

SYNOPSIS

'Creative Spaces', led by Eden Court Theatre, was developed and delivered over the two years 2014-2016. Targetting areas with little or no arts provision, 'Creative Spaces' looked to support and facilitate enterprising creative studio start-ups and/or sustainable arts groups within community and youth club settings. Working with a range of partners, including community councils, High Life Highland, freelance practitioners and Youth Highland, the wider Eden Court CREATIVE team delivered provision within new areas and established professional relationships with organisations and individuals they hadn't worked with before.



The Highland Youth Arts Hub has given Eden Court CREATIVE the opportunity to pilot our innovative Creative Spaces project model. Through the delivery of the project Eden Court has created new partnerships with freelance artists, volunteers, local authority and third sector staff, as well as empowering opportunities for young people in the Highlands. We have also partnered with Youth Highland to encouraged participants to gain skills in Youth and Community learning development and fundraising. These pilot projects have led to established creative groups and activities in two areas of Highland which had no creative input previously, and has enabled us to gain the skills to develop more Creative Spaces in new locations in the future. To see so many young people leading on their own creative journeys has been especially inspiring and Eden Court CREATIVE are excited for what the next steps in our Creative Spaces project will bring.

KATYANA KOZIKOWSKA
EDEN COURT CREATIVE MANAGER

DIRECT LINKS WITH TIME TO SHINE:

Theme PARTICIPATION – Creating and sustaining engagement

Theme PROVISION – Developing infrastructure and quality

Principle No 3 – Work collaboratively; create mechanisms for better information sharing, peer support and networking

Principle No 4 – Be proactive in using digital technology

Principle No 6 – Tackle Inequalities

Principle No 7 – Continually strive for quality improvement

Case Study: CREATIVE SPACES

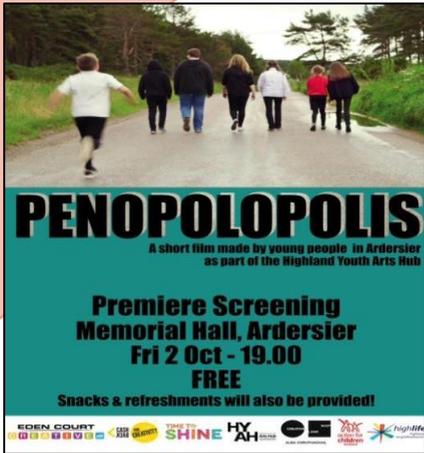
AIMS

1. To establish new professional partnerships with the youth sector and with freelance artists working across Highland;
2. To provide a space and the capacity for young people to lead and take ownership of creative activity and projects in their own areas;
3. To upskill arts and community workers in youth work skills to ensure the sustainability of new creative spaces.

Invergordon Taster Day

<https://vimeo.com/128143752>





Ardersier film footage:

<https://vimeo.com/144105581>

<https://vimeo.com/144780843>



The Creative Spaces Programme gave Youth Highland the opportunity to build a stronger professional relationship with Eden Court Creative. This has enabled us to learn from one another. We were able to offer training and advice to Eden Court arts workers on using professional youth work methods and to enable a truly youth led approach to working creatively with young people. We were really excited to be able to develop a training course for young people and support them to plan and run their own sustainable community based creative projects.

**CLAIR NICHOLS, CHIEF OFFICER,
YOUTH HIGHLAND**

FORMAT

Preliminary conversations were held in 6 areas to research the need and want for creative activity (Ardersier, Lairg, Kinlochbervie, Invergordon, Fort William & Muir of Ord). This led to taster sessions in 5 of the 6 areas. These were chosen by the young people and included dance, visual art, film and flower arranging.

Longer term projects, coordinated by Eden Court, were delivered within two of these spaces, Muir of Ord and Ardersier. Due to community support, participant enthusiasm, the capacity of High Life Highland Youth Development workers and access to venues, these spaces proved more sustainable.

Youth work training was delivered to a number of individuals engaged with the new 'creative spaces' to ensure those who intended to take the projects forward were confident and upskilled in the appropriate areas.

The Muir of Ord and Ardersier spaces continue to development and they now have responsibility for coordination of provision and activity budgets. Eden Court continue to provide mentoring and support if and when needed.

Case Study: CREATIVE SPACES

**Lairg Taster
Week:**
Printmaking
workshop

Short films made:

<https://vimeo.com/198864199>

<https://vimeo.com/198864415>



Promo for 'Off the Hook'; a one day specially devised training course considering the skills required for successful and sustainable youth and community arts projects.

Five Eden Court staff were also supported to undertake a PDA in Youth Work, a professional qualification delivered by Youth Scotland and recognised by the SQA.