



## **YOUNG PEOPLE SHINE AS MORAY YOUTH ARTS HUB REVEALS AN INCREASE IN PARTICIPATION**

Time to Shine, Scotland's first youth arts strategy, was published by Creative Scotland in 2013. The Strategy focused on three key themes: participation – creating and sustaining engagement, progression – nurturing creativity and talent, and thirdly provision – developing infrastructure and quality.

The recommendations for delivering against the strategy objectives included the creation of nine regional Youth Arts Hubs. Groups of cultural organisations working in partnership across artforms coordinated and strengthened activity in the nine regions throughout Scotland. The Youth Arts Hub in Moray, operating under the name of Ignite, was established and led by Forres based Findhorn Bay Arts with a programme of activity supported for a two-year period until December 2016.

Over the two-year programme 3085 young people participated in youth arts activities through Ignite. 71 young people took part in training in their chosen art form, 26 young people gained work experience/employment with Ignite Moray Youth Arts Hub, and as a direct result of participating with the programme, 6 young people went on to education or employment.

### **Strategy for Sustainability and Legacy**

At the end of this initial period of funded activity, Creative Scotland has supported the hubs to explore how they can build on the legacy of the work undertaken so far and how this work might continue in the future. Findhorn Bay Arts has since worked closely with young people and the creative sector through Ignite to explore how to build on the legacy of the work so far and how this work might continue in the future.

As a result, a Strategy for Legacy and Sustainability, which places young people at the centre of decision making has been developed. The proposal outlines how a strategic approach to resourcing, centred around an effective online communications platform can provide some elements of continuity for the connections and partnerships that have been developed through the hub.

### **A New Online Platform is Created**

The key vision moving forward is for Ignite to be repositioned as an online hub which can help to signpost opportunities, connect people and organisations and celebrate creative achievements of young people in Moray.

The new online hub website was designed with the ideas and views of young people at its heart and was launched earlier this month.

The site presents a very active noticeboard of creative opportunities for young people and their families in Moray to take part in. For this summer alone there are many opportunities already listed on the noticeboard including; outdoor creativity with Vision Mechanics, youth dance summer School with Bodysurf Scotland, aerial skills with Fly Agaric Performing Arts, drama summer school with Out of the Darkness Theatre Company, workshops in electronic soundscape making with Wildbird, theatre with Frozen Charlotte and much more.

The new website provides a platform for young people and their families to find out about, interact with and showcase a great range of creative work being done by and for young people and their families in Moray all year round.

To find out more about the new online Ignite hub, to explore creative opportunities and to download the Ignite Strategy for Legacy and Sustainability please visit [www.ignitemoray.com](http://www.ignitemoray.com)

## **ENDS**

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### **Notes**

#### 1. Findhorn Bay Arts ([www.findhornbayarts.com](http://www.findhornbayarts.com))

Findhorn Bay Arts is a non-profit arts organisation, connecting creativity, people and place by:

- Delivering high quality arts events and projects.
- Nurturing and showcasing the creativity of the people of Moray.
- Celebrating and promoting Moray as a place for outstanding arts.

#### 2. Time to Shine

Ignite: Moray Youth Arts Hub is supported by Time to Shine, Scotland's Youth Arts Strategy which is administered by Creative Scotland. Time to Shine is Scotland's arts strategy for young people aged 0-25. Its core purpose is to enrich young people's lives through arts and creativity. Scotland's young people are leading the development of Time to Shine, creating an environment in which each and every person can thrive.

#### 3. Creative Scotland ([www.creativescotland.com](http://www.creativescotland.com))

Creative Scotland is the national organisation that funds and supports the development of Scotland's arts, screen and creative industries. Creative Scotland has four objectives: to develop and sustain a thriving environment for the arts, screen and creative industries; to support excellence in artistic and creative practice; to improve access to and participation in, arts and creative activity; and to deliver our services efficiently and effectively.