

# NPO IMPACT REPORT

## *CHAOS Network - Q1 23/24*

### Activity

The CHAOS Network - Supporting Creatives in Southampton. The CHAOS Network will continue to provide space and time for creatives to connect and collaborate, facilitating monthly networking sessions, a digital platform and a peer mentoring programme.

### Outputs

Monthly Networking sessions will provide opportunities for creatives at all levels and career stage to connect. We vary times and days of sessions, rotating between weekday mornings, weekday evenings and weekends, with some sessions online to maximise accessibility. We will continue to produce a monthly newsletter, showcasing creative and cultural activity in the city. Through the NPO programme we will improve the digital offer, developing resources, case studies and linking to other networks across the country. We will further develop the peer mentoring programme, providing an opportunity for creatives to connect on a deeper level.

### Targets

12 networking sessions per year (one per month) plus 12 newsletters (with an additional monthly call out for included content). A maintained website providing a digital space for members of the CHAOS Network, including space for showcasing work/events, and a forum for members to connect. A facilitated programme of peer mentoring, with mentors/mentees recruited and matched, and provided with resources to support their mentoring journey. Quarterly masterclasses/talks providing useful guidance on subjects such as - engaging with large institutions, developing funding strategies, and marketing/promotion.



# Q1 23/24 Data

## Sessions

Location	Type of Session	Number
Office	CHAOS Administration	13 days
In Focus	CHAOS Network Event - April PM	1
City Eye	CHAOS Network Event - May AM	1
Planet Sounds	CHAOSNetwork Meeting - June AM	1
Zoom	1:1 meeting - Stephanie Grainger - Blue Monkey Network	1
Go! Southampton	1:1 meeting - Gemma Pratt - Go! Southampton	1
Ruby's	City Network Meeting (Go! Southampton	1
Arches Studios	Attended Arches Artist Forum	1
Zoom	1:1 meeting - Sally Raey - Bristol Creatives	1
Metricks	1:1 meeting - Melissa Donne - Soton Makers	1
So Make It!	1:1 meeting with James Burton - So Make It!	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>

## Participants

Location	Type (i.e. YP/Staff)	Number
In Focus	Network Event attendee	8
City Eye	Network Event attendee	11
Planet Sounds	Network Event attendee	8
Various	One to One meeting	5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>

## Q1 23/24 Data - Narrative

### Summary of Activity

This quarter we have:

- Sent out 3 monthly newsletters
- Held 3 monthly CHAOS meetings
- Worked towards holding our first masterclass
- Continued to build relationships with local creatives/networks and networks in other locations
- Worked streamlining and improving CHAOS' website and social media

### Partnership Activity

Working to build and maintain relationships with local creatives, networks and cultural organisations. We have met with representatives from local makers network Soton Makers and Go! Southampton. Both conversations have resulted in some really interesting collaborations (see unexpected outcomes).

We worked with two local cultural organisations to host our April and May meetings - In Focus and City Eye.

We've also made connections with two creative networks in other locations - Eastbourne based Blue Monkey Network and Bristol creatives. This has been really useful in exploring how we do things at CHAOS.

## Unexpected Outcomes

From the end of May we have been working with GO! Southampton on their new public art projects in the city. We were approached by GO! And asked if it would be possible to use our online directory to recruit local artists. This has so far resulted in increased interest and interaction from local creatives, including many who have previously had no/little interaction with CHAOS. We had 12 new sign ups to the CHAOS website and many existing profiles became active again.

Meeting with Melissa from Soton Makers also led to some possible collaboration opportunities. Melissa is keen to run one of our masterclasses on the theme of 'how to start selling your work' she is also really interested on working with CHAOS to put hold a local makers' market at Planet Sounds at a price which makes having a stall accessible to as many people as possible - something which she is currently finding a challenge in Southampton.

## Media



## Specific reporting on ACE Investment Principles

- 1. Knowledge-exchange with key partners to support the development of skills, confidence and practice, growing the credibility of our work and supporting the sector. (A&Q SD1)**
  - CHAOS meetings brought creatives from different organisations and of different disciplines together to share knowledge and experiences. Topics discussed included: How to best use social media, challenges of working as an artist in Southampton, possible collaborations between attendees, possible topics for upcoming CHAOS masterclasses
  - Built/maintained connections with local organisations including a space arts and Go! Southampton
- 2. Build on our Impact Measurement Framework to develop quality indicators to test and monitor progress, and embed a process of review within the team and across the Board. (A&Q T&M1)**
  - Increased recording of activity, particularly at monthly meetings including taking registers at meetings, taking photos and taking minutes.
- 3. Continue to place a strong importance on attendance at community and cross-sector network meetings to identify opportunities for engagement (I&R P&R3)**
  - Attended Go! Southampton City Networking which helped to bring CHAOS Network to the attention of more local businesses and local cultural organisations