

Community Culture: the Power of Arts Centres



After the [Telegraph](#) reported that foreign aid is likely to overtake council funding in 2017, community arts look set to take another hit. Siobhan Scott takes a look at how cuts to the arts sector are affecting communities.

Art has the power to bring communities together. It has long since been a source of inspiration for individuals, as well as groups of people worldwide. In today's post, we're taking a look at how exhibitions can harness the power of print to encourage engagement, offer educational benefits and bring communities together.

Creative communities



Community - a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common

From radio stations and newspapers to education centres and libraries, your local community matters - and with more and more cuts threatening the arts sector, now's the time to get active in your area. Art has - and can continue to - play a critical part in education, teaching children about the importance of creativity and arming them with skills beyond academia. With local arts centres supporting the ongoing delivery of creative lessons by introducing them to the community, they can encourage participation and interaction with others.

Encourage engagement



In a world dominated by social media, it's easier than ever to make connections - but are these easily accessible platforms actually making us more isolated? Community events can be a great way to make real life connections, meet new people and encourage active participation.

Promoting an event also offers up an opportunity to get the whole community involved. You could get local schools on board to hand out [promotional flyers](#) for [community consultation days](#) and ask for volunteers to hand out refreshments or greet attendees on the day. This is a great way to bring together a variety of people who might not cross paths in any other area of life - providing a safe space to discuss local issues and nurture a supportive community culture.

Educational benefits

