

STRATEGY MAP

THE
MILDRED
FUND

WHY

Vision

A world in which the benefits of visual art for young people's social and personal wellbeing and creative futures are recognised, understood and reflected in the programmes of art institutions and other education and community settings, and in which many young people are direct beneficiaries of this work.

Mission

The Mildred Fund supports visual art institutions (museums and galleries) to equip young people – in school and community settings – with creative tools for them to thrive and shape their own futures.

Context: social

Young people from lower socio-economic backgrounds are confronting multiple challenges – including poverty, mental health problems and isolation – which are impacting on their education, potential, and wellbeing.

Context: educational

Since 2010 school accountability measures have excluded arts subjects, which has led to a decline in access to high-quality arts opportunities and experiences for young people through their state secondary education.

Context: value

Art provides a creative outlet supporting young people's wellbeing, enabling them to explore their emotions and identities, and has an evidenced role in providing them with capabilities and skills for life and for work.

WHAT

Impact 1

There is a positive shift in young people's social and emotional wellbeing and creativity, which are developed and enhanced through working with artists and through bespoke and sustained visual art programmes, experiences and opportunities.

Impact 2

Cultural organisations and community providers gain valuable experience in using art as a tool to help young people thrive. Those caring for and educating young people gain important insights into the value of regular art experiences in young people's development.

HOW + WHO

Activity 1

Supporting community **consultation** on local needs by art institutions so they can develop the best possible art programmes for young people (aged 13-19) in their locality.

Activity 2

Funding art institutions to work with local schools, community youth groups and artists, to provide transformational art **programmes** for young people on a regular basis over an extended period.

Activity 3

Applying a **research** framework across each project and across the programmes as a whole to better understand the role that art can play in supporting the social, emotional and creative futures of young people.

Activity 4

Sharing the findings of the research programme to promote the value of this activity, and to build an informed and connected **community** of practice for this field of work.

VALUES

Collaboration

We put reciprocity at the heart of all that we do, seeing cross-agency, community, and artist collaboration as the way to maximise benefits for young people's lives.

Connection

we facilitate connections and relationships between artists, educators, young people, social and community providers, and cultural organisations, building shared insights.

Commitment

We seek out sustained long-term relationships, formed on trust, through multi-year projects which can drive long-term change

Compassion

We view all our work through a social justice lens, and underpinned by empathy, consideration, and respect for young people and practitioners.

Creativity

Forms the basis of the funded programmes, as well as informing approaches to delivery, evaluation, research and learning insights.