

# Green Arts Initiative

## Report 2015



“Finding ways to engage our staff, artists and audiences in environmental sustainability”

**Edinburgh International  
Film Festival, *GAI Member***



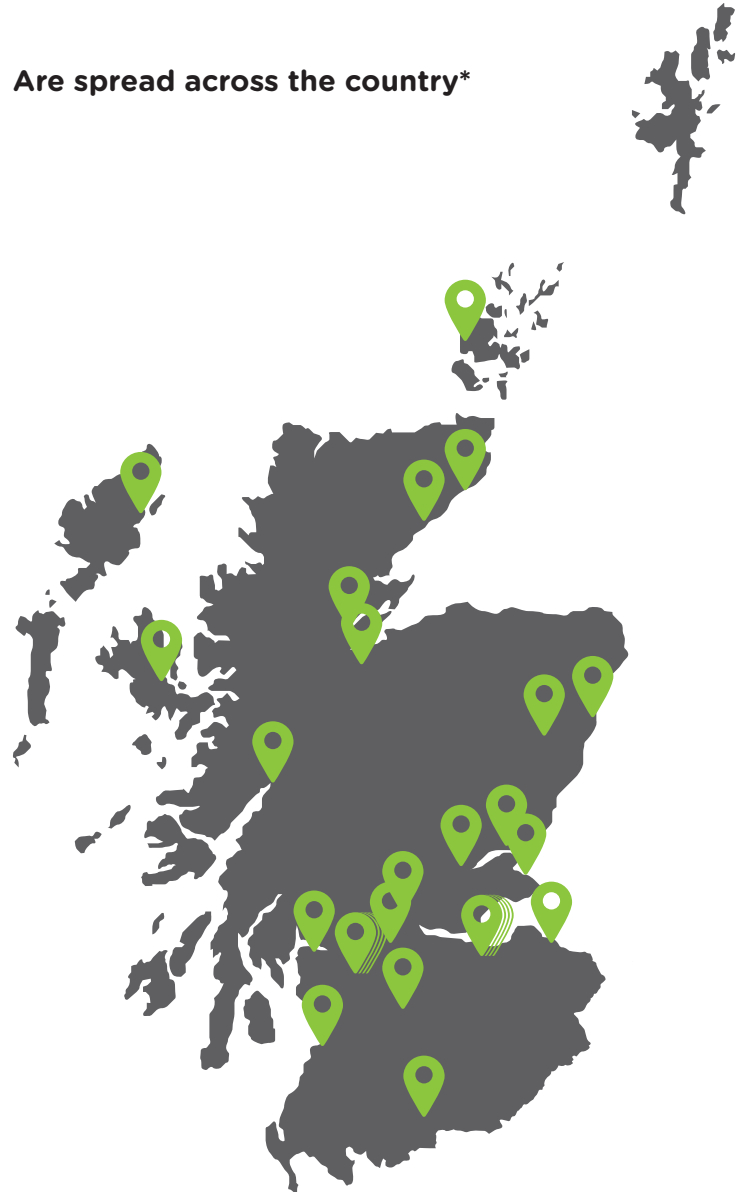
**Edinburgh  
Festival  
City.com**

The **Green Arts Initiative** is a community of organisations committed to growing the environmental sustainability of the arts. Run by Creative Carbon Scotland with Festivals Edinburgh, it supports the sharing of relevant knowledge, ideas and experiences, and enhances the sustainability competencies of arts organisations across the country.

Throughout 2015 we doubled the size of the community, and there are now over 130 members working on everything from carbon emissions reduction to creating Green Teams from within their staff. Here's what we learnt from our annual feedback form!

## Our Green Arts Community

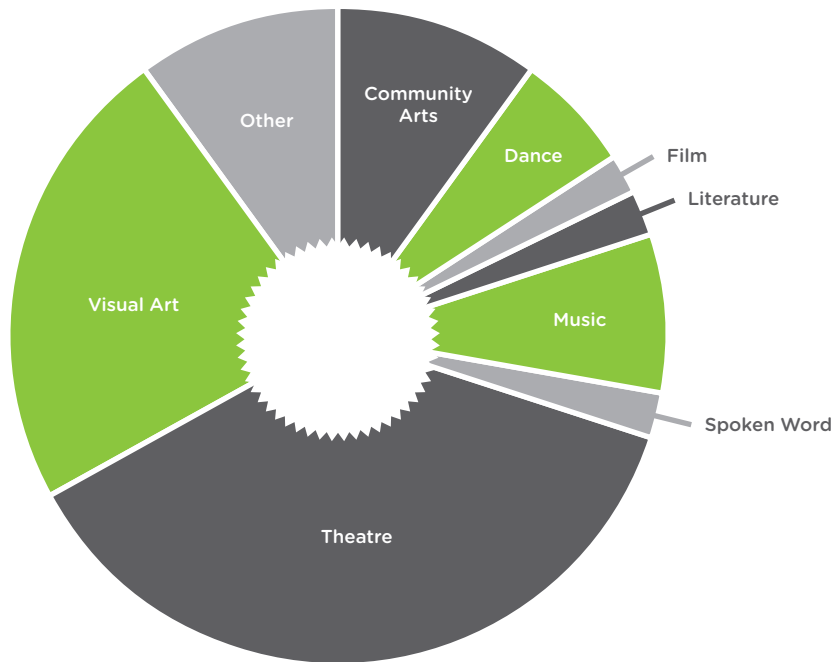
Are spread across the country\*



\*For an interactive version of this map, go to [www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk](http://www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk)

**Range across art forms**

- 10% Community Arts
- 6% Dance
- 2% Film
- 2% Literature
- 8% Music
- 2% Spoken Word
- 37% Theatre
- 23% Visual Art
- 10% Other



Throughout 2015, our members measured and monitored these core environmental impacts of their work:

69% measuring energy



86% measuring waste



37% measuring water



64% measuring staff travel



32% measuring audience/performer travel



## Some other interesting ways our members addressed sustainability

**73%** have a formal environmental policy



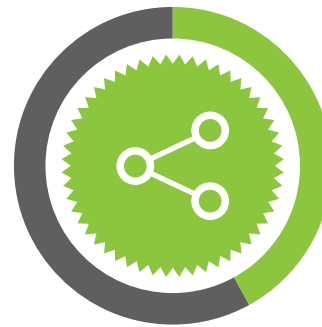
**45%** are reporting publicly on their environmental efforts



**70%** are engaging their wider staff team through green teams



**42%** are engaging their artists and performers with their efforts



**25%** are programming artistic work that addresses sustainability issues



**25%** have a webpage on their sustainability actions and activities



## GAI members pursued innovative ideas over 2015:

“We hired an accessible bus to perform in the Great Big Dance Show to reduce the need for lots of individual transport through large, accessible cars.”

**Paragon Music, Glasgow**

“This year we introduced reusable cups on our main festival site, eliminating an entire waste stream and massively reducing our amount of waste sent to landfill”

**Hebridean Celtic Festival, Lewis**

“We purchased an energy monitor, and now publicise the data to our entire company, so everyone becomes more aware of our environmental impact”.

**Bedlam Theatre, Edinburgh**

“We moved to using cycle couriers for all deliveries within Glasgow (rather than van/motorbike couriers) in order to eliminate the carbon emissions completely!”

**Cryptic, Glasgow**

“In addition to monthly updates, we created an environmental staff handbook on the incentives to carbon reduction, our responsibility as a Creative Scotland RFO, what we have already achieved and what we can do in the future.”

**Ayr Gaiety, Ayr**

“Instead of providing the festival’s 250 young participants with bottled water, we provided them with a recycled water bottle each, which they were encouraged to refill and use over the whole weekend.”

**Youth Theatre Arts Scotland, Edinburgh**

“We created a recyclable, biodegradable and edible theatre set that provided the scenery for an innovative piece of touring outdoor theatre”

**EcoDrama, Glasgow**

## And they are working on ambitious projects over 2016:



Building energy monitoring requirements into supplier and artist contracts



Organising travel sharing options for company or audience members who live in close proximity



Running more creative events that focus on sustainability while engaging local communities



Capturing all staff travel expenses and emissions through [www.claimexpenses.com](http://www.claimexpenses.com)



Undertaking tours in electric vehicles



Moving to low-energy LED light bulbs



Replacing port-a-loos with composting toilets!

## 50 Shades of Green

In October 2015, we hosted our first annual conference, celebrating the ideas and progress of Scottish green arts organisations. Across a full day, we heard from over 20 speakers across the sector – and learnt about everything from **green programming, to repurposing exhibition materials as bike hooks, and rollerskate commuting!** The full conference report can be found on our [website](#).



## Green Arts Initiative 2016

Using the result of the 2015 Members Survey and 2015 Annual Feedback Form, we're developing a programme of research, resources, training workshops and events to help grow the knowledge, skills and opportunities for our green arts community.

### A hint of things to come over 2016:

- 6 New Introductory Guides
- Specific advice for Cultural Tenants
- Guidance around Greener Publicity
- Our Second Annual Conference



You can join our growing community of green arts organisations by becoming a member of the Green Arts Initiative in 2016. Find out more at:  
[www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk](http://www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk)

Aberdeen International Youth Festival  
Aberdeen Performing Arts  
Andrew Squire  
Arts and Business Scotland  
Assembly  
ATLAS Arts  
Ayr Gaiety Theatre  
BBC at the Edinburgh Festivals  
Beacon Arts Centre  
Bedlam Theatre  
Belmont Filmhouse  
Castle Fine Art  
Catherine Wheels Theatre Company  
Centre for Contemporary Art  
Church Hill Theatre  
City Art Centre  
Clipperton Project  
The Collective Gallery  
The Common Guild  
Company Chordelia  
Craft Scotland  
Creative Carbon Scotland  
Creative Scotland  
Cryptic  
Culture Republic  
Cumbernauld Theatre  
Curious Seed  
C Venues  
Dance Base  
Dance House Glasgow  
Drake Music Scotland  
Dundee Contemporary Arts  
Dundee Rep  
Ecodrama  
Edinburgh Art Festival  
Edinburgh Festival of Cycling  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society  
Edinburgh International Book Festival  
Edinburgh International Festival  
Edinburgh International Film Festival  
Edinburgh International Science Festival  
Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival  
Edinburgh Mela  
Edinburgh Palette  
Edinburgh Student Arts Festival  
Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop  
Federation of Scottish Theatre

Festival and King's Theatres  
Festivals Edinburgh  
Fife Contemporary Arts and Crafts  
Fire Exit Ltd  
Fringe Central  
Frances Teckkam  
The Filmhouse  
The Fringe Society  
The Fruitmarket Gallery  
Gaelic Books Council  
Gayfield Creative Spaces  
Gilded Balloon  
Gin and Tonic Productions  
Outspoken Arts  
Glasgow Film  
Glasgow Women's Library  
Grid Iron  
Gruppo Del Cerchio  
Gryphon Venues  
Guarana Street Drummers  
Hamish Mash  
Hebridean Celtic Festival  
The Hub  
Imagine Festival  
Impact Arts  
Inspire Theatre  
Just Festival  
Karen Clulow  
Knowyourself.me Storytelling  
Lauriston Castle  
The List  
Live Music Now  
Lung Ha's Theatre Company  
The Lyceum Theatre  
Macrobert  
Milk at Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop  
Museum Collections Centre  
Museum of Childhood  
Museum of Edinburgh  
The National Piping Centre  
Neal's Yard Remedies Edinburgh  
Neat Shows (North East Arts Touring)  
Nelson Monument  
Northern Stage  
North Edinburgh Arts  
North Lands Creative Glass  
Out of the Blue

Paradise Green  
Paragon Music  
The People's Story Museum  
Perth Concert Hall/Perth Theatre  
Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust  
Pier Arts Centre  
planB  
Playwrights' Studio, Scotland  
The Pleasance Theatre  
Plum Films  
Puppet Animation Scotland  
Publishing Scotland  
The Quaker Meeting House  
Random Accomplice  
Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo  
Royal Scottish National Orchestra  
Room 8 Studio  
Rural Nations  
Saughtonhall Drama Group Venue  
Scott Monument  
Scottish Ensemble  
Scottish Poetry Library  
Scottish Storytelling Centre  
Silver Hub Studios  
Spring Fling/ Upland  
Stellar Quines  
Stills  
St Johns Church Venue  
Strange Town  
Street Level Photoworks  
Sweet Venues  
Timespan Museum and Art Gallery  
The Touring Network  
The Traverse Theatre  
Tramway  
Travelling Gallery  
Unique Events  
Universal Arts  
Usher Hall  
Vanishing Point  
Visible Fictions  
Wasps Artists' Studios  
Wee Stories  
Woodend Barn  
The Writer's Museum  
YDance  
Youth Theatre Arts Scotland



LOTTERY FUNDED



SCOTTISH  
CONTEMPORARY  
ART  
NETWORK



Creative Carbon Scotland is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity No. SC042687.

A project initiated by Edinburgh's Festivals with key partners the Federation of Scottish Theatre and Scottish Contemporary Art Network