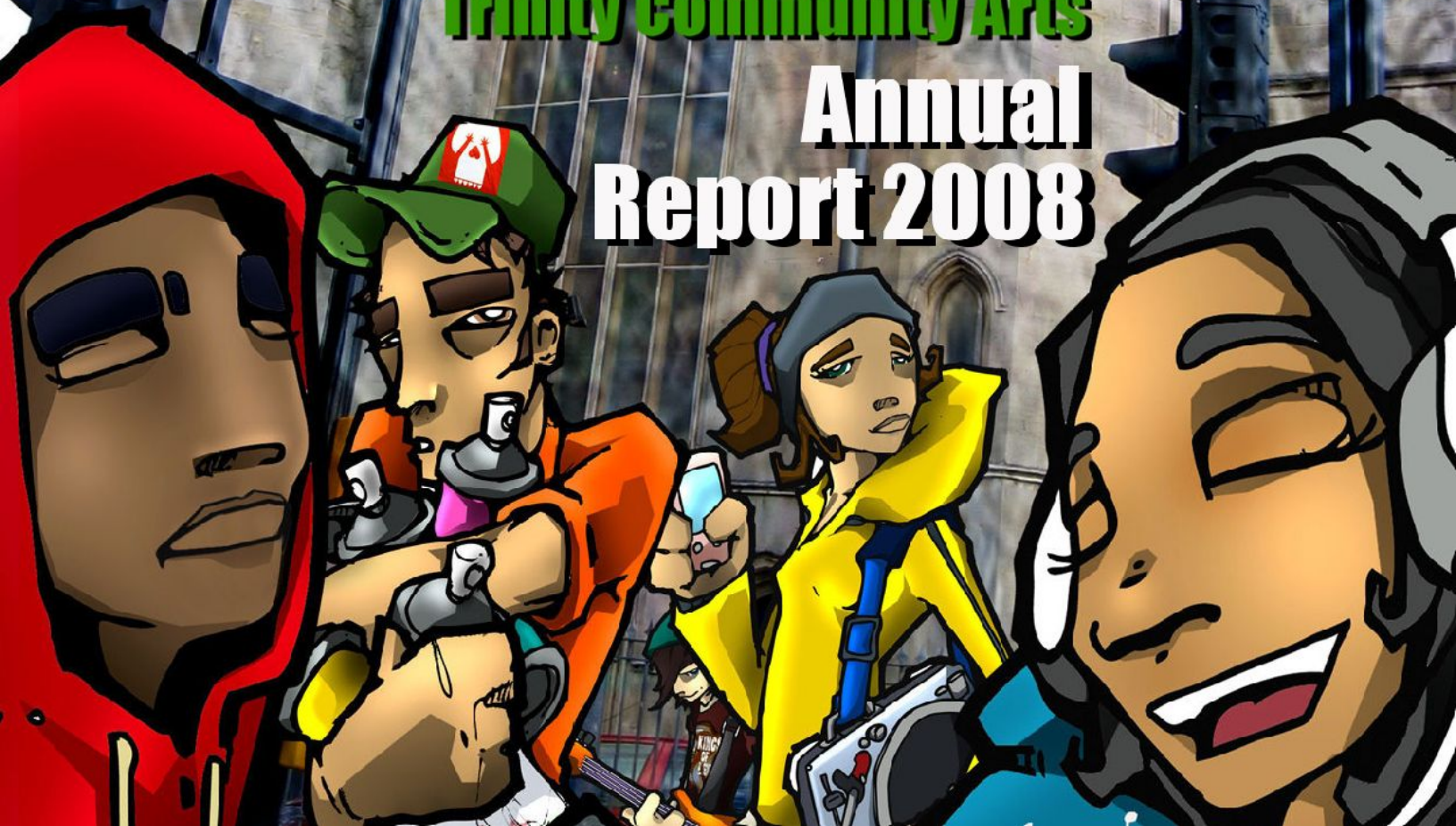




- Community
- Education
- Arts

Trinity Community Arts Annual Report 2008





Chair's Report

2008 has been a year of rapid growth and development.

In one year we have played host to 49 live music events and facilitated 134 community sessions, from retro markets and jobs fairs to parties and forums. We have also run over 200 workshops and training sessions, either as part of our training program or through our various projects such as the Bristol Sound Project, our First Light Movies project and Project Respect.

We have seen our staff numbers grow from one full time member to three key posts. Activities Coordinator Emma Harvey continues excel in her role to achieving success for the Centre and the communities we service. Project Coordinator, Nick Young, has ensured successful delivery of our Heritage Lottery Young Roots grant, creating a project that was both engaging and ground-breaking. The newest member of our team, Training Coordinator Katie Pearce, will see us developing and improving upon the success of our 2008 training program, offering a wider range of courses to a broader social demographic.

We have several new directors, bringing with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. We have also seen an encouraging increase in voluntary participation at Trinity, increasing the efficiency and capacity of our admin team.

The most notable development this year has been Bristol City Council awarding us the status of Key Arts Provider within the city. This recognition of our achievements within arts and the community shows how far we have come since re-opening the Centre four years ago.

Another major success of the year has been the development of our IT facilities. We have made great progress in providing Free and Open Source Software alternatives to those using our facilities - improving the likelihood of continued use of these accessible tools outside of the Centre. We now have a fully networked IT suite running from our own Linux distribution, which will be of great benefit to the communities we service. We have also continued to develop and improve our website and have secured a second grant through the Quartet Foundation to add some more interactive features.

Finally 2008 has been a year of developing the building. We have a completed Recording Studio, part funded by our Bristol Objective 2 grant, and have secured an English Heritage grant to carry out a full conditions survey of the building in 2009. We have also renovated and improved our hall spaces, stage and the exterior of the building - much of which has been achieved on a minimal budget with huge voluntary participation.

A massive thank you to all those who have put their blood, sweat and tears into making all these great things happen.

Peter Barrow - Chair



Community

This year has seen us make marked improvements in our provision of space for local activities.

We have made steps to provide more affordable room hire with subsidised rates to the benefit of local people. Until 2008 we had a two tier system of commercial rates and concessionary rates for charitable and voluntary organisations. This year we introduced a third tier, offering a 50% reduction from our standard rate, for local residents (anyone living in the Easton, Ashley or Lawrence Hill wards).

We also developed an incentive scheme for gigs run by local promoters or as fundraisers by introducing a sliding scale, refunding successful events from bar takings. We have found that this has encouraged promoters to promote their events more effectively. Those who benefited from this scheme have included local promoters Joy & Natural Selection who delivered an amazing "Return to Trinity" night featuring the legendary Roni Size, and the Kebele Fundraiser featuring The Destroyers.

Also introduced this year was the Trinity Community Initiative - a free hall hire scheme benefiting those wishing to run free activities designed to engage the local community. Those taking part in scheme this year included Bristol Seed Swap, Techadventure and Bristol Fusion Dance.

The year saw much diversity in usage - from regular users the Misfits and their wonderfully electrifying parties to wedding receptions and inter-cultural festivals. Also, regulars Bristol Samba and Hype Dance have been joined by 5 Rhythms, Yoga, Stilt-Walking and Break-dancing to make up an eclectic program of weekly classes.

In our commitment to encourage local users, we ran free events. These included our annual free fireworks party and May day events, which were as successful as ever this year, attracting thousands of attendees across both days.

Trinity has always prided itself with maintaining strong connections with local groups. Some of our partnerships include: Eastside Roots, encouraging increasing volunteer activity in our gardens; Bristol City College Education Unlimited, for our training projects; and contemporary theatre group, the Wonder Club, in partnership with the Bristol Sound Project.

We have been developing policies and strategies to promote social inclusion, updating our Equal Opportunities policy and developing a Social Inclusion Strategy that pro-actively promotes and encourages social cohesion in all our activities.

Voluntary participation has improved across our activities. This has included volunteer days by companies including KPMG & Deloitte, facilitated by CSV. Also, we have a strong partnership with Leyhill HMP, bringing us three outstanding volunteers with a range of practical skills that have enabled us to carry out many essential repairs, restoration and improvements to the Trinity Centre.

We will continue to promote, improve and encourage the use of our facilities by all areas of our local community in 2009.

Emma Harvey - Activities Coordinator



Education & Training

Our training courses are inspired and vocational, and have shown considerable success in engaging young people.

Working with Bristol City College and other training providers through the Education Unlimited partnership, we delivered our third series of educational courses for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). These courses encompassed elements of our previous Passion for Music courses - Star Vocals, Radio Production, Recording Live, Making Music and Live On Stage - in addition to creating a series of New Media & Filmmaking sessions, including Documentary, Storyboarding, Graphic Flow, Animation and Music for Film.

The primary goal of our training courses is, to engage those who may otherwise not be involved in mainstream learning and help them move on to future courses or careers. We use the arts as a vehicle to affect this re-engagement and develop students' confidence and skills base. This includes life skills such as CV writing and communication skills.

With the highest percentage of children and young people within our local wards compared to wards across the city, combined with the highest levels of unemployment and income deprivation, our training and workshops are fundamentally needed within the areas we service. Young people who fall within the NEET category often have a lot of creative or educational potential, but find that their needs are not met within a more traditional learning environment. We offer creative and practical sessions, providing the opportunity to learn from professional artists, creating a stepping-stone to access other learning or employment.

Our experienced tutors have provided a mentoring role to young people, helping them to realise their educational and creative potential. As our target groups often have complex learning and support needs, we work 1:1 and in small groups to help them realize this potential and help facilitate their access to further learning or employment opportunities.

TCA has a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) policy, in that we use and promote software that can be shared, modified and distributed freely. Our customised version of the popular Ubuntu Linux distribution, focuses upon facilitating multimedia and digital creativity in a community learning environment. This system has allowed us to save money on licenses and build a system adapted to the needs of the communities that we work with. The system is freely re-distributable, allowing us to give this to people that we work with, so that they can continue to learn and create their own artwork, films, sound recordings and written documents outside of the centre.

As part of the 2008 training program, 20 young people 'moved on' to other courses and work placements, and were provided with dual-core computers - complete with all the software used in their training. Continued support is provided to all of our students through mailing lists and our Student Wiki.

Our successful delivery of training in 2008, has seen us secure an additional contract for 2009, allowing us to recruit a part-time Training Coordinator to expand and develop our program for the coming year. We hope that this will provide even more benefit not only to young people but to other sections of our community.

Ryan Northey - IT & Technical Support Worker

Art

"The arts reach many people in communities who are not otherwise being reached. The arts are often the primary, and sometimes, the only motivation for some people to engage in a community activity or issue."

Voluntary Arts Network, 2005



X-Mas Cabaret



Seed Swap



art brut.jpg



nouvelle vague.jpg



David Ford



Travis



System 7



Red Snapper



Cuckoo



Retro & Flea Fair



Laura Marling



DROID.jpg



I Am Kloot



The Kills



Black Mountain



The Willard Grant Conspiracy



MayFest



Burlesque Gorefest



Dot to Dot Festival



Habakuk



O2 Wireless Weekender



Elliot Minor



The Orb



The Automatic



Punch Brothers



Okkervil River



The Beat



Love Music Hate Racism



Bon Iver



Dr John



Pama International



Inferno



Eddie Reader



CA Fundraiser



Red Festival



Glasvegas



Easy Star All Stars



Psyaside



Neon Neon



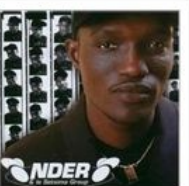
PPE



The Blessing



Camera Obscura



LIVE Senegambian Concert



Joy & Natural Selection



Fireworks Party



Emiliana Torrini



Stackridge



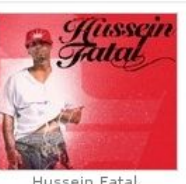
Dreadzone



Zion Train



Kebele Fundraiser



Hussein Fatal



Teachings in Dub



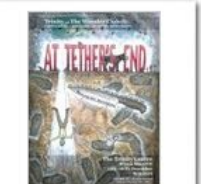
SteinerFest



Sunrise Festival Launch



NYE - Ninja Hippies



At Tether's End



Music

"Trinity is one of my favourite venues for pure ambiance."

Audience member at Camera Obscura gig, October 2008

2008 saw a rise in the caliber of national touring bands we attracted to play at the Trinity Centre. Notable performances of the year included Travis, Glasvegas, The Kills and Laura Marling, to name but a few.

We hosted several benefit gigs including, hugely successful benefit gig for Kebele featuring The Destroyers, in addition to nights for the Big Green Gathering and Sunrise Festival. We also saw several local promoters returning to Trinity, including Joy & Natural Selection, bringing with them the legendary Roni Size, and psy-trance veterans the Ninja Hippies.

Our free annual festivals in May and November featured toe-tapping performances from Bristol favourites The Scrub and Sheelanagig. We hope to continue to use these events as a platform for local talent and provide free fun events for the whole community.

It is becoming increasingly prevalent that TCA continues to run as a social enterprise, managing the Trinity Centre as a sustainable and non-corporate music venue, programming a calendar of music that is both affordable and relevant to the local and wider communities of Bristol.

An article published by The Guardian in 2002, highlights how many of Britain's key music venues are being swallowed up by multinational organisations, veering towards a "monopolistic multi-media empire" that has stymied competition, driven up ticket prices and reduced consumer choice". TCA is in a unique position where our standing in the community and with local promoters means, we are able to act to protect and promote independent music culture, utilising funds generated from this to develop and sustain our other community arts projects and activities.



Visual Arts

“The children brought a deeper understanding to me. I see why they came to this country – for their own safety. I understood why, if I was in their situation, I would do the same thing as them.”

Participant in Project Respect workshops, February 2008

Project Respect

The project took place at the end of February funded by Quartet Community Foundation Bristol Alliance Fund. The workshops saw 25 older and young people making a mosaic sculpture for the Trinity Gardens. A group of young people from a range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds studying English at the Bristol Academy worked with groups of Elders from Upper Horfield Community Trust, The Golden Ages from Easton Church and local residents from Knightstone Housing Association and the St Pauls area, to create a sculpture through exploring themes around each other's lives and cultures.

The workshops provided a safe space for two generations to meet, share experiences and create artwork together. The project was a chance for people from different cultures and backgrounds to learn from each other and build common ground.

The second project will start in 2009 thanks to additional funding from the Quartet Community Foundation Fund for Older People.



Performing Arts

"Aside from pulling together an enormous team of artists and performers to execute the project, directors Michelle Roche and Nick Young have also pulled together a range of dramatic styles and modes of presentation in a piece which manages to feel fresh, entertaining, unsettling and extremely accessible."

At Tether's End review, British Theatre Guide, December 2008

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

At the start of the year we hosted an incredibly successful adaptation of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, by Ratupadrainpipe Productions.

The End Game

After receiving a grant from First Light Movies, we delivered a scriptwriting project involving young women who had been involved in gang culture.

At Tether's End

Following a series of workshops for young people based on the history of the Trinity Centre, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, we delivered our first ever site-specific performance, *At Tether's End*. The show, created in partnership with theatre company, The Wonder Club, was designed and created by a team of more than 40 artists from all around the country, as well as young people volunteering through Connexions.

The story was taken from a true story of a local man, William Pullin, from Old Market in 1869 and received rave reviews from both Venue and the British Theatre Guide.

A Bit of Argy Bargy

Following on from this was an improvised play led by Dave Lovatt. Performers, both experienced and novice, took part in creating and performing the piece in December.

The show received a feature page spread in Venue magazine.

Heritage

"At its most basic, heritage is what people value and want to hand on to the future."

Capturing the Public Value of Heritage - London Conference 2006



The Bristol Sound Project

“At Tethers End was brilliant. We all enjoyed it.”

P.C. Elaine Rees, great great great niece of William Pullin commenting on show produced as part of the Bristol Sound Project

At the end of 2007, we secured a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund Young Roots Programme to deliver 'The Bristol Sound Project'. Based around the history of the Trinity Centre, the project explored the building's beginnings as a church and its deconsecration, its role in the shaping communities in the local area, to it becoming recognised internationally as the birthplace of the Bristol sound.

The project ran throughout 2008, successfully engaging over 40 young people in creative workshops and sessions across the year.

We now have a Trinity archive featuring images and information related to the heritage and history of centre and surrounding areas. The archive, its early stages, will continue to be used and built on both physically and as an online resource. It has been contributed to by a broad spectrum of people including young people engaged with the project, past and present staff, and volunteers at Trinity as well as the local community.

The exhibition produced as part of the project consists of 6 banners, a short documentary, a 6"x12" graffiti canvas, printed concertina leaflets and 4 audio listening posts. Each element explores the heritage and history of Trinity from a unique perspective, providing a vibrant and rounded picture of the trials and tribulations, failures and successes throughout the history of Trinity. The exhibition is already booked to tour community venues and organisations around the city of Bristol over throughout 2009.

The project also involved the creation and production of an original theatre show At Tether's End. The show was produced between August and December 2008 and performed over 6 nights at the end of the year.

The plot was based on the true story of the murder of local policeman Richard Hill by a young man, William Pullin, in 1869. The crime was a major event at the time and the funeral was held at Trinity. A focus group - consisting of young people and local artists - felt that this story and the issues surrounding it had a resonance with the area today and how it is perceived by the local community and the wider population of Bristol. The site specific show, which incorporated the entire building into the performance, was a great success both critically and in terms of engaging young people and the local community. The descendants of William Pullin's family, who still live and work locally, attended and gave very positive feedback:

Finally and most importantly, a Young Council of Management has been formed from participants on the various workshops that have taken place during the course of the project. It is still relatively new and in the process of defining the role it will play within the organisation as a whole. The members have expressed an interest in a variety of projects including putting on music gigs, running drama workshops, continuing and developing the DJ tutorials and working with the Trinity training coordinator to gain accreditation and integrate with events produced by external promoters.

The overall outcome of the project is the contribution it has made towards cementing Trinity within the heritage of the local area and raising our profile across the city. The high quality of workshop leaders and content, the depth of research carried out and final products produced have helped provide a solid foundation on which to continue building Trinity for decades to come.

Nick Young - Project Coordinator



Finance

In 2008, Trinity has continued to grow and expand with our income streams steadily rising.

Our turnover this year was £340,000 - a significant improvement on our 2007 turnover of £260,000, which included £50,000 of funding from Bristol Objective 2.

This year we have seen a rise in employment with additional staff for our projects, finance department and IT. We most recently recruited a training manager.

Trinity still attracts significant voluntary input and this is generally the reason for the extensive growth we have seen over the last few years. We also still operate with a considerable amount of good will from the staff and contractors. All continue to give of themselves, well over and above what is expected and I believe this is the main reason why we can boast the financial success we have seen. We now have a strong backbone of staff, contractors and volunteers, on which can be built an effective and stable resource for the community.

Due to our continued expansion, Trinity has now introduced a reserves policy. After initially focusing on continued reinvestment to bring the facilities up to a basic standard, it is now prudent to focus some of our resources towards developing a significant capital reserve. This is important, as we are now seeking larger funding streams and need to address the issues that face a company of our size and importance.

2008 saw a significant increase in project funding and our access to learning partnership with the the City of Bristol College. Project funding rose from £60,000 in 2007 to £105,000 in 2008. As stated in the report last year, my expectations for this year have been realized. We are now ready and in place to make another leap forward and become a significant jewel amongst Bristol's community assets.

Even though the community as a whole are facing a difficult financial time ahead, with Trinity's principals of service to the community, I expect us to continue to flourish in the upcoming financial climate, as we will be needed now more that ever before.

Matthew Hewitt - Treasurer

Income & Expenditure

Year Ending 31 December 2008

Total Income	£337,319	
Total Expenditure	£330,481	
	2008	2007
Income from events		
Bar	£105,213	£88,239
Events	£34,601	£18,708
Cloakroom	£320	£554
Café	£0	£151
	£140,133	£107,652
Direct Costs		
Bar Stock	£36,878	£27,732
Bar Staff	£0	£4,361
Security	£16,360	£15,782
Duty Management	£9,354	£5,265
Sub-contractors	£18,883	£5,732
Advertising & promotion	£5,385	£7,356
Equipment	£3,454	£2,718
Event Equipment Hire	£11,336	£2,637
Event Lighting	£3,179	£0
Licenses	£3,122	£5,100
Consumables	£647	£0
Cloakroom	£206	£0
Café	£539	£300
Other	£2,377	£0
	£111,720	£76,981
Gross Profit	£28,414	£30,671
Other Income		
Car Park Fees	£62,625	£58,768
Training	£41,000	£8,448
Project Funding	£62,669	£20,196
Building Grants	£0	£60,275
Room Hire	£28,843	£20,774
Donations	£2,048	£2,076
Interest	£1	£1
	£197,186	£170,539
Total Income Less Direct Costs	£225,599	£201,210

	2008	2007
Overheads		
Core Staff	£31,877	£29,582
Facilities Management	£11,379	£0
Centre Management	£11,737	£0
General Labour	£7,767	£0
Health & Safety	£4,967	£0
Staff training	£272	£792
Staff expenses	£291	£205
Training Management	£9,249	£0
College Events	£4,000	£0
Tutors	£22,469	£18,159
Project Expenses	£14,167	£10,250
Fees	£1,200	£3,488
Directors Expenses	£285	£559
Volunteer Expenses	£1,758	£214
Utilities	£9,897	£6,341
Repairs & Renewals	£4,410	£2,475
Waste	£3,899	£2,051
Cleaning Consumables	£3,390	£0
Building Security	£2,986	£0
IT Support & Website	£11,072	£0
Computer Software	£139	£0
Equipment	£8,724	£1,712
Depreciation	£8,300	£4,150
Insurance	£7,857	£5,641
Legal & Professional	£3,761	£929
Advertising & promotion	£375	£0
Telephone & Internet	£2,493	£1,893
Travel	£2,394	£258
PPS	£677	£137
Storage	£1,250	£0
Bank Charges	£372	£511
Other	£1,030	£1,474
	£194,446	£90,823
Net trading income & expenditure	£31,154	£110,387
Buildings Repairs & Improvements	£24,316	£110,937
Net income & expenditure	£6,838	-£550
Less Corporation Tax	£773	£0
Retained Profit	£6,065	-£550

Trinity is supported by:



Photos and images by:

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