

Green Arts Initiative

Annual Report 2017

Going Greener



What is the Green Arts Initiative?

The Green Arts Initiative (GAI) is a community of cultural organisations committed to reducing their environmental impact and increasing their positive contribution to a more sustainable Scotland.

Arts events are occasions when people come together to have their lives reflected back to them, through stories, ideas, images, and debates. Climate change and our responses to it are of increasing importance in our lives. To be part of the shift to a sustainable Scotland, to stay relevant to audiences, and to promote sustainable change to those working in the sector, sustainability must be an essential part of the way we operate.

Facilitated by Creative Carbon Scotland, the GAI community focuses on sharing the relevant knowledge, ideas and experiences which enhance the sustainability competencies of arts organisations and contributes towards a more sustainable society. The Green Arts Initiative began in Edinburgh in 2013 with 23 members, and ended 2017 with over 190 members, celebrating the 200th member in early 2018. Although every Green Arts Initiative member is at a different stage in their sustainability activity, each is publicly engaged and dedicated to enabling the cultural shift required to address climate change.

This report highlights the work of our members in 2017, the ambitions of the community in 2018, and demonstrates how the Green Arts Initiative is a key part in the transition to a sustainable cultural sector.



#GreenArts @CCScotland



Environmental work is so vast that it is sometimes overwhelming. The Green Arts Initiative provides parameters that make it seem more approachable, and you know that someone has your back!

Scottish Queer
International Film Festival,
Green Arts Initiative Member

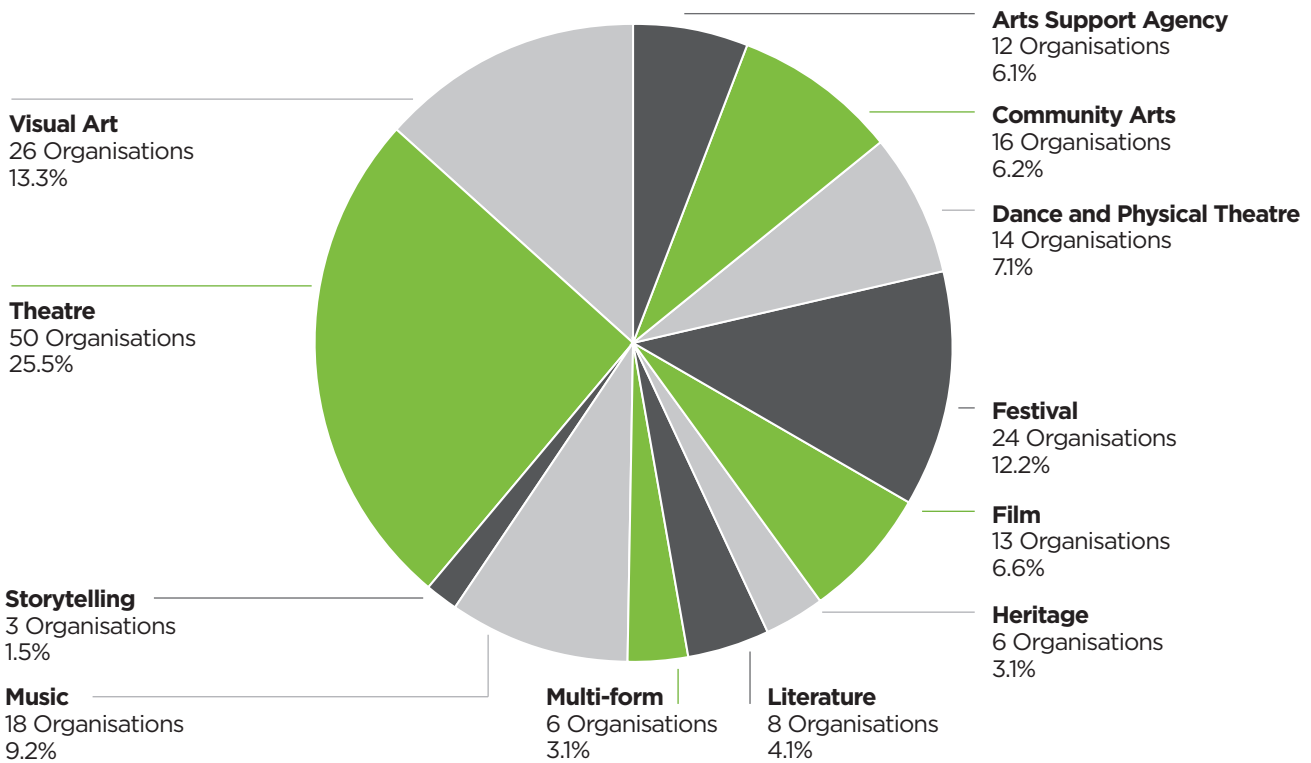


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PROVIDING CLIMATE NEUTRAL PRINTING

We are proud to be supported by PR Print and Design: a leading Scottish company dedicated to carbon neutral printing and sustainable supply chains for cultural organisations. With 192 solar panels providing over 80% of their manufacturing electricity and producing zero-waste-to-landfill, they are a fantastic example of Scotland's sustainability suppliers to the sector, and extend their leadership by enabling the growth and development of the Green Arts Initiative.

Our Green Arts Community...

Ranges across art forms:



Have a mix of funding models:

53%
are Regularly Funded
by Creative Scotland

47%
are funded through a
variety of sources

Green Arts Members tackled environmental sustainability in many ways:

Over 2017, our members measured and monitored these core environmental impacts of their work:



62% measuring energy



83% measuring waste



32% measuring water



63% measuring staff travel



37% measuring performance travel



18% measuring audience travel

Recent analysis of the carbon emissions of the cultural sector has shown that for those organisations which own and run their own premises, the majority of their environmental impact comes from the consumption of utilities: electricity and gas.

For organisations which are tenants, emissions are typically highest in the area of business travel, and domestic and international flights make up the majority of their emissions.

Changing behaviours

The numbers directly related to carbon emissions are only part of the story: Green Arts Initiative members are also taking key behavioural change steps to reduce the environmental impact of their operations and the impact of those they interact with.



62% have a formal environmental policy



54% are reporting publicly on their environmental efforts



63% are engaging their wider staff team through green teams



41% are engaging their artists and performers with their efforts



30% are programming artistic work which addresses sustainability issues



26% have a webpage on their sustainability actions and activities



18% are using carbon-neutral printing to produce their marketing materials



Green Arts Initiative members pursued innovative ideas over 2017

Many members were pursuing more environmentally sustainable practices with their landlords and upgrading to LED lighting continued to be a key way through which building-based organisations reduced their energy use. Here are some examples:

On Programming

“We had a number of programmed exhibitions and activities which looked at different aspects of environmental sustainability and climate change, including an event as part of our Summer School in July 2017. The session looked to connect climate change to the (re)production of colonialism, race, class, and gender and what contemporary art can offer.”

Collective Gallery, Edinburgh

“As part of our project *Climavore: On Tidal Zones*, we currently have nearly 800 oysters in an oyster table in the Bayfield area of Portree. Each oyster can, on average, filter 120 litres of polluted water a day – so that means our oysters are filtering approximately 96,000 litres a day!”

ATLAS Arts, Isle of Skye

“We ran an adaptable dance and music performance piece called *Spin Off*, combining arts and science through renewable energy; exploring the transformation of raw wind energy to electricity through wind turbine technology.”

Paragon Music, Glasgow

“This year, our annual event National Chamber Music Day went Green. We worked with like-minded organisations including RSPB, Plantlife, Edinburgh Trams, Borders Rail and community gardens across the country to put on chamber music performances in unusual places and raise awareness of environmental sustainability.”

Enterprise Music Scotland, Glasgow

“We created a ‘Green Arts week’ where regular art classes used recycled materials to create artwork.”

East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust, Barrhead

“We switched to 100% e-invites and e-flyers for exhibitions and events.”

Stills Centre for Photography, Edinburgh

On Sustainable Productions

“During our large scale, outdoor performance *Nursery Crymes*, audience members were given a warm drink as part of the show. We served these drinks in compostable cups which were then collected and dropped off at the composting hub in Queens Park Lane Community Garden (Southside, Glasgow). We used a local, one-person catering business to feed crew and performers for 3 days and only served vegetarian food.”

Mischief-La-Bas, Glasgow

“We worked with the City of Edinburgh Council to arrange the installation of cycle parking directly outside of our venue, upgraded our electricity meters to Smart meters, and achieved Bronze Certification as part of the Resource Efficient Scotland Pledge.”

The Filmhouse, Edinburgh

“We ran a Sustainable Stall Award to recognise the fantastic work of the 180 stall holders at our event.”

Meadows Festival, Edinburgh

We were externally assessed, and achieved ISO2012-1: the Sustainable Event Management Standard.”

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Edinburgh

Here are a few specific ideas:

On Staff, Audience and Stakeholder Engagement

"I asked our landlord's maintenance team to fix a window which wouldn't shut completely, and they installed secondary double glazing on all the windows on our floor!"

Imaginate, Edinburgh

"We started a Green Board in the office for staff to record any new environmental ideas they have - from this we have begun a packaging recycling scheme!"

Visible Fictions, Glasgow

"We provided all participants with a reusable and recyclable water bottle as part of their festival goodie bag."

Aberdeen International Youth Festival, Aberdeen

"We increased our delivery of courses online and swapped our processes so that all our initial meetings now take place via video conferencing."

Scottish Documentary Institute, Edinburgh

"We attempted to reduce the amount of waste (materials, energy and water) as an ongoing project: this included shutting down the building fully over Christmas."

Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature, Edinburgh

"Our volunteer drivers undertook FuelGood driver training."

Wigtown Book Festival, Wigtown

"We have introduced a "stay green bus scheme" in which we subsidised 50% of staff's bus passes."

Puppet Animation Scotland, Edinburgh

On Sustainable Supply Chains

"This year, we switched our recycling provider, utilising an on-demand service that better enabled us to keep track of how much waste we needed collected. This allowed us to lower the emissions of our recycling uplifts as we only got recycling collected as needed and therefore saved on transport emissions related to uplifts."

GMAC Film, Glasgow

"We continued to make headway in reducing the necessity for generators by moving more and more onto the grid. Much of the local energy generation now comes from a number of community-owned wind turbines!"

Hebridean Celtic Festival, Stornoway

"We conducted a review of our IT support contract process and asked tendering firms for their green credentials: the successful candidate has good environmental policy/practices!"

Drake Music Scotland, Edinburgh

The Green Arts Conference

This year's major event for the Green Arts Initiative community took place at Partick Burgh Halls in November 2017. Over 130 delegates attended sessions on the work currently being undertaken by the arts in Scotland, presented by different members of the community, as well as key external speakers from the sustainability sector, like Adaptation Scotland. We hosted several 'lite' versions of our training workshops (on ClaimExpenses.com, Carbon Management, Communicating Sustainability and Creating Staff Green Teams), and hosted a fantastic group of suppliers committed to supporting the green arts community: PR Print and Design, the Green Stationery Company, Resource Efficient Scotland, Glasgow Wood Recycling and Vegware.

A report on the conference, with summaries of all the sessions can be found on www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk



Looking to the Future

Looking ahead to 2018, our members are working on lots of different projects! Here are just a few examples:

- Developing and implementing a strategic environmental sustainability policy, and publishing it on organisational web pages to make these ambitions more visible and accountable.
- Working with other Green Arts Initiative members to set up a Green Team for all the cultural tenants in a mixed-use building in order to progress sustainability work.
- Switching their company bank account to a sustainable/ethical financial provider.
- Engaging board members, by recruiting specifically for sustainability skills, adding a board member to internal green teams, or reporting sustainability progress to the board as part of regular board papers.
- Collecting and analysing audience travel data to better inform sustainability advice and actions.
- Connecting with the rest of the Green Arts community through attending and hosting events on sustainable practice in the sector, networking and sharing knowledge on green issues.

The Green Arts Initiative in 2018

Every year Creative Carbon Scotland asks the Green Arts Initiative members what they are currently working on, and what their ambitions are, in order to try to help them through the creation of tailored support and resources. To this aim, a hint of things to come from us in 2018:

- More online resources on topical sustainability issues, including guides and case studies on issues of engagement, staff motivation and funding.
- Monthly round-ups and more member features to share what the Green Arts community is working on.
- A focus on supporting organisations aiming to increase environmental sustainability when travelling internationally or touring as part of an artistic programme.
- Our annual Green Arts Conference for member organisations.

You can join our growing community of green arts organisations by becoming a member of the Green Arts Initiative in 2018. It is free for any cultural organisation based in Scotland. Find out more at: www.greenartsinitiative.co.uk

Green Arts Initiative Members in 2017

A Moment's Peace	Eco Drama	MacRobert	Scottish Documentary Institute
Aberdeen International Youth Festival	Edinburgh Festival of Cycling	Magical Nature Stories	Scottish Ensemble
Aberdeen Performing Arts	Edinburgh International Book Festival	Marissa Stoffer	Scottish Poetry Library
All or Nothing	Edinburgh International Children's Festival	Meadows Festival	Scottish Storytelling Centre
An Lochran	Edinburgh International Festival	Milk at Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop	Scottish Youth Theatre
Andrew Squire	Edinburgh International Festival	Mischief La-Bas	Screen Education Edinburgh
Arika Heavy Industries	Edinburgh Palette	Moniack Mhor Writers' Centre	Shaper/Caper
Artlink Central	Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop	Museum Collections Centre	Silver Hub Studios
Arts and Business Scotland	Edinburgh Student Arts Festival	National Piping Centre	Spring Fling
Assembly	Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature	National Theatre of Scotland	SGIFF: Scottish Queer International Film Festival
ATLAS Arts	Enterprise Music Scotland	National Youth Orchestras of Scotland	St John's
Ayr Gaiety Theatre	Eureka Edinburgh	Neat Shows (North East Arts Touring)	Starcatchers
Barrowland Ballet	Federation of Scottish Theatre	Nelson Monument	Stellar Quines
Bathgate Regal Community Theatre	Festival City and Theatres Trust	NEoN Digital Arts Festival	Stills Ltd
Beacon Arts Centre	Festivals Edinburgh	New Media Scotland	Strange Town
Bedlam Theatre	Fife Contemporary	North Edinburgh Arts	Street Level Photoworks
Belmont Filmhouse	Film City Glasgow	North Lands Glass	Summerhall
Biggar Museum Trust	Filmhouse	Northern Stage	Sweet Venues
Bodysurf Scotland	Fire Exit Ltd	Oak Tree Productions	Take One Action
C Venues	Frances Teckham	Objeta	Tayberry Enterprise
Castle Fine Art	Edinburgh Fringe Festival Society	Out of the Blue	The Barn
Catherine Wheels Theatre Company	Fruitmarket Gallery	Outspoken Arts	The Beltane Public Engagement Network
City of Edinburgh Council Cultural Venues	Gaelic Books	Paradise Green	The Common Guild
Celtic Media Festival	Gilded Balloon	Paradise Palms	The Hub
Centre for Contemporary Art	Gin and Tonic Productions	Paragon Music	The List
Church Hill Theatre	Glasgow Film	Perth Concert Hall/ Perth Theatre	The Queen's Hall
Citizens Theatre	Glasgow International	Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust	The Stove Network
Civil Disobedience	Glasgow Print Studio	Pier Arts Centre	The Touring Network
Collective Gallery	Glasgow Women's Library	Pitlochry Festival Theatre	The Voodoo Rooms
Comar	GMAC Film	Plan B Creative	Theatre Gu Leòr
Company Chordelia	Greenside Venues	Playwrights' Studio, Scotland	Timespan
Cove Park	Grid Iron	Pleasance Theatre	Tragic Carpet
Craft Scotland	Gryphon Venues	Plum Films	Tramway
Creative Scotland	Guarana Street Drummers	Project Theatre	Traverse Theatre
Cryptic	Hebridean Celtic Festival	Publishing Scotland	Tron Theatre
Cultural Enterprise Office	Hebrides Ensemble	Puppet Animation Scotland	Underbelly
Culture Republic	Highland Print Studio	Random Accomplice	Unique Events
Cumbernauld Theatre	Hospitalfield	Red Note Ensemble	Universal Arts
Curious Seed	Impact Arts	Room 8 Studio	Usher Hall
Dance House Glasgow	Indepen-dance	Rootmap	Vanishing Point
Dance Base	ISKCON Scotland	Rowanbank Environmental Arts and Education	Visible Fictions
DCA	Joan Cleவில் Dance	Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo	Wasps Artists' Studios
Deaf Action	Just Festival	Royal Lyceum Theatre	Wee Stories
Deveron Arts	Karen Clulow	Royal Scottish National Orchestra	Westburn Can @ WHALE Arts
Drake Music Scotland	Knowyourself.me	Rural Nations	Wigtown Book Festival
Dunblane Centre	Letham Nights	Saughtonhall Drama Group	Wilderness of Tigers
Dundee Rep Theatre	Live Music Now	Scott Monument	YDance
Dunedin Consort	Lung Ha's Theatre Company	Scottish Ballet	Youth Theatre Arts Scotland
East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust	Lyra Theatre	Scottish Chamber Orchestra	
	Lyth Arts Centre		



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Creative Carbon Scotland is a charity initiated by Edinburgh's Festivals with key partners the Federation of Scottish Theatre and Scottish Contemporary Art Network, and supported by Creative Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council.

Scottish Charitable Organisation number: SC042687

A carbon-neutral publication printed by PR Print and Design.