

Latest News

Culture and Communities Committee
10.00am, Tuesday 29 January 2019

• EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Business Bulletin – now Latest News

This edition of the business bulletin will be available to the public from 24 January 2019 (from 12 noon) via the Updates link page on the new Culture Edinburgh website at www.cultureedinburgh.com. The website delivers Action 6 of the citywide [Culture Plan](#).

Robert Blomfield: Edinburgh Street Photography

AN UNSEEN ARCHIVE - Until 17 March 2018



This winter the City Art Centre showcases a free exhibition of vintage street photography by Robert Blomfield. Blomfield practised street photography across the UK from the 50s to the 70s. He moved to Edinburgh to study medicine at the University in 1956. Whilst a student, Blomfield pursued his passion for photography and spent his free time capturing life on the streets. A subsequent medical career meant that Blomfield's vast collection of striking images remained largely stored away in cardboard boxes.

Robert Blomfield: Edinburgh Street Photography

This exhibition displays a selection of 60 black and white photographs from this remarkable private archive, revealing and documenting the dramatic changes taking place in post war Edinburgh during the 60s. Prior to the exhibition opening to the public it attracted a lot of attention online. People were engaging with the photographs, sharing their childhood memories and personal snapshots. This positive response has continued with visitors leaving wonderful messages in the comments book. Furthermore, the exhibition received a lot of coverage in the Scottish and national media including on television and radio. The visitor figures have been very encouraging and just in the first two weeks of it opening the City Art Centre has welcomed over 6,000 visitors through the doors.

To complement the exhibition the City Art Centre ran three very popular events which were free and fully booked. On Friday 30 November 2018 Johnny Blomfield, Robert Blomfield's brother, gave a wonderful talk *The Early Life and Times of Robert Blomfield: The Making of a Street Photographer*, which provided an insight into the astonishing man behind the evocative images on display. The event was attended by an incredible 82 people.



'...a heart-warming talk ...followed by a moving video and superb exhibition!'

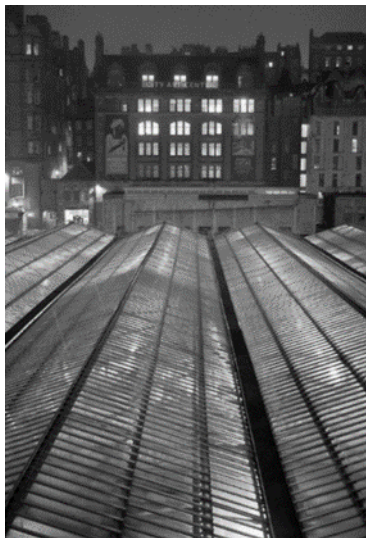
The City Art Centre also ran two further successful lectures on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 December 2018. An Audience with 'Dark Edinburgh' saw photographer Scott Liddell, the man behind 'Dark Edinburgh', talk about his work documenting the hidden and changing aspects of the city today, but also share some practical photography tips. A staggering 89 people attended this lecture.



'Really great talk today. Thank you for being so generous with your time and your tips.'

Robert Blomfield: Edinburgh Street Photography

For Edinburgh: A City of Contradictions Lynn and Paul Henni (henni.photo) gave an illustrated talk about their work. They use black and white photography to capture their home city and look for less conventional images within it. This event was also well attended by 78 people.



'Thank you for a great talk. My husband and I really liked the photos. Bought a card in the gift shop.'

Culture Project Fund In Partnership With The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) - Grants Awarded

The Culture Service is continuing to work in partnership with the REMT to distribute £97,700 of funding (provided by both the Council and REMT) to the city's cultural sector. 2018 is the second year of the partnership. At the panel meeting in December, 20 grants were awarded to projects in the city that promote access to arts and cultural activity.

The Culture Project Fund supports the priorities of the city's new Culture Plan, adopted by the Council in 2015. The plan was developed through the Desire Lines consultation process with input from creative industries, funding bodies, festivals, performers, artists, producers and venues. It highlighted a need for greater support of emerging artists and 'a shared city-wide agenda' for culture in the Capital, which the Project Fund is helping to address.

This round of funding was awarded to the following groups working across a range of art forms, including dance, theatre and music, supporting projects taking place across the city in a variety of locations. The grants were recommended by a specialist panel featuring arts industry professionals and representatives from the Tattoo and the Council:

- £4,320.00 to Active Inquiry for Reaching Out – a programme of participatory theatre workshops exploring the theme of Home to take place in Bonnington, Craigentenny and Albion Road.
- £4,122.00 to Bridgend Farmhouse to run community singing groups at Bridgend Farmhouse, working with a wide range of community partners aimed at communities in South Edinburgh including Moredun and The Inch.

Culture Project Fund In Partnership With The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) - Grants Awarded

- £4,000.00 to Drake Music Scotland to commission a professional composer with disabilities Ben Lunn to write music for disabled musicians and Hebrides Ensemble to be premiered in an autism-friendly performance at The Queen's Hall.
- £5,000.00 to Grassmarket Projects for 'Care In Recovery' - a workshop and performance project developing the themes around experiences of care for people who are currently in recovery from drug and alcohol mis-use, workshops taking place in, and targeted at, Dumbiedykes and the surrounding area.
- £5,000.00 to Magnetic North towards development of a new performance project She Sells, a video artwork made in collaboration with artist Greg Sinclair and residents of Pilton.
- £4,870.00 to Puppet Animation Scotland towards CUCINEMA: working with visiting Italian artists on a family-orientated workshop for up to 100 people from across Edinburgh, which teaches participants about the basics of animation.
- £4,434.00 to Capital Theatres towards Sound Symphony – the creation of an original piece of theatre with the needs of autistic children at its centre.
- £5,439.40 to Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop for two sculpture exhibitions for Blind, Partially Sighted and Sighted visitors, experienced by touch through facilitated artist tours.
- £8,234.00 to Edinburgh Women's Aid for We Are Here: women who have experienced domestic abuse will work with a poet and a visual artist to produce new poems/prose and prints to be published in a book.
- £5,000.00 to Grid Iron for CLIQUES: BSL interpretation, captioning and accessible marketing for a site-specific theatre co-production between Grid Iron, SDTN and the Pleasance.
- £5,000.00 to Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh: a nine-day Festival of Nature, Creativity and Health with artist-led exhibitions and events aimed at widening access to a range of cultural and creative experiences.
- £3,210.00 to the Travelling Gallery for artist-led workshops supporting the Travelling Gallery exhibition in Spring 2019. Locations include Wester Hailes, Ratho, Craigmillar, Muirhouse, Leith, Drumbrae and Saughton Prison.
- £2,400.00 to Citizen Curator for Unsung Leith: Breaking Barriers: a new partnership project exploring the trailblazing women of Leith through a range of free, childcare-supported creative workshops.

Culture Project Fund In Partnership With The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) - Grants Awarded

- £6,358.00 to Craigmillar Literacy Trust for Wildest Dream: artist Katy Wilson will hold a seven day residency at Castleview Primary School and Castleview Community Gardens, involving children and their families in her practice, promoting outdoor exploration through her residency.
- £2,255.00 to Edinburgh Youth Gaitherin' for the Edinburgh Youth Gaitherin' 2019: four days of workshops led by some of the country's finest traditional musicians. £4,955.00 to Gorgie Collective for Gorgie Creates: a collaborative, artist-led project. Free creative workshops for adults will facilitate the co-creation of public artworks exhibited in Gorgie-Dalry town centre.
- £5,000.00 to Soundhouse for Edinburgh Tradfest 2019, a music festival programme including elements of storytelling, film and folklore.
- £8,252.35 to Starcatchers for Expecting Something: a pioneering creative engagement project for young mums and their babies providing consistent access to artist-led creative opportunities in communities.
- £4,850.25 to Strange Town towards the funding of 114 free bursary places for disadvantaged young people, aged 11-25, to access a pilot programme of performance masterclasses led by leading theatre and film practitioners.
- £5,000.00 to the Thistle Foundation for the Craigmillar Tapestry - Stitches in Time project (Phase 1). Using the arts to capture and celebrate the unique heritage and culture of the wider Craigmillar area.

Museum of Edinburgh - Glass Display Tour

The Museum of Edinburgh has recently re-developed its new glass gallery. On display are over 180 pieces of exquisite glassware, all made in Edinburgh from the 1830s to the present day.

To encourage more people to visit the new gallery, and to share the glass collection with as many people as possible, a small display of Edinburgh Glass is now touring around Edinburgh City Libraries until summer 2019.

The display is currently at Corstorphine Library, and will tour around the city to Colinton, Oxbgangs, Newington and Kirkliston Libraries.



The glass display at Blackhall Library

Active Schools Day of Dance – 24 November



The focus of The Active Schools Day of Dance, was a participation event to showcase all the after-school dance groups. Children were given the opportunity to perform to parents, guardians, families, teachers and other guests alike at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

The Active Schools team ran three dance shows over one day in one venue which incorporated the four neighbourhoods. Every school in Edinburgh was invited and over 60 groups performed throughout the day. There were over 80 schools and 600 children taking part assisted by over 30 volunteers. Over 1400 parents, guardians, families and friends attended the performances.

The impact was huge and a great example of collaborative working with the Active Schools team delivering the event, volunteers from dance clubs, young ambassadors and pupils assisting the Active Schools team and of course the pupils had the opportunity to perform on a stage in front of over 1400 spectators.

Edinburgh Young Carers and Children in Scotland



Young people getting a tour of the Museum Collection Centre from Gwen Thomas, Collections Care Officer

Museums and Galleries Edinburgh have recently been working in partnership with Children in Scotland on a heritage project with a group of young people supported by Edinburgh Young Carers. The group of twelve young people aged 9–16 are exploring what heritage means to them and how the city's museum collections compare with the experiences of young people today. The project will culminate in an exhibition at the People's Story in early 2019, featuring objects selected by the group.

Inaugural Scottish FA Club Support Programme

Football Development Officer Jack Beesley has completed the final sessions of this programme, delivered along with Civil Service Strollers. The six to eight week programme saw him working with coaches of an identified age group within the club (5-10 years), with the aim being to upskill coaches and parent helpers with delivery of fun, challenging and empowering sessions which allow the players to problem-solve, create their own solutions and develop techniques without the fear of failure. The sessions were focused on game-related exercises and tried to move away from too many static 'drills'. Coaches received weekly observation and feedback as part of the programme, as well a booklet at the end of the programme with information and content for delivery going forward. During January the programme will be modified based on what has been learned, and will be delivered next year with Spartans Football Club.



Year of Young People – Three Centres Challenge



The Three Centres Challenge was created for the Year of Young People in order to celebrate and demonstrate young people's participation in outdoor learning. A partnership between CEC Sport and Outdoor Learning, Bridge 8 Hub and CEC Schools and Lifelong Learning put the project together. One group cycled from Lagganlia Centre to Edinburgh (180 miles) and the other group paddled from Benmore Centre to Edinburgh using the canals (60 miles). Both journeys took 5 days and finished at Lochrin Basin at the end of the Union canal. The participants were brilliant throughout, and fine examples of all the positive qualities that young people possess. They displayed skills, determination and enthusiasm in abundance, by successfully completing the challenge. And only one capsized on the kayaking!

Swimming for Life

Forrester/St Augustine's Community Sport Hub has been offering a programme of adult swimming sessions over the last six months. Swimmer abilities range from complete non-swimmers, to adults who can swim but for a range of reasons may not have been swimming for over 40 years! The age range has spanned from adults in their 30's to one gentleman aged 88! Over 35 adults have attended the range of sessions. Jeanette Robb, an attendee at the weekly women's session, says: 'As a non-swimmer, the feeling of conquering my fear, was monumental to me and I never stopped talking about it to my family and friends for weeks and I still do'. We hope the programme will continue to give adults the confidence and ability to enjoy swimming as a lifelong physical activity.



Weekly Beginners ESOL Yoga Classes

Taking place at the South Bridge Resource Centre, the classes are exclusive for ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) Learners. The classes are innovative where instruction of Yoga practice and ESOL learning principles are combined by an excellent Instructor with knowledge and experience of both. The class is coordinated by the Lifelong Learning South-East Locality Team. The initial taster was delivered as part of a summer program. Regular term time classes began in October and will restart in the New Year. There has been good attendance and feedback so far. One of the attendees recently confided to the instructor that this is her first ever exercise class that she has regularly attended.



Scottish War Poets Monument



Photo: John Travers

On 23 November 2018 a memorial to Scottish War Poets was unveiled in Makars Court by Baillie Norman Work. This is one of a number of memorials that have been installed in various Scottish towns and cities to commemorate the poets who lost their lives in war. The 6ft celtic cross has been engraved with words from Neil Munro's poem Lament for the Lads, which was chosen after a public ballot:

"Sweet be their sleep now wherever they're lying

Far though they be from the hills of their home"

This project was delivered by the Scottish War Poets Partnership Project.

City Art Centre – Fashion Show

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 February at 2.00pm

'An Individual Eye' – Fashion Show

Come and see some spectacular fashion shows by the Fashion and Textile Design students from Edinburgh College. The Textile students are studying all aspects of Fashion and Textile Design and the work of Edwin G Lucas offers perfect inspiration with its strong colour and forms. This collaboration with the City Art Centre and the Edwin G Lucas exhibition is the perfect platform for the students to showcase their creativity through a Fashion Show event. The students will be creating garments and accessories inspired by the Lucas paintings and themes represented in the exhibition. The fashion show really inspires the students to excel and be inspired by visual art and engage in producing high quality work. This is a fantastic chance to see the results! Come and watch them strut their stuff!

Free and drop-in, the Show will take place on the ground floor of the City Art Centre.

Audacious Women Festival

The Audacious Women Festival (21-25 February 2019) returns to the City Art Centre with a packed programme of workshops, conversations and exhibitions. The Festival supports and encourages women to "Do What You Always Wish You Dared". This year's Festival will include written and spoken word, art, sporting events, music and some glorious surprises. Full details available at www.audaciouswomen.scot.

World Culture Cities Forum (WCCF)

Along with 31 other cities delegates from Edinburgh – Lord Provost Frank Ross, Director of Culture Lynne Halfpenny and Ritchie Somerville from the University of Edinburgh’s Data Driven Innovation Programme – attended the WCCF in San Francisco from 14-16 November 2018, to discuss how culture and new technologies are transforming world cities. Air quality in the city was compromised due to smoke from the devastating Californian wild fires being present during the Forum. Notes from the Forum sessions are attached to this bulletin for information.



WCCF Gala Dinner



Gallery of Modern Art, San Francisco

Museum of Childhood – Growing Up a Reader

The Museum of Childhood is currently collaborating with the University of Edinburgh for their Growing Up A Reader research project <http://www.growingupareader.education.ed.ac.uk>. As part of this project, the University will develop the research skills of a group of primary and secondary school students who will collaborate with the University research team. The school student researchers will interview their peers about what they read, why, and what reading means to them. The Museum of Childhood is providing site visits and collections information for primary school pupils, and secondary school pupils in January 2019 and providing access to the Museum’s book collection as a valuable research resource.

Usher Hall Highlights and Forthcoming Events

Usher Hall highlights during November, December and January included:

Grayson Perry: Them and Us? – 8 November 2018

RSNO Søndergård Conducts Poulenc’s Gloria – 9 November 2018

The Forth Awards – 15 November 2018

RSNO at the Movies Varèse Sarabande 40th Anniversary Concert – 16 November 2018

Usher Hall Highlights and Forthcoming Events

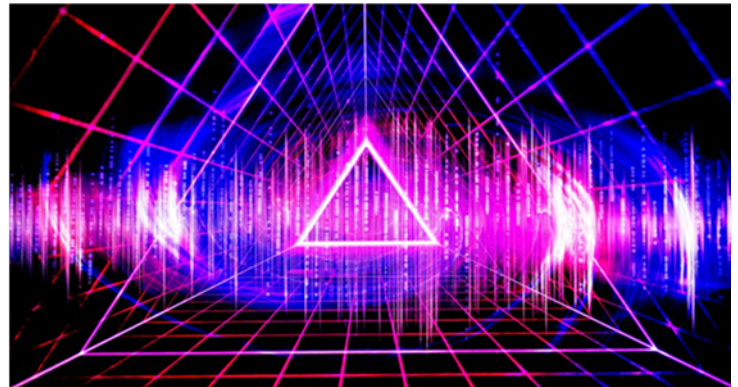
Sunday Classics: War Horse: The Story in Concert – Centenary Concert – 18 November 2018
Björn Again – 21 November 2018
SCO: Beethoven Piano concerto No 4 – 22 November 2018
RSNO Søndergård's Guide to the Orchestra – 23 November 2018
Christine and the Queens – 24 November 2018
BBS Scottish Symphony Orchestra – Debussy's "La Mer" – 25 November 2018
Worbey and Farrell – 29 November 2018
RSNO Anne-Sophie Mutter in Concert – 30 November 2018
The Australian Pink Floyd – 2 December 2018
Emerging Artists: New Antonine Brass – 3 December 2018
Get Organised – 3 December 2018
The Count and The Duke: Basie and Ellington – Scottish National Jazz Orchestra – 6 December 2018
The Osmond's Rockin' Christmas – 7 December 2018
Love Actually Live on Screen – 8 December 2018
Children's Classic Concerts – A Christmas Carol – 9 December 2018
George Heriot's School; A sporting Christmas – 11 December 2018
CLIC Sargent Lothian Hospital Choir Carol Concert – 12 December 2018
Dollar Academy Annual Christmas Concert – 13 December 2018
RSNO Søndergård Conduct The Nutcracker – 14 December 2018
Bootleg Beatles – 15 December 2018
A Christmas Wish – 17 December 2018
James Gillespie's High School Christmas Concert – 18 December 2018
Carols by Candlelight – 19 December 2018
RSNO at the movies Christmas Concert (featuring The Snowman) – 21 December 2018
Glenn Miller Orchestra – 29 December 2018
The Scottish Fiddle Orchestra – Hogmanay Celebration – 30 December 2018
SCO: New Year Gala Concert – 1 January 2019
Edinburgh Royal Choral Union 132nd Annual New Year Messiah – 2 January 2019
The Johann Strauss Gala – 11 January 2019
ELO Again – 19 January 2019

Usher Hall Highlights and Forthcoming Events

Forthcoming Events:

RSNO at the Movies Sci-Fi Spectacular – 25 January 2019

The Force is strong with this one, as conductor Anthony Weeden and presenter Tom Redmond captain the RSNO on a fantastic journey through the most thrilling film music ever inspired by science fiction. From 2001: A Space Odyssey to Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Avatar to Alien and of course Star Wars and Star Trek, it's an adventure beyond time and space. So beam aboard, as we boldly go where no concert has gone before!



Golden Girls – 26 January 2019

Three of the UK's national treasures – musical theatre star Maria Friedman, soprano Lesley Garrett CBE and actor Bonnie Langford – have joined forces for the very first time to record a brand-new album and hit the road for a UK Headline Tour entitled 'Golden Girls'.

Sunday Classics: St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra with Yuri Temirkanov – 27 January 2019

Adored by millions as the soundtrack to classic weepie Brief Encounter, Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto is musical romance at its finest.

Temirkanov closes the concert with Gustav Mahler's lightest, most joyful Symphony – and also his shortest.



Please visit the Usher Hall website for information about other forthcoming shows - [here](#).

Assembly Rooms Highlights and Forthcoming Events

Assembly Rooms highlights during November, December and January included:

Moving Adventures Screening – 8 November 2018

Remembrance Service – 9 November 2018

Neil Oliver: The Story of the British Isles in 100 Places – 16 November 2018

GoldFlair 24K Golden Ball – 23 November 2018

The Gin Lounge Festival – 1 December 2018

3D2D Edinburgh Christmas Craft, Art and Design Fair – 8 and 9 December 2018

Katie Melua and Gori Women's Choir – 13 December 2018

Hogmanay's Snow Ball – 31 December 2018

Forthcoming Events:

Edinburgh Wellbeing Festival -26-27 January 2019

After a hugely successful first year Edinburgh Wellbeing Festival returns to Assembly Rooms on 26 and 27 of January 2019 for another packed weekend of talks, classes and workshops to help us all lead healthier and happier lives. The line-up for the festival includes Carley Rowena, Professor Green, Jack Monroe, Rangan Chatterjee, Haemin Sumin, Julie Montagu, Fiasal Abdala, Hollie Grant, Cat Meegan and more. More information can be found at the Assembly Rooms website – [here](#).



Church Hill Theatre Highlights

Church Hill Theatre highlights during December included:

Balerno Theatre Company – Robin Hood and Babes in the Wood Pantomime – 5-8 December 2018

Edinburgh Peoples Theatre – Little Red Riding Hood Pantomime – 14-22 December 2018

Why don't you trust us?

Why don't you like us?

These are some of the questions posed by children of recent immigrants to Scotland in a series of workshops connected to the City Art Centre's current exhibition '*Another Country: Contemporary artists on Immigration*'. Their questions and drawings have been turned into postcards which are included in the exhibition, and which invite visitors to leave their thoughts. Hundreds have been completed so far. In a unique twist, these answers are then being collated by two artists, Birthe Jorgensen and Alberta Whittle, who are producing a series of small artworks in response, and which are being periodically added to the exhibition. '*Another Country*' has been organised as part of an ongoing series tackling contemporary issues.

'Another Country: Contemporary artists on Immigration' has free admission and runs until 17 March.



Culture and Communities Committee



Convener

Councillor Donald Wilson



Vice-Convener

Councillor Amy Mcneese-Mechan

Members

Councillor Wilson (*Convener*)
Councillor Mcneese-Mechan (*Vice-Convener*)
Councillor Brown
Councillor I Campbell
Councillor Doggart
Councillor Doran
Councillor Howie
Councillor Mitchell
Councillor Osler
Councillor Rae
Councillor Staniforth

Contact

Lynne Halfpenny
Director of Culture
Telephone 0131 529 3657
Andy Gray
*Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning
Communities and Families*
Telephone 0131 529 2217
Jamie Macrae
Committee Services
Telephone 0131 553 8242

World Cities Culture Summit, San Francisco, November 2018
Summary Programme Notes

Wednesday 14 November (morning plenary)

WCCF Opening Plenary: If Technology and culture are the answer, what are the big questions for cities?

The session opened with four speakers from the host city of San Francisco. Each outlined how their organisations are using culture, design and tech to tackle some of the most pressing social issues facing the city. These included:

- changing the mission of an arts centre from an organisation that presents artistic work, to an organisation that is a 'public square', which facilitates participation and is dedicated to producing 'culture that moves people'
- using design and architecture-led interventions to support restorative justice approaches, which seek to take people out of the criminal justice system, via the use of dialogue and peace-making centres, among other interventions
- combining venture capital with a foundation approach to social investing to support media start-ups that aim to produce a culture shift which supports social change
- a Start-up in Residence programme in City Hall that produces tech-supported social innovations which have to date included a suite of digital products that make the process of fostering and adoption much easier

International speakers from Seoul, Helsinki and Montreal reflected on their own city's experiences. They discussed how:

- to support artists and cultural organisations to manage the digital disruption that is happening in their sector
- to support the development of a new generation of artists that have found their space in digital creativity
- citizens also need to be enabled to take advantage of the new forms of creative expression that digital technologies afford
- new technologies should still be used to bring people together in the spaces of the city
- library services have been transformed, which has been an ongoing commitment from the last 30 years, and how this has now evolved to providing access to state-of-the-art digital facilities for making and producing culture, from 'fab lab' capabilities to video editing and music recording
- how technology is creating new opportunities for experiencing culture, such as the live streaming of concerts – and how this changes our physical experience of culture
- citizens need to have a balanced relationship with technology
- we need to be 'in a relationship with technology' able to challenge and question it

Wednesday 14 November (afternoon breakouts)

Breakout 1: Civic Engagement

- San Francisco presented a model to involve the public in decision making about the design of Market Street. The process provided resources for those who typically don't have access to the decision-making process, which provided them with a sense of ownership and empowerment.
- Moscow, Dublin, Melbourne and Vienna presented local examples of civic engagement in decision making in their city, looking at the opportunities and challenges new technologies offer to this process.
- When does civic engagement lead to potential change? Getting the questions right really matters.
- The role of education in teaching children the importance of civic engagement is key.
- Do we wash our hands of decision making by over-democratising via new technologies?
- How do we make sure those who don't have a voice are actually heard?
- What tools do policymakers need to make sure they reach the non-typical participant?
- Who is using online civic engagement tools? How do you effectively communicate about civic engagement platforms to widen the reach and hear new voices. Participatory budgeting and civic engagement present challenges when the same groups of citizens are always involved in this process.
- Cities find that face to face engagement remains a more powerful method for effective civic engagement than digital technologies, especially as a way to reach marginalized communities and those detached from the political process.
- You need to show that you have listened to your constituents to build trust. The online model doesn't always build trust: working locally to build trust remains the best civic engagement model.
- Participants reflected on the need to refine the parameters of citizen-led decisions to manage the public's expectation of what can be achieved.
- We need to manage expectations on civic engagement but also on the potential of culture to solve urban challenges to ensure the bar isn't set too high for what can be delivered.

Breakout 2: Cultural Participation

- Yerba Buena Center for the Arts presented on their activities around what makes a healthy community, considering how arts and creativity can (and should) be integral to help people achieve what they are doing, rather than an add on.
- Edinburgh, Milan, Amsterdam, Shenzhen and LA presented on activities linking new technologies to opportunities for cultural participation.
- Tech can be used as leverage for cultural participation and drive audience engagement, increasing the quantity and quality of the cultural offer.
- Tech can enable efficiencies to help enable cultural participation, such as cutting red tape and consolidating city services.
- Investment in AI, social media and digital first, can create a strategy to guide citizens and visitors through the cultural programming of the city and region.
- Important to address privacy and transparency on social media / AI platforms.
- The session also focussed on the physical aspects of cultural participation, the need to bring people together to address the question of improving access to the arts.
- All of this is fundamentally built on relationships, looking to bring people together to ask better questions.
- We must not lose sight of people when looking at data, which in fact often separates them: the importance of togetherness.

- As the space between people gets bigger we mustn't lose the human element. Data isn't neutral, and we need to manage for bias as our technologies progress.
- What can technology bring for those who don't have access to technology?
- Comments that the physical power of coming together can't be replaced - what is technology's role in enabling this?

Breakout 3: Creativity and Innovation

- Starting off with examples from San Francisco delegates heard from Code & Canvas, a studio space for socially minded start-ups in the arts and tech sectors, while household name Adobe talked about their Artist in Residency programme.
- Tokyo, Paris, Austin and Nanjing shared examples from their cities.
- The juncture between art and technology as a fertile breeding ground for both cultural and business innovation was highlighted, as well as new forms of cultural expression and projects that combine art with science and technology
- In addition to its potential for transforming the way we experience our urban environment and creating new forms of cultural expression, digital technologies are also changing patterns of work in many cities.
- Cities discussed the rise of more flexible, freelance and co-working opportunities, creating requirements for different kinds of work spaces, and in different kinds of places and how municipal governments can support this through co-investment with entrepreneurs.
- New ways to keep young creative and tech entrepreneurs in the city were shared, through supporting innovation spaces and also, unusually, through subsidising their residential accommodation.
- There were different approaches from cities in response to the tech boom, with one responding by supporting and protecting local SME development, so as not to lose the core essence of what makes the city unique.

Thursday 15 November (morning)

Leadership Exchange Programme

The session opened with a brief recap from Tracey Knuckles, Bloomberg, and presentations from four of the nine participating cities (Austin, London, Buenos Aires, Sydney). The key takeaways included:

- Benefit of bringing colleagues from different departments to create advocates for the work we are doing.
- Creating allies in different departments to support culture agendas.
- Helped give host cities a view on their own work.
- Enabled different conversations, gave participating cities a chance to do things they don't normally get to do.
- Gave cities evidence of case studies and best practice.
- Validated work they were doing.

WCCF: Cultural Equity and Diversity

This session, moderated by Anh Thang Dao Shah, highlighted the complexities and different manifestations cultural equity and diversity have in different world cities. However, there were a number of common themes that emerged:

- How can cities do a better job of improving the participation of both groups with specific barriers to accessing cultural opportunities (e.g. people with disabilities), and those with the lowest levels of financial and social capital and / or simply those who are not engaged?
- How can we also ensure that the cultural workforce and cultural institutions themselves do not, in turn, mirror these same uneven patterns of representation and access?
- How can the cultural practices and cultural expressions of diverse and minority groups be better acknowledged, validated and supported within the work of formally-supported cultural institutions, and within the life of our cities more generally?

Related questions /discussions included:

- The importance of knowing what the situation was – surveying current breakdown of cultural organisations to understand how they reflected the communities they serve
- Question of whom are we doing this for - peers? Critics? Or for the happy few? What are our motivations and what are we achieving?
- How to respond to changes in populations asking you to make changes?
- Pressure from communities – how can city governments support these voices?
- Be mindful of poaching board members from smaller institutions who are leading by example, must consider how to protect smaller organisations
- Recognition that there are other measures of equity than those related to race and ethnicity, for some cities it is about existing residents and those newly arrived from rural areas.
- How do cities who are unable to ask questions about their audiences' ethnicity ensure they are addressing imbalances in audiences?
- Importance of education – and bringing in families, how to engage at an early stage
- Recognition that even in cities that have a long history of cultural diversity in their populations, the 'dial hasn't shifted'
- Role of mentorship – who is leading the work?
- How can cities create better trust between migrant populations and themselves?
- Role of artists – we know they are good communicators, what can they do to spread messages?
- Question of rights of migrants and how to support their voices, made more complex in some cities if they don't have the right to vote

It can be uncomfortable work, to check our own biases and re-examine what we hold true, also need to address and recognise historical inequalities. Requires real leadership, especially as in some cases, reaching immigrant communities has become harder due to nationalistic politics – with some communities retreating - 'going back to the shadows'.

Cities shared examples of how they are tackling this, including:

- Requiring funded cultural organisations to submit Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policies
- Including criteria around widening cultural participation and increasing cultural equity in funding agreements with cultural organisations
- Participatory budgeting exercises and co-designing activities to engage citizens, giving people a greater say in the activities programmed for them

The discussion following the panel showed the commitment and passion from our world cities to address this, though the breadth of questions indicated there is no easy fix.

Thursday 15 November (afternoon)

Workshop 1: Culture and Climate Change

The workshop looked at opportunities to mobilise culture and the arts for climate and the environment, looking at different models and applications of culture and technology in this context.

The transition to sustainability also needs to be a 'just' transition and technology must serve people and planet. Culture in this context provides both creative and ethical frameworks.

Speakers included Radhika Fox from the US Water Alliance, who discussed her work bringing together diverse stakeholders to identify and advance common-ground, achievable solutions to the most pressing water challenges in the US. Marilyn Waite from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation discussed her work managing the foundation's grant-making, mobilising private capital investments in low-carbon and climate-friendly energy infrastructure and systems, seeking to redirect finance from high- to low-carbon activities and encourage wiser energy investments.

CyArk presented the organisation's work on heritage preservation in the archaeological complex of Wat Phra Si Sanphet in Ayutthaya, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that was impacted by major flooding in 2011. And Oslo, who since 2015, has put the fight against climate change at the forefront of its agenda. The City has gone as far as to explore radical ideas such as becoming the first European city to ban cars from its centre. Rather than having sources of funding for climate change initiatives across various City departments, Oslo recommends an additional climate budget separate from the overall city budget.

Working together in groups, cities explored opportunities for action in the cultural sector to tackle climate change. The following opportunities were mentioned:

- Create change in tax structure to support climate initiatives (Finland)
- Targets for funding applicants and training for festivals to be more efficient > solar powered festivals in Los Angeles
- No-parking-space experiment at museums and festival sites
- 2011 Japan collected ops data after earthquakes. This learning influenced future emergency planning > ability to check behaviours
- Artists in residence – climate networks
- Car free streets filled up with culture
- Augmented reality app idea: what will my city look like in X years following different climate change scenarios
- Idea: city billboards measuring pollution

Workshop 2: Making Space for Culture

Number of complex problems contributing to the affordability crisis, no one has worked out a fix-all – there is no silver bullet, takes a lot of hard work and innovations. And crucially learning from each other so we're not constantly reinventing the wheel.

Workshop focused on how to move cities into action – shared working document which highlights ten tools which cities use to protect, support and grow creative spaces. WGC and Artscape will be building

on this document giving examples of which cities are using these tools so other cities will know who they can call upon to find out more and expanding the definition of the tools.

Recognised that each city has its own regulatory and cultural landscape, but this toolkit is designed to be adapted / adaptable to meet the needs of each city.

The ten categories of tools were:

1. Planning Gain for Community Benefit
2. Inclusionary Zoning
3. Property Tax Relief
4. The Sale or Re-development of Public Property
5. Faster Approval for Desired Projects
6. Regulatory Reform
7. Creative Placemaking Partnerships
8. Rent Reductions for Renovations
9. Creative Land Trusts
10. Space-Making: Uncovering Latent Supply

- Cities discussed power of procurement to influence developments
- In Stockholm example of setting fixed sales price for land, but having developers bid on cultural and social gains. Other cities flagged that they have moved away from selling assets such as Zurich and Amsterdam.
- Different cities had inclusionary zoning requirements – with some looking at middle income households, and shared equity models. Amsterdam highlighted their ambitious requirements, with 40% social housing, 40% middle income and 20 % high end on every project, while other cities were aiming for 10% social housing – showing the difference in operating environments and developer appetites
- Number of cities (London, Buenos Aires, Toronto) looking at tax reliefs, in US, non-profits orgs are exempt from business tax if they own their building. In Montreal however, artist studios are not ‘non-profit’ because they are counted as autonomous workers and therefore can’t benefit from non-profit tax reliefs.
- Toronto discussed their approach of ‘long leases’ (50 years and a day to support / stabilise organisations), while NYC flagged their licensing of city owned properties to cultural organisations for 1\$ - as a way of supporting cultural orgs, without selling city owned assets.
- Cities considered deed restrictions around property sales – ensuring properties remain non-profit in perpetuity
- Organisations like CAST looking at how to create permanent long-term art spaces, ‘patient capital’ both in terms of money and time – CounterPulse took five years from the idea first occurring to development.
- Austin is partnering with many non-traditional spaces – matched 16 local based cultural groups with faith-based groups to use spaces in new ways.
- London (and SF) flagged importance of mapping the assets we have – need to understand the ecosystem to understand what is at risk, what is flourishing and how to support it.

Friday 16 November (morning)

WCCF Public Session: Cities, Culture and Technology – what does the future hold?

This public session, Chaired by Justine Simons OBE, Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Mayor of London's Office and Chair, World Cities Culture Forum, featured David Pescovitz from Institute of the Future, Lori Martin, Senior Cultural Affairs Officer, Economic Development & Culture, City of Toronto, Polly Alakija, Chair, Lagos State Board of Arts and Culture, Steve Ayorinde, Honourable Commissioner for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Lagos State Government and Catarina Vaz Pinto, Deputy Mayor for Culture, Municipality of Lisbon.

- Artists are usually great at helping to forecast the future because they often ask questions that we haven't asked yet, and they use technology for uses that it isn't usually put to.
- David Pescovitz briefly outlined a clutch of technologies and applications coming down stream that have the potential to significantly affect both our urban experience, and how we manage and develop policies for our cities.
- David Pescovitz highlighted that 'systems thinking' opportunities lie ahead – as the city becomes more interconnected we will be able to treat the city as an organism.
- Sidewalk Labs, a project in Toronto, is attempting to bridge the gap between urban planning and technology – but the city is keen to emphasize that it wants "data enhanced not data-controlled environments".
- Cities discussed how companies do not take part in urban projects because they are altruistic, but because they generate data.
- Importance of both empowering people with technology but also to empower them to have critical thinking in relation to technology.
- Are cities prepared / do they have the tools to control the present and future?
- Questions were raised around the isolation and division that digital technology and social media (particularly in the west) fuels.
- In other cities, such as Lagos, tech sector is flourishing but it is the physical infrastructure that is struggling.
- Cities discussed how demographics came in to play, in Lagos, 65% of their population are under 35 – high demand for digital experiences and products, but how does this sit with physical demands of the city?
- Agency of cities and their ability to negotiate with major tech companies was flagged, with need for cities to negotiate their position and come away with what they want and not to underestimate their power.