

CUMBERNAULD
THEATRE **AT**
LANTERNHOUSE

NIGHT IN 'THE NAULD'

Case Study: People's Theatre Company

July 2023



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

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“ It helped me get over my notion of stage fright and reduced my social anxiety. ”

“ Being on stage is the best feeling ever, and being on stage here is the best. ”

“ There is always a warm welcome. ”

“ I feel like i'm on a direction I've always wanted to take. ”



PEOPLE'S THEATRE COMPANY

Our People's Theatre Company is a community theatre project that offers adults aged 18+ who are interested in theatre and the performing arts the opportunity to work collaboratively with artists and theatre practitioners to develop socially engaged theatre projects at Cumbernauld Theatre.

PROJECT AIMS

To create an inclusive, socially engaged community-based theatre project that allows participants to develop skills in theatre, acting, writing, film, and the performing arts

- To develop participants self-confidence and self-esteem
- To encourage and unlock creativity and creative potential
- To develop theatre and performing arts skills,
- To promote community connectivity, and develop community empowerment
- To promote friendships and social connectivity
- To develop sense of place belonging
- To offer participants the opportunity to present, share, and showcase work at Cumbernauld Theatre

To create an inclusive, socially engaged community-based theatre project that allows participants to develop skills in theatre, acting, writing, film, and the performing arts

Cumbernauld Theatre People's Theatre Company works collaboratively with participants through weekly workshop and rehearsal programme. Working in partnership with artists and project with the project theatre artists the group develop, and devise theatre socially engaged theatre, film and writing projects with our community to develop Community and Individual Empowerment, Artistic Skills Development, Cultural Enrichment, Community Cohesion, Sustainable Practises, and Climate awareness.



NIGHT IN 'THE NAULD'

PROCESS

The starting point for any drama is lived experience. With 'night in the Nauld' the purpose was to give a true and accurate reflection of the individuals that may inhabit Cumbernauld. There are many stereotypes associated with Cumbernauld and the project allowed the opportunity to tackle these.

A starting point was 'What's it called?' Using the oft quoted marketing campaign but ending the quote with inhabitant's thoughts.

Cast:

What's it called?

Character:

Grey and cold

Transition

Each character had a perception of Cumbernauld. Within the group there were participants that were newcomers to Scotland and an individual transitioning gender. Although their stories were deeply personal, they used the play as an opportunity to educate the audience and see things from the other side.

At the core of the production was a sense of community and how adversity can unite a community.

In working with the group before I could present a community on stage, I had to have the group think of themselves as a community. Supportive of one another. I achieved this by doing lots of trust and bonding exercises. The cast took ownership of the production by

helping construct the narrative and creative decisions. This I feel meant the cast were more connected to the work. It was their voice.

The piece focused on naturalism. The cast had to find a truth not just in their character but also in their performance.

Click below to play excerpt.



IMPACT

COMMUNITY EMPOEWRMENT

Empower individuals and our community, fostering creative self-expression, building confidence and skills enhancement, contributing to health and wellbeing

ARTISTIC QUALITY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Artistic skills and creative skills and talent development, developing artistic excellence and innovation

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Deepening cultural connections and engagement

COMMUNITY COHESION

Nurture community togetherness, forge bonds of belonging, facilitate shared experiences and community unity.

EQUALITY

Champion equality and diversity and inclusion principles and practises

SUSTAINABLE PRACTISES

Minimise our environmental footprint promote responsible choices shared environmental responsibility

CLIMATE AWARENESS

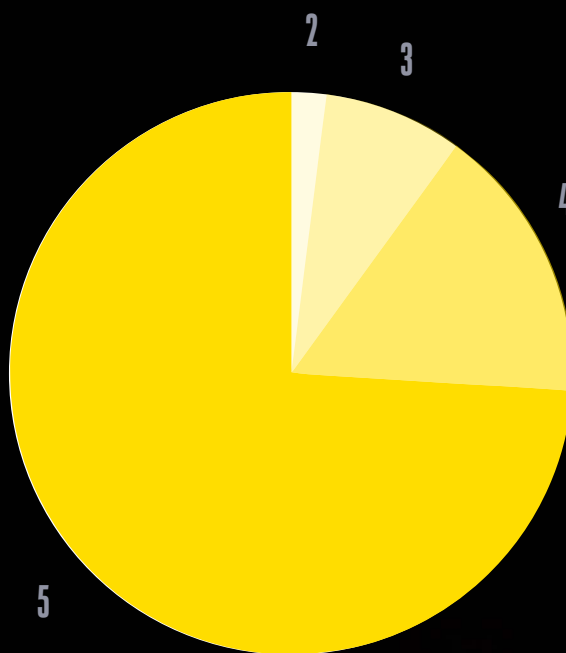
Raise awareness and advocate for deeper understanding of urgent need for climate action and its impact on our communities



PARTICIPANT EVALUATIONS

At Lanternhouse we welcome participant feedback, comments and reviews of our programme of activities and thoughts and experiences in the venue. The information is drawn from 67 responses across our full Take Part programme spanning drama, dance, visual arts and physical theatre.

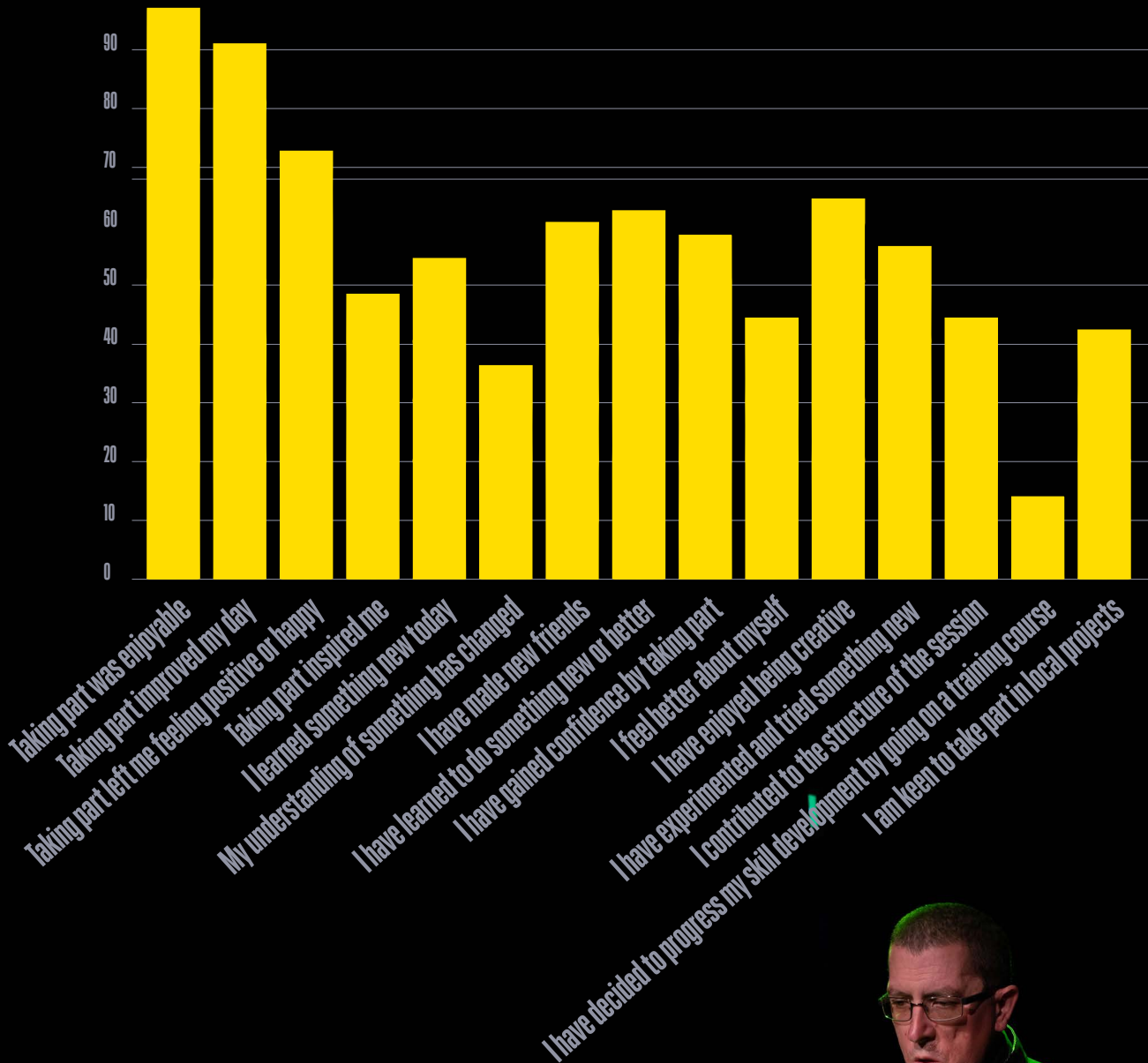
How would you rate the quality of the experience? Where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent



“ Getting involved in more productions, helping behind scenes and job roles if anything opens up, is something I’m extremely interested in.

”

Would you say you experienced any of the following as a result of this event?



“

The size and response of the audience was the most positive experience for me. I think continuing with the People's Theatre Company will not only maintain this positivity, but expand it.

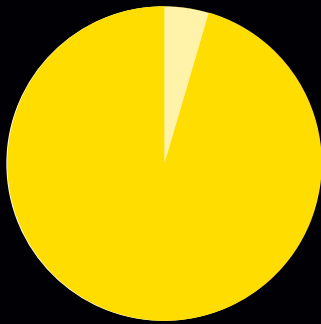
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IN YOUR OPINION, HAS TAKING PART IN THIS PROGRAMME HELPED IN ANY WAY TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON OUR SHARED COMMUNITY CHALLENGES?

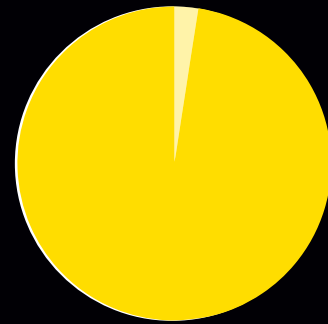
EQUALITY OF PARTICIPATION

i.e able to take part easily, able to access space easily, felt welcomed, felt inclusive, felt diversity was encouraged... (95%)



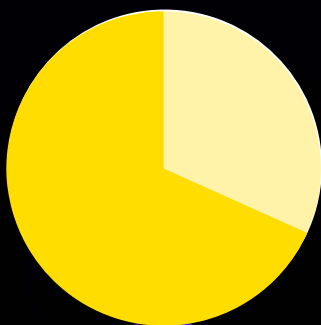
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

i.e you were asked to contribute your opinions (97%)



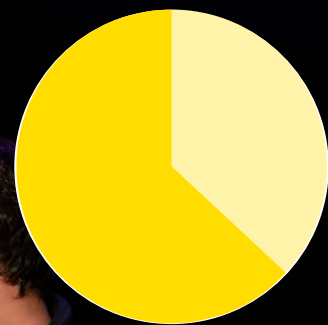
MORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

i.e you learned a new skill, participation will help you progress in your work life, you hope to work in creative industries, your participation directly supports artists employment (68%)



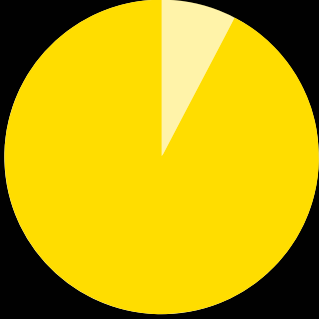
REDUCED FOOD POVERTY

i.e opportunity to access food or drink was affordable (63%)



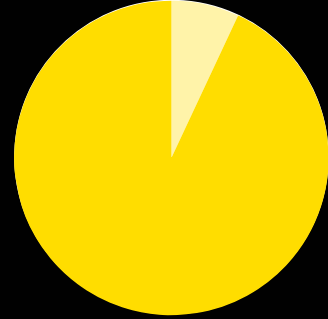
REDUCED LIVING COSTS

i.e opportunity to take part in arts was affordable (92%)



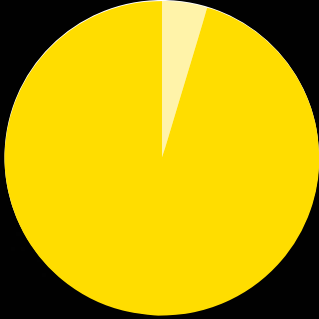
REDUCED ISOLATION

i.e felt a sense of togetherness, meaningful connection with others in community (93%)



MAKING CUMBERNAULD THE STAGE

i.e feeling pride in taking part in activities in Cumbernauld, proud of Cumbernauld Theatre and Lanternhouse as a venue, proud of the achievements of the community (95%).



I've been wandering around since I left high school and this gave me something to care about and discover my passion for performing. To keep it maintained I will keep attending the people's theatre and branch out to hopefully courses to extend my knowledge and ability.



CUMBERNAULD THEATRE AT LANTERNHOUSE



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