved in the Olympic or Paralympic Games. The extraordinary stories of past competitors and young hopefuls are brought together on the Lap of Honour website and in the culminating exhibition at Moyse's Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds.

Partners: St Edmundsbury Museum Service, Suffolk County Council

Funders: Activities Unlimited, Suffolk County Council Corporate Regeneration Fund

Our work with Pilotlight

Pilotlight matches and manages teams of senior business people, 'Pilotlighters', with charities, to coach them through the process of planning for growth, development and sustainability.

Artlink began our meetings with Pilotlight in 2010 and they have carried us through a challenging time, with the retirement of our Director Chris Warner and the succession of Hayley Field and Alex Casey. Our highly talented Pilotlight team have helped us plan our development and supported us to get in place the systems and thinking necessary to become a more strategic and sustainable organisation.

"You wouldn't normally be there right at the start with defining roles, so it was great to be able to help Hayley and Alex understand what their job involved and what they could make it into.....It is a platform both personally and structurally for them as leaders, for their teams, for the organisation to form the way to move forward, grow and tackle problems." Sally Nilsson, Pilotlighter

Many thanks to our Pilotlight team for their advice, support and guidance throughout the year: Crystal Waldman, Pilotlight Senior Project Manager, Steve Cook, Sally Nilsson, Goran Trapp, Ian Wheeler.

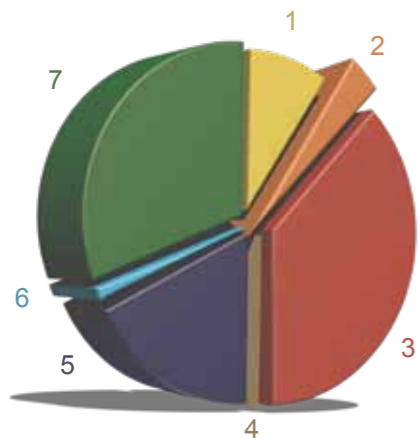
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2012

Incoming resources	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2012 Funds	2011 Funds
	£	£	£	£
From generated funds:				
Voluntary income				
Donations and Grants	81,468	-	81,468	99,387
Investment income	3,112	-	3,112	2,327
From charitable activities:				
Grants	-	302,656	302,656	277,631
Fees and other project income	480	10,298	10,778	9,608
Total incoming resources	85,060	312,954	398,014	388,953
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	63,248	226,829	290,077	433,552
Governance costs	1,958	-	1,958	2,323
Total charitable expenditure	65,206	226,829	292,035	435,875
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	19,854	86,125	105,979	(46,922)
Funds brought forward	42,833	117,413	160,246	207,168
Funds carried forward	62,687	203,538	266,225	160,246

Balance sheet at 31 March 2012

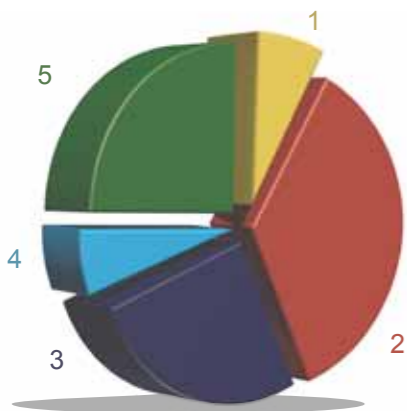
Incoming resources	2012		2011	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible assets	-	12,709	-	20,739
Current assets				
Debtors and prepayments	27,772	-	12,591	-
Cash at bank and in hand	232,174	-	192,542	-
	259,946	-	205,133	-
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(6,430)	-	(65,626)	-
Net current assets		253,516		139,507
Net assets		266,225		160,246
Unrestricted funds		62,687		42,833
Restricted funds		203,538		117,413
		266,225		160,246

Pie charts of financial breakdowns



Suffolk Artlink income from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

- 1 Big Lottery 9%
- 2 Earned Income 3%
- 3 Local Authorities 38%
- 4 Donations 0.2%
- 5 Arts Council 18%
- 6 Investment Income 1%
- 7 Trusts and Foundations 31%



Suffolk Artlink expenditure by beneficiaries 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

- 1 Family Carers 7%
- 2 Young People 36%
- 3 Older People 26%
- 4 Intergenerational 6%
- 5 People with Learning Disabilities 25%

Trustees

Chair, Anita Cameron
 Vice Chair, Penny Otton
 Treasurer, Mike James
 Kate Bushell
 Stephen Collins
 Angela Corrie
 Jim Wyllie

Staff team

Co-Director, Alex Casey
 Co-Director, Hayley Field
 General Manager, Alistair Winch
 Administrator, Miles Row
 Project Development Officer, Gabby Cox
 Project Development Officer, Jenny Holland
 Project Development Officer, Charlie Meyer
 Project Development Officer, Fran Speight
 Project Officer, Bridie Bedingfield
 JumpstART tutor, Rachel Bennett
 JumpstART tutor, Jo Poole

Company information

Registered charity number 1110898
 Company number 5354844



Thank you to our funders

29th May Charitable Trust, Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust, Archant, Arts Council England, Austin and Pilkington Trust, Babergh District Council, Baily Thomas Charitable Fund, Baring Foundation, Big Lottery Fund, BBC Children in Need, COFRA, Coutts Charitable Trust, COVER, D.C.Moncrief Charitable Trust, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, Fitzmaurice Trust, Ganzoni Charitable Trust, Garfield Weston, Geoffrey Watling Charity, Jessie's Fund, Kerrison Trust, Lionel Wigram Memorial Trust, Mid Suffolk District Council, Mrs Smith and Mount Trust, Norfolk Community Foundation, Rayne Foundation, Roger Vere Foundation, Santander, Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, Steel Charitable Trust, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk County Council Locality Budget: Cllr K Gosling, Cllr R Kemp, Cllr D Law, Cllr Mountford, Cllr B Provan, Suffolk Foundation, Suffolk Life Charitable Trust

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Charity No: 1110898
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