



Yorkshire Artspace

Annual Report 2014-2015



Image: Studio Binky workshop at Open Studios 2014



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Introduction

Established in 1977, Yorkshire Artspace's aim is to be a **centre of excellence for the support of artists and makers** by providing good quality affordable studio space, tailored professional development programmes for artists at all career stages and raising the profile of artists and their practices locally, nationally and internationally.

Our **Programme** weaves this support through a wide range of activities that offer inspiring and meaningful opportunities to the public to engage with artists and makers, focussing on the neighbourhoods known to have low take up of the city's cultural offer in which we have made our home.

Our membership is made up of a wide variety of artists and makers and over 150 members currently have studios at Yorkshire Artspace's 4 premises; opened in 2001 **Persistence Works** is our flagship studio complex, purpose built, architecture award winning and bang in the heart of the city; **Exchange Place Studios** is our pioneering new studio building in the heart of the city's historic and evolving Castlegate; **Manor Oaks Studios** is our first neighbourhood studio, opened in 2009 on a historic, urban agricultural site with partner Green Estate; and **Knutton Road Studios** is our second neighbourhood studio opened in 2011 with partner SOAR, again in an award winning 'green' building in the North Sheffield community of Parson Cross.

As well as workspace, the Society offers a **professional development** service to visual artists covering many different aspects of visual arts practice and addressing the needs of artists and makers at various points in their careers.

The **Artist in Residence** Programme, launched in 2005, forms the heart of a wide-ranging programme of activity that encompasses professional development as well as outreach, education and public events.

Public access to the studios and artistic product is enabled through the annual **Open Studios** event in November and a dynamic **exhibition programme** in partnership with MADE North.

The Society is run by a Board of Directors and six members of staff.

There is lots of information about Yorkshire Artspace the organisation, our Studios, our Programmes and our Artists at www.artspace.org.uk



Foreword

I am delighted to be writing the foreword to Yorkshire Artspace's 2014/15 Annual Report, yet another year of great strides forward in both programming and premises.

As I write, Exchange Place Studios is at almost 100% occupancy with over 70 artists and makers making up our latest creative community. We have also launched the Exchange Place Studios/ Castlegate Programme with a fine mixture of artist-led initiatives, such as the Pop up Shop and Black History Month exhibition, and our own residency programme with partners at the University of Sheffield. This long overlooked part of the city is surely beginning a renaissance.

This year has also seen the culmination of ceramicist Emilie Taylor's residency with the stunning Harvest Jugs shown by our residency partners at Chatsworth and Green Estate's Manor Oaks Studios.

Promoting Yorkshire Artspace and our makers further afield, the Little Gems collection of precious metalwork, commissioned jointly by Sheffield Assay Office and Museums Sheffield from our Starter Studio Silversmiths, went on show at the Goldsmiths' Centre in London. The new collection, Precious Little Gems, was launched at Museums Sheffield.

Our inaugural Fundraising Gala Dinner was held in July 2014 raising over £8.5k for our Starter Studio Programme for emerging ceramicists and silversmiths and for our lively and engaging community outreach programme. My thanks go to my predecessor as Chair, Paul Houghton, for supporting this remarkable event.

In my year as Chair I hope to develop the long standing links between Yorkshire Artspace and Sheffield Hallam University and develop our mutually supportive relationship.

Sally Wade

Chair, Yorkshire Artspace Society 2015/16

Director of the Sheffield Institute of Arts at Sheffield Hallam University



Our 2014/15 highlights

With support from Catalyst and our new Rolling Chair programme we held our first fundraising Gala Dinner at Persistence Works in July 2015. Paul Houghton was this year's Chair with a manifesto 'Opening Doors' – linking us with the business community to support sponsorship, individual giving and partnership working. We raised £8.5 k for our Starter Studio and community engagement programmes. 100 guests were joined by ten artists that donated a unique piece of their work to the Auction. Most tables were curated by Board members, strategically choosing guests that would also benefit from knowing more about our work.

Kate Dore

Emilie Taylor completed the first of our Partnership Residences designed to secure partnership funding and, just as crucially, access to new audiences and showcasing events. The diverse partners were Green Estate and Chatsworth and the residency explored these two vastly different historically connected estates. The resulting Harvest Jugs were shown at Chatsworth, in the Great Chamber that inspired them, to an audience of 37,456 and then at Green Estate's education space at Manor Oaks Studios during Open Studios reaching the local community that Emilie worked with.

Rachael Dodd

Our new creative community at Exchange Place Studios was almost complete with 68 artists working there. An active programme was also emerging, a healthy mix of Pop up Shops and exhibitions curated and managed by the studio holders and the beginnings of a new focus for our programme on the historic Castlegate area of Sheffield where the new studios are located. Our partner in the emerging programme was the University of Sheffield architecture department and in September we launched the Remake

Castlegate interactive model building project.

Anita Lloyd

Our Starter Studio for Silversmiths and Jewellers celebrated 12 years with the exhibition at the Goldsmiths' Centre of the 22 Little Gems commissions that form an annual part of the programme. The collection is jointly owned by Sheffield Assay Office and Museums Sheffield and this was the first time the collection was shown in its entirety and outside Sheffield. A new collection Precious Little Gems was launched this year by the three partners and programme participants Jodie Hatcher and Florence Carter secured the two career launching commissions.

Jane Elliott

This year we took two big steps forward in our understanding of our studio holders. As part of the development of our Equality Action Plan and Policy we looked at the data from the equal opportunities forms submitted by artists with the studio application forms. This showed the big impact that Exchange Place Studios has had on the diversity of our studio holders with a direct link to new audiences. We also conducted a survey that looked at where and what our artists studied, at what level and their motivations for taking a studio with us.

Stuart Wright

My apprenticeship has given me confidence and has enabled me to gain experience of the reality of working life and of delivering excellent customer service. My love of jewellery and metal work has grown immensely through meeting and working with jewellers and makers and has guided me in the choice of my future career.

Lois Fletcher



1/Our Organisation

Our Board

In 2013, following a board skills review, we introduced a Rolling Chair Programme designed to invigorate an already highly skilled board and encourage more buy-in to our fundraising, sponsorship and profile raising ambitions. The programme offers individual board members a time-limited period to invest more time in delivering their own manifesto, reflecting their particular skills, experience and passions.

This year our second Rolling Chair was **Paul Houghton** partner at Grant Thornton, and his manifesto was 'Opening Doors' - linking Yorkshire Artspace with the business community in Sheffield to support sponsorship, individual giving and partnership working, linking directly with our Catalyst project (more below). The main achievement was Yorkshire Artspace's inaugural **Gala Dinner and Authentic Art Auction** at Persistence Works, Tuesday 15th July 2014 which raised over **£8.5 k** for two strands of our activity, our Starter Studio Programme supporting emerging silversmiths, jewellers and ceramicists and our engagement programme that enables artists to work with communities on The Manor, in Parson Cross and neighbourhoods around our new studios in Castlegate. 100 guests were joined at table by one of the ten artists that kindly donated a unique piece of their work, or an unforgettable creative experience, to the **Authentic Art Auction**. A further twenty of our artists and makers donated a piece of work for the **Authentic Art Raffle**. Our master of ceremonies was **Paul Houghton**, Chair of Yorkshire Artspace and senior partner at Grant Thornton and fellow Board member and past Master Cutler **Neil MacDonald** was auctioneer.



Image: Henk Littlewood's Gala Dinner 2015 table, photo by In2Dimensions



The **Authentic Art Auction** featured ten truly original lots;

- A unique abstract print by [David Appleyard](#) based on the event seating plan
- A unique portrait sculpture studio experience with sculptor [Anthony Bennett](#)
- 'My Family as Animals' a personalised tea set made by [Lianne Mellor](#)
- A 'Peak Portrait' in a favourite Peak District spot by photographer [Alex Ekins](#)
- 'From Log to Spoon' a full day workshop with [Henk Littlewood](#) for a group of four to make individual wooden spoons starting from a piece of locally sourced hard wood
- 'Sheffield Skyline' a tea light holder created just for the event by emerging silversmith [Jen Ricketts](#)
- An original oil painting by [Paul Evans](#) coinciding with his solo show at the Graves Gallery
- Two limited edition 'Iris' prints by [Piers Williams](#) in association with [APG Works](#)
- A cylindrical slumped slab pot by emerging ceramicist [Sally Bertram](#)
- 'The Sea Calls' an original oil painting by [Donna Brewin](#)

The **20 Authentic Art Raffle** prizes were;

A hand printed cushion by [Sarah Waterhouse](#) / a Sheffield watercolour by [Tim Rose](#) / jewellery by [Jennie Gill](#) / a hand painted mirror by [Julia Spall](#) / a hallmarked silver spoon by [Coilin O'Dubhghaill](#) / an origami workshop for up to 10 with [Seiko Kinoshita](#) / a ceramic necklace by [Anne Laycock](#) / a set of 4 porcelain vessels by [Owen Waterhouse](#) / a set of four hand-woven linen napkins by [Jane Huws](#) / a hand printed silk scarf by [Amelie Crépy](#) / a stained glass panel by [Kath Boyd](#) / a glazed porcelain table lamp by [Hanne Westergaard](#) / a slab pot by [Brian Holland](#) / a hand-bound notebook by [Heather Dewick](#) / silver earrings by [Annette Petch](#) / a Crush CD shelf by [Fink Furniture](#) / a silver cuff by [Janet Wass](#) / a cherry wood tablet stand by [Becca Hopkinson](#) / gold earrings by [Natasha Lyons](#) / and a print by [Paul Morrison](#)

Five of the ten tables were curated by Board members who chose guests that would benefit from knowing more about Yorkshire Artspace, as well as a willingness to bid. As a result we have made a number of new partnerships and relationships. For instance the current Master Cutler and next year's Master Cutler subsequently arranged for a tour of the silversmithing studios to inform the commissioning of their Year Pieces, and the University of Sheffield has become our funding and strategic partner in the 2015 Castlegate Residency.

From 1 April 2014 our chair will be **Professor Sally Wade**, director of the Sheffield Institute of Arts at Sheffield Hallam University, and her draft manifesto is;

Connect/ Increased business engagement • Extend partnership with key stakeholders • Impact on arts development in city Castlegate Project • Scope Starter Studio and entrepreneur models
Cement/ Cultural leadership • Partnerships with Cultural Consortium and regional / city agencies • Partnerships with Universities • National and International networks • Profile raising activity • Media links
Celebrate/ Creative activity and achievement of artists and designers • Short programme activity • Mentoring and support for early and mid- career artists and designers
• Showcase @ exchange place • Events programme

Other board members are **Pat Cochrane**, CEO of Cape UK who advises on arts education and strategic cultural developments (stepped down in May 2015), **Neil MacDonald** a past Master Cutler well networked within local and regional manufacturing as well as being on several other key city organisations' boards and **Surriya Falconer** of Falconer Associates a Sheffield-based



PR & Communications company that represents both public and private sector organisations. **Andrew Walker**, partner at Irwin Mitchell retired from the Board this year after many years' invaluable service and a colleague from the Sheffield office, **Dorrien Peters**, was welcomed on to the Board at the AGM in April 2015.

Our Staff

Our small staff team of 6 has over 70 years of continual employment representing an incredible body of experience and skills that is drawn on by the organisation and by the visual arts community nationally. We are seen as national exemplars in the fields of studio development/management, artists' professional development and community engagement. By drawing on this knowledge, continually improving systems and forging strategic partnerships we have been able to expand both our studio portfolio and our programme over the last 14 years without significantly increasing our staff costs.

Our **Director**, Kate Dore, has overseen the development of Yorkshire Artspace since 1994 expanding both our studio portfolio - from 30 to 150, from 1 building to four - and our programme to encompass all sites and new audiences in the neighbourhoods. Kate is supported by all the board members and also by fellow trustees of the National Federation of Artist Studio Providers and fellow members of the Sheffield Culture Consortium. **Operations Manager** Stuart Wright comes from an accountancy background and oversees both the finances of the organisation and the efficient running of our premises. Over the last 11 years Stuart has set in place systems that enable us to manage an increasing number of studios without significantly increasing overheads, leading to a steady increase in our earned income. Stuart works closely with Kate on budgeting and the viability and delivery of new studio buildings. Stuart is supported by board member Paul Houghton, partner at one of the UK's leading accountancy firms.

Programme Manager Rachael Dodd develops and delivers our programme across all four studio sites and beyond. At the heart of all our programming is the support we offer to artists and makers to develop their practice. As part of the crafting of the programme we ensure we offer a wide variety of opportunities for the public to engage with artists and makers. Rachael has 15 years' experience of developing education and outreach programmes for Yorkshire Artspace as well as for Creative Partnerships. Rachael is supported by Jane and Kate on programme delivery and development, by Stuart on forecasting and by various board members. Fellow Programme Manager Mir Jansen moved on in August 2014 after many years of hard work and sterling service to the organisation. This prompted an effective staff restructure.

The whole team is supported by our **administrators** Anita Lloyd, Jane Elliott and Lois Fletcher. Anita provides financial and systems support and also helps nurture the creative community at Yorkshire Artspace through social events and studio tours for prospective newcomers as well as managing the selection process for studio holders. Jane, who joined us in October 2014, supports programme activity and leads on communications for the organisation. Lois is our Creative Apprentice and front of house at Exchange Place Studios with additional responsibilities for keeping our artist pages on the web site full and accurate. This year we also received support from freelancer Lucia Wilkinson offering Marketing and Communications coordination specifically for Studio54.



Our Artists

As demand for studios increases we aim to meet it, keeping as many artists as possible in Sheffield. Our studio selection process is based on our artistic policy which demands that studio holders must be "**in active production of their own creative art or craft work for a significant proportion of their time**". This ensures that the valuable, and publicly funded, resource that we offer supports professional artists moving towards full time commitment to their practice. The professional development support that we offer to studio holders through our programme helps them on this journey to excellence. By providing artists with workspace and professional development support we actively enable their engagement with audiences on a massive scale.

In January 2015 we completed an **Artists Survey** that looked at the career paths chosen by our studio holders. The full survey is at the end of the report. 125 of our artists completed the survey, around 89%.

- 28% went to **secondary school** in South Yorkshire.
- 91% have a **degree level qualification** or higher and 14% have a Master's Degree.
- 49% **studied in Sheffield**, the next highest being 13% in London and 5% Leeds.
- **52 different courses** were studied with the most popular Fine Art at 32% and Metalwork and Jewellery at 14%.
- 12% had studied **non-arts courses**.
- 23% of non-Sheffield natives **came here for work** and 20% **for a studio**.
- 22% **started professional practice** in the last 3 years and 48% in the last 15 years.
- 67% **started their professional career** when taking one of our studios.
- and our artist delivered **2,899 half days of teaching, training and outreach** outside our programme in 2014, a 16% increase on the last survey in 2012



Image: Gogo Laughrey with work from Black History Month



According to our Equal Opportunities Data, significant progress has been made since 2009 in attracting applications for studio space from an increasingly diverse group of artists. This can largely be attributed to the development of **Exchange Place Studios** located in an area of the city centre close to large inner city residential communities with shops and stalls that attract a multicultural clientele. With an on-street reception, in a building long established as a public service provider (ex-transport executive) passers-by feel comfortable in dropping in and enquiring about workspace. Studio holders also meet and interact with prospective tenants at the market stalls. Exchange Place Studios is not a daunting building and the **environment** feels warm and welcoming to artists who may not have had formal arts education or training.

Studio Application Equal Opportunities Monitoring Forms						
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Cultural Origin						
Caribbean	2	0	0	0	0	0
African	3	0	0	0	0	0
Indian	1	0	0	0	0	0
Irish	3	1	1	0	0	0
British/European	38	21	15	1	1	1
Other	2	2	1	1	0	0
Age						
19-24	7	4	2	0	0	0
25-34	12	8	9	1	0	0
35-44	8	4	4	1	0	1
45-54	12	5	1	0	1	0
55-64	8	3	0	0	0	0
65+	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ability						
Able Bodied	43	24	16	2	1	1
Disabled	6	0	1	0	0	0

Our Studios

We are proud that the Arts Council calls us '**one of the leading artist studio spaces in Europe**'. The work space that we provide is affordable, accessible, well managed, warm, safe and secure. We share our learning and expertise with other studio groups through the **National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers** offering advice plus on-line resources and case studies. During 2014/15 we continued to operate with 100% occupancy of our studio spaces at **Persistence Works**, and **Manor Oaks Studios**. We maintained two studios at **Knutton Road Studios**, the remainder now being let directly through landlord SOAR.

Exchange Place Studios, launched summer 2013 in the fast changing Castlegate area of Sheffield, ended the period of this report with just 8 of the 63 studios still to let. Our new thriving community of artists and craftspeople began to programme the project spaces with exhibitions and a regular Pop up Shop as you will read in the Programme section.



Image: Exchange Place Studios

Advocacy and Partnerships

We consider ourselves to be an enabling organisation, actively working with partners to increase audiences. We offer free gallery space at Persistence Works to [MADE North](#) to support their excellent exhibition and events programme, bringing the work of Northern designer makers and craftspeople to a new audience and raising their profile nationally and internationally. We also provided free office space and Programme Manager support to the [Galvanize](#) Festival this year.

We enjoy a strong relationship with [Museums Sheffield](#) with a dedicated space in the retail area of the Millennium Gallery (average visitors 3,000 per day) and the Little Gems showcase in the foyer showing the work commissioned from the Starter Studio Programme silversmiths by Sheffield Assay Office and Museums Sheffield.

As a member of [Sheffield Culture Consortium](#) we work to deliver a citywide cultural strategy which takes a coherent approach to the city's cultural and arts offer, and audience reach. The consortium has established a **Children and Young People's Network** bringing together NPOs, Cape UK and other providers to develop a more joined up cultural offer for children and young people in the city. The consortium has also established a **Festivals Network** and has secured funding to capture, share and report audience data for this significant element of the city's annual programme.

We also became part of the **Crafts Council's Craft Network** this year.



2/ Our Programme

Through our programme we are committed to providing opportunities for artists to extend their practice and develop their learning, and for the public to engage with them in meaningful activities. In this year of reporting, with the departure of Mir Jansen who co-delivered the extensive programme activity with fellow Programme Manager Rachael Dodd, we took time to take stock, review and rationalize what we do in light of feedback from artists and audiences and new organisational developments.

Artists Professional Development across career stages and support for emerging artists is still central to what we do and we remained committed to the Silversmith & Jewellers and Ceramic Starter Studio Programmes along with the accompanying business advice and training programme delivered via Studio 54. We shifted the focus of much of our Programme activity, especially around public engagement, to the Castlegate area to support the opening of Exchange Place Studios just as previous activity had complemented the neighbourhood studio developments in Manor and Parson Cross.

Starter Studio Programmes

Running since 2001 with over 28 beneficiaries the [Starter Studio Programme for Silversmiths and Jewellers](#) saw two artists recruited onto the programme: **Nina Rithalia** post-graduate of Bishopsland Educational Trust and originally from Bolton where she was part of the Manchester Jewellers Network and **Fennella Watson** who graduated from the Metalwork and Jewellery course at Sheffield Hallam University and also a post-graduate of Bishopsland. They joined year 2 silversmiths Florence Carter, Jodie Hatcher, Jen Ricketts and Imogen Clarkstone.



This year, with partners the Sheffield Assay Office and Museums Sheffield, we launched **Precious Little Gems**, a change to the annual Little Gems commission to kick start a new body of work from the Starter Studio Silversmiths.

Precious Little Gems commissions were awarded to **Florence Carter** and **Jodie Hatcher** who have their pieces on display at the Millennium Galleries (*image left*). Jodie produced a light piece entitled 'Woven Rose' made from Sterling Silver inspired by the Yorkshire Rose. Florence produced a Sterling Silver and Britannia canapé bowl incorporating impressions of Sheffield's metalworking history in seven sections representing the seven rolling hills.



The [Starter Studio Programme for Ceramicists](#) located at Manor Oaks Studios since 2010 has supported 8 ceramicists to date. In 2014 we recruited two new artists on to the programme.

Victoria Dawes relocated from America to join us in Sheffield having been a fellow at the Northern Clay Center in Minneapolis where she taught ceramics and developed her own practice. When asked what attracted her to the Starter Studio Programme at Yorkshire Artspace she replied

“The fact that the programme is for two years was very attractive. Two years is a much better amount of time to be able to set down roots somewhere, develop a body of work and start showing it. Being part of a community of artists here in Sheffield was also very appealing. I think it’s important to find people who can help you develop your work, especially when you are in a new environment.”

Mike Scown also joined the programme this year. Largely self-taught Mike has developed his interest in ceramics after graduating from a BA in Fine Art from Newcastle University in 2012 and through mentoring and volunteering at the Baslow Pottery. Mike said a family friend recommended visiting the Open Studios at Manor Oaks in November 2013.

“After seeing the facilities there and talking to the ceramicists on the programme it was clear that the place was exactly what my practice needed in order to develop.”



Image: Raku fired ceramic bowl,
Mike Scown 2014



Image: Ceramic wall hangings,
Victoria Dawes 2014

All new Starter Studio recruits have access to our annual **Starting Out** course, providing information about starting, developing and sustaining a creative arts practice which once again was delivered through **Studio 54** this year in partnership with Patricia van den Akker Director of [The Design Trust](#).

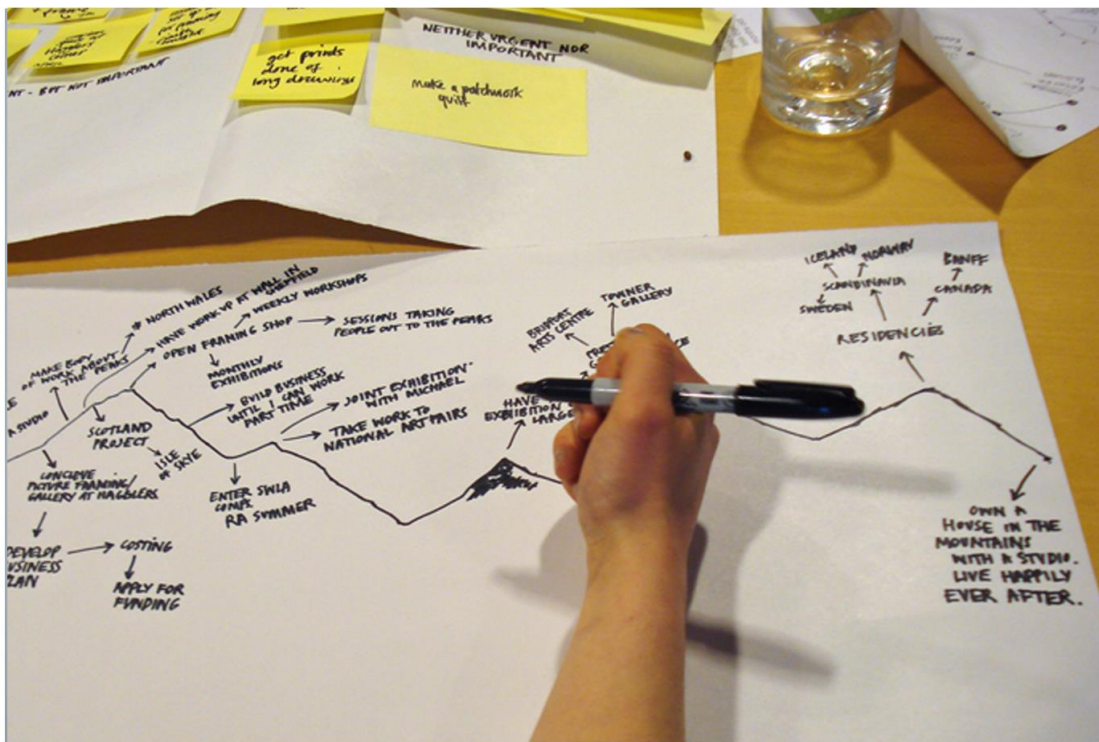


Studio 54 & Starting Out

First launched in November 2013, Studio 54 is Yorkshire Artspace's on-line professional development platform to support, advise and offer resources to visual artists, crafts people and designer makers. Following modest sign up in its first year we were delighted to have a huge increase in sign up for the second year of Starting Out with places on webinars becoming sold out within 24 hours in some instances – although we did offer them again for free. 312 individuals signed up for one or more courses in the autumn 2014 programme compared to 68 in 2013. This was in large part due to our partnership with The Design Trust who worked with us on marketing and promotion and as such gave a 46% London/South West bias to the location of participants.

Following a full review and detailed data analysis, we decided to retire the Studio 54 online platform in April 2015. This difficult decision was based on the following factors; no longer having in-house APD expertise (previously provided by Mir Jansen); failure to reach enough artists based in Yorkshire/Sheffield where we feel our focus should lie; relatively low take-up by Yorkshire Artspace studio holders and those who were involved expressing a preference for more local face-to-face sessions; and finally the high cost of delivering the programme.

The proposed way forward for 2015/16 is to continue to deliver Starting Out through a mix of in-house face to face sessions at Persistence Works and Exchange Place Studios and offering bursaries to enable Starter Studio participants and other Yorkshire Artspace studio holders to attend on-line training delivered through The Design Trust.





Microgrants

In January 2014 we launched the Yorkshire Artspace Microgrant awards, a legacy of the Starter Studio for Engaged Practice and our support for artists who want to engage with the public through their work. Microgrants offer a small enabling budget of up to £500 to support artists in the development of their practice and realisation of their ideas. We selected high quality applications that demonstrated interesting and well thought-through ideas addressing our key aim of increasing public access to and engagement with the work of artists and makers. In addition to the money, we provide a package of support that includes; advice and support from the Programme Manager, opportunities to profile their project through blogs on our website, in our e-newsletter and social media and access to workspace. We awarded Microgrants to the following artists;

Liz Von Graevenitz's project was to try to connect with individuals and families within the Sheffield Roma Community, to make work with them that reflected their culture. She used part of the Microgrant towards purchasing a camera which she used to make a short film documenting her experience of looking from the outside into a closed community. Liz made many initial contacts with people associated with or of the Roma community in Sheffield but never really managed to go deeper with contacts or build relationships. Microgrants can be a stepping stone for further work and as Liz says;

"I would like to continue to reach out into the community through local area councillors and people already working with the Roma to set up workshops. I intend to apply for grant funding and make connections with those who would be interested in supporting this idea. I hope that the film will be a visual tool to help me do this effectivity."

See the short film [here](#).

Charlie Hill, used her £500 to help her continue her work in the Parson Cross neighbourhood and extend her *Garden Spotting* project which highlights local gardens, gardeners, wild green spaces and hidden nature spots. Enabling her *"to engage with more people in Parson Cross and experiment with different approaches to engagement. I have also developed stronger links with the Library by holding the Garden Spotting exhibitions there and workshop event at SOAR works."*

The Microgrant also made a contribution to her course fees for Art of Invitation delivered by Encounters, learning about new creative approaches to engaging with people and discussing how to make work that can positively change communities. Charlie met with 10 gardeners during this project spending 1-2 hours with each. Hundreds of people saw the exhibition at the Parson Cross Library and individual gardeners involved in Garden Spotting commented on how having photographs of their garden exhibited in the Library was a positive experience and how they were inspired by other gardens.

Some participant feedback;

"They were good photographs, I told my family and sister and daughter went to see them at the Library with me and my wife."
Reg, Wordsworth Avenue

"It felt good being part of the project, didn't mind you knocking on the door and taking photographs. You were very polite and interested." Audrey, Buchanan Close



“I would like to see more people and their gardens, be interested in seed swaps, sharing cuttings, pop in whenever you like, let us know what’s going on. It would be good to get more people involved in gardening and nature in the area.”
Anonymous



Image: ‘Garden spotting’ participant

Paul Allender worked over the course of the year on a collaborative project with Stuart an ex-soldier dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome and his step-son Callum who has autism, both from the Foxhill estate in North Sheffield. They met once a week throughout the year to make art together and used the Microgrant to buy art materials and canvases and visit museums and art galleries. Paul introduced Callum to [Flycheese](#), who do animation with young people with learning disabilities.



Callum is now a weekly attender at a Flycheese class and is enjoying it enormously. Asked about a highlight of the project Paul said;

“Drawing at the Chatsworth estate in the summer, watching Stuart mesmerize a flock of lambs at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and some quiet, relaxed painting sessions with Callum at the SOAR studio.”

The project culminated in an exhibition at 35 Chapel Walk Gallery in Sheffield city centre, a real celebration and achievement for them all which saw 65 visitors.

Image: Stuart and Callum at Yorkshire Sculpture Park



Emilie Taylor used her Microgrant to allocate a significant period of time to develop work which would enable a collaboration between herself, Casey Strine, Ancient Historian and Biblical Studies Researcher at University of Sheffield and the voluntary sector agencies working with the Asylum Seeking and Refugee populations in Sheffield. This developmental work included cross disciplinary workshops prior to engaging with people experiencing migration. The project involved art therapists who had worked in situations of conflict, Sheffield City of Sanctuary, Sheffield Night Shelter, ASSIST and the University of Sheffield. Reflecting on how she benefited from this award Emilie said;

“I have gained relationships with the University of Sheffield, secured funding to work with them in future and helped to develop their 'Epics and Myths Module' that I will lecture on in 2015. Due to being able to thoroughly explore the context of the groups, the voluntary sector approach and Art Therapy philosophy, as well as establish our own approach in collaboration, our project is successful- engaging a weekly group of people experiencing forced migration, secure, well known and supported in the city. This will no doubt ensure its longevity.”

Community Engagement - ReMake Castlegate

ReMake Castlegate was a partnership project between Yorkshire Artspace and Sheffield School of Architecture taking place during the University of Sheffield's second Festival of The Mind. **Rachael Dodd** and artists **Simon Le Ruez**, **Anne-Marie Atkinson** and **Clare McCormack** worked collaboratively with staff, Carolyn Butterworth and Leo Care, and students from the School of Architecture. A 1:200 scale base model of Castlegate was the starting point which over the course of the 10 days of the Festival of the Mind was opened up to the public to respond and contribute to; to share their memories, comments and ideas of the area past, present and future. We spoke with over 300 people who work, live and visit the Castlegate area. Many of the artists based at Exchange Place Studios joined us. We found that people really care about what happens in this part of the city, many were excited about its future. All ideas, comments, thoughts and suggestions were captured and shared with key stakeholders working in the area.



Rachael Dodd says;

“We have worked hard to make sure that there is a real legacy from this project. The ReMake project enabled Yorkshire Artspace to connect with key people and organisations working within Castlegate and the city. For our organisation this has led to new partnership being formed and other projects getting off the ground including the Castlegate Festival and our Artist in Residence in Castlegate which is in partnership with the University of Sheffield's Engaged University Programme.”



Residency Programme

In 2013/14 our artist in residence was ceramicist **Emilie Taylor**, supported through our new Partner Residency model with support from Chatsworth and Green Estate. Some aspects of Emilie's residency took place in 2014/15 including a final show of her ceramic harvest jugs ***A Tale of Two Estates: Hymn to Persephone*** in the Great Hall at Chatsworth House from 19 September to 7 November 2014 which received a whopping 37,456 visitors. The Duke of Devonshire spoke about his enthusiasm for the project and Emilie gave a talk on her ideas and work which draw on the similarities and differences between these contrasting but historically linked sites. This residency enabled Yorkshire Artspace to strengthen links in these communities and build an important partnership with the Duke and Chatsworth Estate. Emilie worked with 40 young people from Manor Youth Group over 4 months to create pots exploring the two estates, informed by a group visit to Chatsworth in April and a firing of the pot at Manor Oaks in July.



Image: Harvest Jug, Emilie Taylor



Harvest walk/Emilie Taylor

On 23rd September, the day of the Harvest Moon, Emilie invited a group of 13 people - theologians, planners, architects, artists, activists and curators - to meet at Chatsworth to view the work, then walk to Manor Estate for a Harvest supper, music, talks and discussion. A film was made of this magical event which was given a public screening attended by 32 people at Manor Oaks studios on 23rd Nov as part of our Open Studios event followed by Q&A with the artist. Watch the film [here](#)



Digital Audiences

In 2014/15 we reached a digital readership of 5,087. This included 2,137 people for our quarterly newsletter, 170 people for our internal weekly email, 833 Facebook followers and 1,947 Twitter followers. We used social media much more over the course of this year increasing the number of our Facebook followers by 60% and Twitter followers by 80%. We blogged more frequently and enjoyed increased referrals from city wide culture listings website [Our Favourite Places](#) as well as 'Welcome to Sheffield' and our own Studio 54 website. Links from other organisations helped increase our traffic: The Goldsmiths' Centre's 'Little Gems Collection' of work by Starter Studio silversmiths featured us in many of their Facebook and Twitter posts as well as their newsletter which has 3,642 subscribers.

Other Events and Exhibitions

Open Studios

Open Studios 2014 was held on 21/22/23 November and thanks to a new programme of activities and more artists opening their doors than ever, attracted record visitor numbers. In total, the event was attended by 1,552 visitors. We printed 5,000 fliers and advertised city and neighbourhood wide on Decaux boards. The event received good press coverage from 'Our Favourite Places' which ran a special feature on our artists on their website as well as a feature on their special cultural printed edition 'Sheffield – our city'. We were also featured in the Sheffield Telegraph and on several local artists' blogs.

We commissioned, or facilitated, a number of artist led workshops during the weekend. At Manor Oaks Studios visitors were encouraged to draw and print from historical artefacts from the Manor Estate, as well as decorate and fire their own Raku pots. At Persistence Works, Studio Binky installed a giant Sheffield colouring book with over 200 people colouring in including 85 children and young people (*image – front cover*).

We conducted an exit survey over the course of the weekend and found out some interesting details about our visitors which we share with you on the following page. We were pleased to find that people came from all over Sheffield to attend, meaning we had a wider appeal than we had previously thought. We also found that approximately 50% people in attendance were first time visitors and most of them were very curious!



OPEN STUDIOS 2014

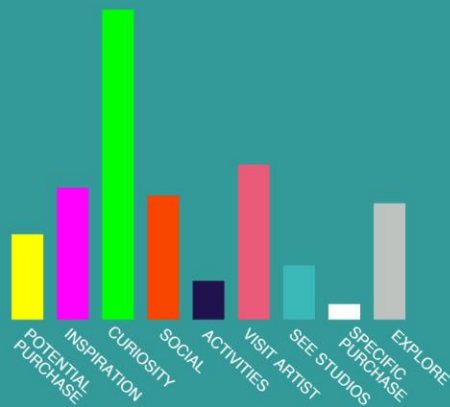
Have you visited us before?

52% of our visitors were here for the very first time!



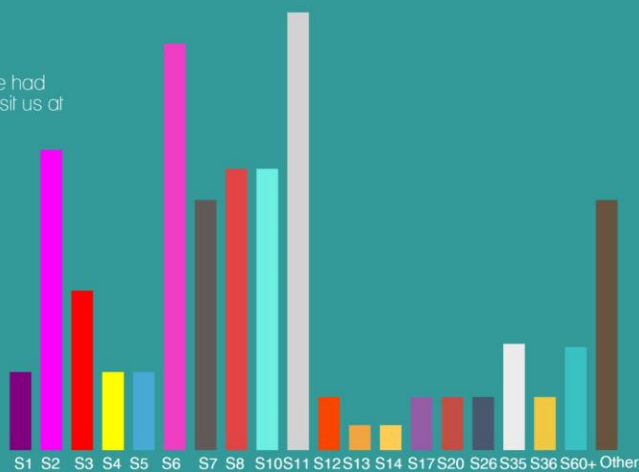
What was the main purpose of your visit?

We found out what brought people to O-S



What is your postcode?

We were pleased to find people had travelled from far and wide to visit us at Open Studios





Exchange Place Studios Exhibitions

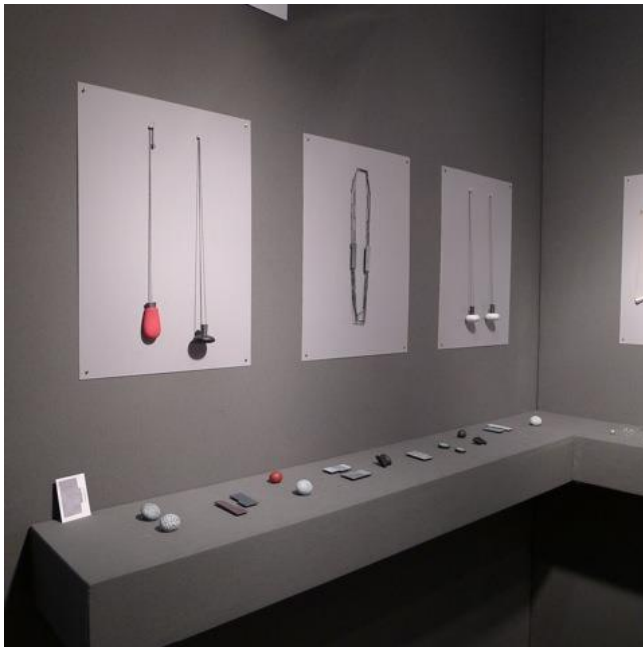
The fascinating and diverse history of the building was explored in our first exhibition at Exchange Place Studios - **'The three lives of a Sheffield Icon'** - including archive photographs, first-hand accounts, maps and artefacts brought together by MA History student Amanda Marshall in April 2014. Two other studio holders **Del Hardin Hoyle** and **Gogo Laughrey** also held exhibitions at Exchange Place Studios, the latter a celebration for Black History Month. The artist-led Pop up Shop not only brought the creative community together but also attracted 792 visitors over 23 days throughout the year.

Collect

In May 2014 Yorkshire Artspace, in collaboration with Galvanize Sheffield and the Harley Gallery (UK), took seven artists to **COLLECT** (7 artists, 4.5 days, audience 10,000). The selected silversmiths and jewellers were Cameron Maxfield, Maria Hanson and Charlotte Tollyfield from Yorkshire Artspace plus Alison Counsell, Jessica Turrell, Lina Peterson and Zoe Robertson.

Collect is the premier event in the craft sector run by the Crafts Council who carefully select galleries that represent exceptional work by their portfolio of artists. Re-launched at the Saatchi Gallery London in 2009, following five successful years at the V&A, the show is established as the place to view and buy the very best in contemporary craft.

Neil MacDonald, Yorkshire Artspace Board member and Chair of Galvanize said:



“Being exhibited at COLLECT is an achievement in itself for our artists. They are being given a place on a prestigious international stage from which to showcase their talent, to sell their work and present Sheffield to the world.”

Image; part of our stand at Collect



Little Gems Collection at the Goldsmiths' Centre and Sheffield Assay Office

Also supported via Galvanize Sheffield, and funding from 100 Years of Stainless Steel, the whole body of work from the Little Gems Commissions 2004-2014 went to London to be exhibited at the **Goldsmiths' Centre** 23rd March – 13 May 2015. This resulted in 7,410 visitors and wonderful exposure for the work of all 22 makers and our programmes outside of Sheffield. The complete collection is now located at the [Sheffield Assay Office](#) and on display until Oct 2015.



***Image:** Jen Ricketts piece for 'Little Gems' exhibition*

Visitor numbers for the **Made North Gallery at Persistence Works** are approximately 15,000 per year. Sheffield Design Week, a big city wide feature of the Made North Programme, also attracted over 60,000 visitors during 7th - 14th June 2014 a proportion of which visited Persistence Works.



3/Our Finances

Financial Planning

Our earned income from studios rose by nearly 15% this year through an expanding portfolio while maintaining affordable rents for artists. Exchange Place Studios enables us to significantly increase our **earned income** over the next few years, offsetting the continued trend of falling funding. Again we have been very grateful for the relative stability that has been offered to our organisation by the **Arts Council England NPO** funding. Further support to develop income from businesses and individuals has been offered to us through the Arts Council's **Catalyst Programme** and we have formed the Sheffield Visual Arts Catalyst Consortium with S1 Artspace and Site Gallery to share learning and work jointly to investigate securing an income stream from these largely untapped sources. Our second Catalyst year saw the inaugural Gala Dinner Fundraiser and a new Castlegate Residency partner, the University of Sheffield. We are also fortunate to enjoy continued support from Sheffield Assay office who sponsor the Little Gems commissions for our Starter Studio Silversmiths.



YORKSHIRE ARTSPACE SOCIETY LIMITED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS
	2015	2015	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				
INCOMING RESOURCES				
-generated from funds				
Voluntary income	26000		26000	54283
Activities for generating funds	14220	-	14220	-
Investment income	1	-	1	1799
-generated from charitable activities				
Support & promotion of arts/crafts	273605	102350	375955	314080
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	313826	102350	416176	370162
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Costs of generating funds				
Cost of activities for generating funds	6448	-	6448	-
Charitable expenditure:				
Support and promotion of arts and Crafts	263887	207499	471386	411080
Governance Costs	2928	-	2928	5993
Total Resources Expended	273263	207499	480762	417073
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES	40563	(105419)	(64586)	(46911)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total Funds brought forward	108022	3874484	3982506	4029417
Total Funds carried forward	148585	3769335	3917920	3982506



YORKSHIRE ARTSPACE SOCIETY LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2014

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets		3907836		4022388
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors within 1 year		9689		14621
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>49624</u>		<u>6593</u>
		59313		21214
CREDITORS:				
Amounts falling due within one Year		<u>(49229)</u>		<u>(61096)</u>
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)		10084		(39882)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u><u>3917920</u></u>		<u><u>3982506</u></u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES				
Unrestricted funds		148585		108022
Restricted funds		<u>3769335</u>		<u>3874484</u>
		<u><u>3917920</u></u>		<u><u>3982506</u></u>

Yorkshire Artspace Society Limited

Persistence Works, 21 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS

0114 276 1769

info@artspace.org.uk

ww.artspace.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1049370 Company Registration No. 303 4923

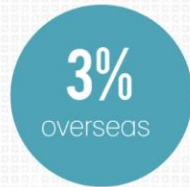
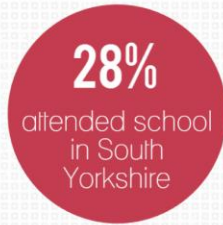
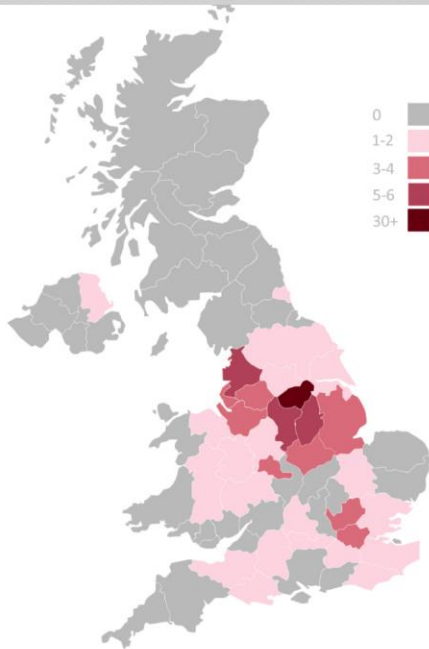
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2015 STUDIO HOLDER SURVEY

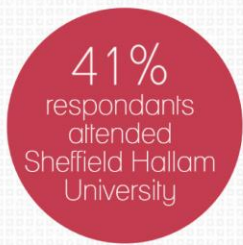
Our fourth Questionnaire was sent out to all 140 studio holders in January 2015. Here are our results from 125 respondents, a response rate of 89%

WHERE DID YOU GO TO SECONDARY SCHOOL?



DID YOU GO TO UNIVERSITY? IF SO, WHERE?

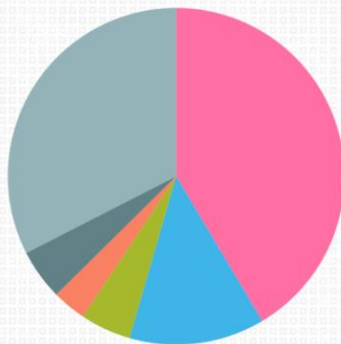
OUR STUDIO HOLDERS:



49% male



51% female



Sheffield Hallam (41%) London (13%) Leeds Met (5%)



WHAT DID YOU STUDY?

Studio holders have taken courses in subjects ranging from art and design subjects to archaeology, philosophy and zoology.

12%

repondants studied a non art related subject

32%

repondants studied Fine Art

repondants studied a range of
52
different courses!



DID GETTING YOUR STUDIO AT YORKSHIRE ARTSPACE MARK THE BEGINNING OF YOUR CAREER AS AN ARTIST?

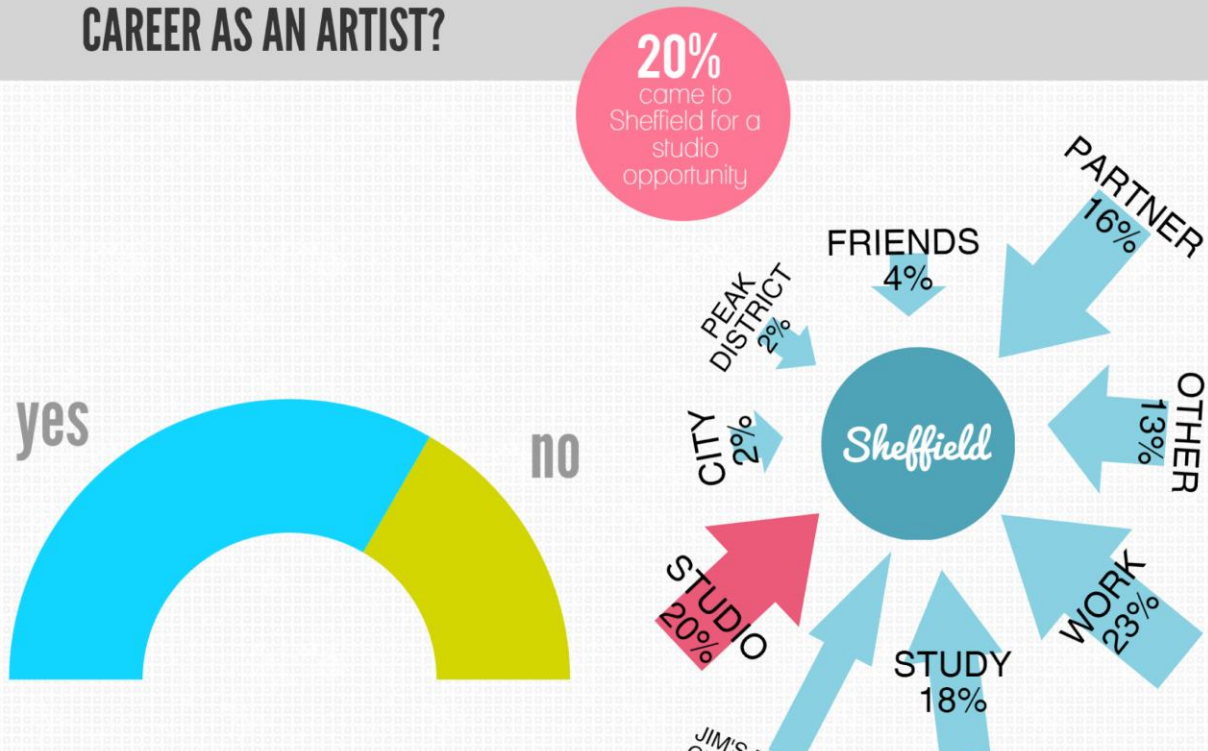
yes

no

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO SHEFFIELD?

20%

came to Sheffield for a studio opportunity





WHEN DID YOUR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BEGIN?

Thanks to the addition of Exchange Place Studios, we now have more early career artists than ever before.



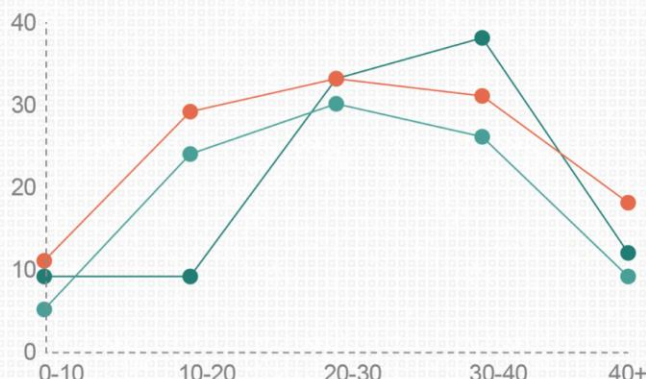
22%
studio holders started professional practice in the last three years.

48%
of our studio holders began their professional practice in 2000 or later

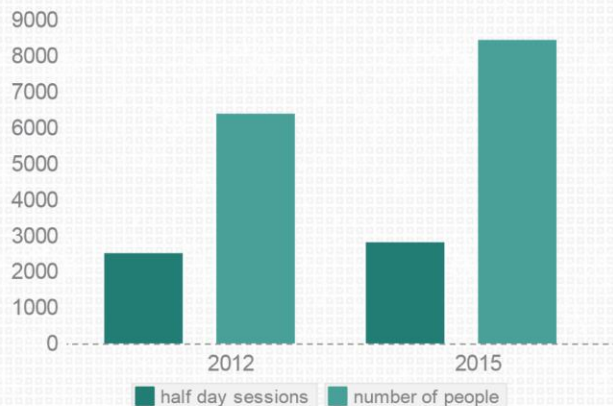
24%
began their artistic careers in the 1980s or earlier

HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU SPEND IN YOUR STUDIO?

Artists are finding they are able to commit more time to their professional practice than ever before! 40% more people are spending 40 hours+ in their studios compared to 2010



HOW MUCH TEACHING AND OUTREACH DID YOU DELIVER?



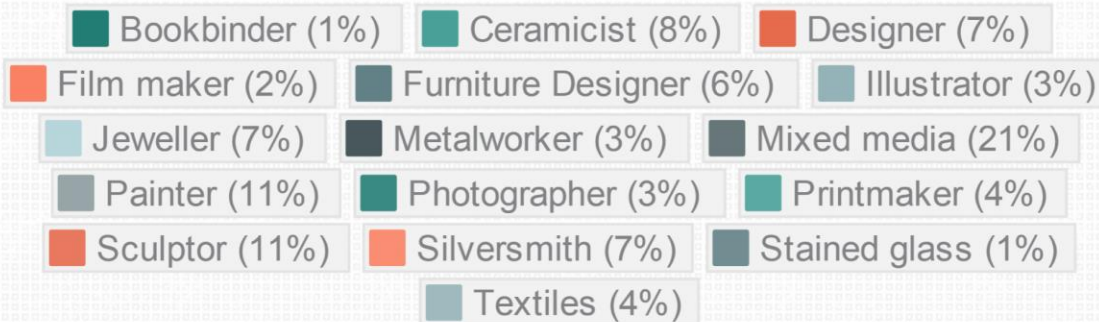
Studio holders held 2899 1/2 days of teaching, training and outreach work in 2014. This compares to 2512 1/2 days in 2012, an increase of 16%



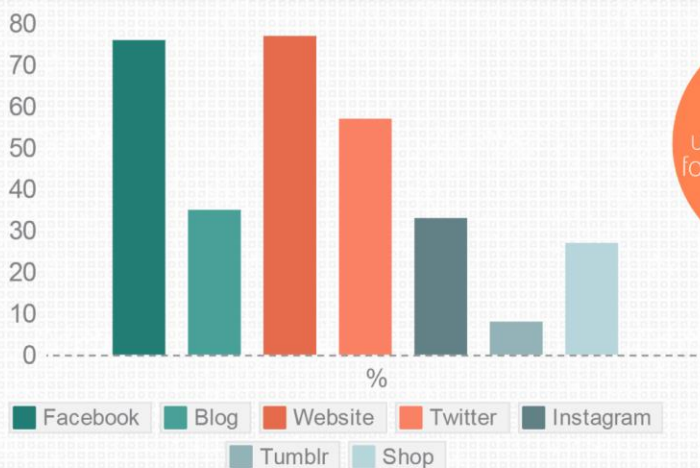
WHAT TYPE OF ARTWORK DO YOU MAKE?

17%
artists work in
jewellery, metal
and silver

21%
artists work in a
variety of different
media



WHAT TYPES OF ONLINE MEDIA DO YOU USE?



41%
use their business
facebook accounts
regularly

77%
77% studio holders
now have their on
websites compared to
60% in 2010.

Thank you to the 125 studio holders that took part in our survey