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12th September 2025

The Nineveh Charitable Trust
Park Farm,
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Dear Trustees of The Nineveh Charitable Trust,

I am writing to thank you for your generous donation of £2,500 towards the Stomping Ground Project. Your contribution made it possible to engage 60 disadvantaged children in a six-month arts and education project. Across half a year, children worked with professional musicians, visual artists, historians, conservationists and cinematographers to produce two multi-media art-films.

Stomping Ground (SG) brought together secondary school children from North Tyneside and Northumberland to work with one another alongside our team of professional practitioners, to explore the history and heritage of the place they call home. Working together, children took charge of creative decisions, to research, write, perform, animate, film and produce their very own films.

Our team of professional practitioners developed and delivered bespoke workshops that responded to the needs of participating children, engaging them in various activities including music composition and performance, audio recording and sound editing, digital production and editing, historical research, creative script writing and story telling, animation and various visual art mediums.

To gain inspiration, children attended day trips to the Sunderland National Glass Centre to design and create their own glass sculptures, Newcastle Theatre Royal to engage in a behind-the-scenes and backstage tour, as well as drama workshops with actors, and the Saltholme RSPB Nature Reserve to explore the natural landscape, learn about native species and interview conservationists.

The finished films were shared at a free premiere screening event, held at Tyneside Cinema, an accessible, independent cinema in the centre of Newcastle. This event was a great success, as tickets fully sold out, and friends, family and members of the wider community filled the cinema to celebrate the incredible work our children produced.

We devised three main outcomes for which to evaluate SG together with participating children, professional practitioners and school staff. These were the aims, and the outcomes achieved:

1. c.60 disadvantaged children will participate in the project to develop their own film.

60 disadvantaged children took part in SG, and successfully worked collaboratively with each other, alongside a team of professionals, to develop their own two films. All participating children were selected by their school as those who would most benefit from participation in SG, who were identified as having Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Social Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH), are from disadvantaged backgrounds (Pupil Premium Grant, PPG / Free School Meals, FSM), or are Looked After Children (LAC).

2. We will deliver 44 creative workshops including art, music and drama, that will concretely develop skills like resilience, teamwork, communication and organisation.

We delivered 48 creative workshops including art, music and drama. These workshops featured activities such as glass sculpture making, sculptural mask-making and painting, stop-frame animation, theatre performance, script writing, music composition and performance, sound recording and editing. Children were involved in both independent and group activities, that enabled them to develop effective teamwork and collaborative ability. Working alongside experienced practitioners in professional settings and to industry standards successfully boosted children's confidence and self-esteem. We delivered an additional 4 workshops in the final month in the lead up to the final film edits and screening, in order to enable children to finalise pieces of work, as well as watch, review and edit their films in a process that mirrored real industry practice.

3. Participating children, friends, family, school staff and members of the community will be invited to attend the premiere of the film at a free screening event in July 2025.

The final premiere of the film was fully booked, and well attended by friends, family, school staff and members of the community, who all attended for free. One parent commented that their daughters "have grown in confidence and both have been able to do something which has been igniting the flame inside them since they started working with Hand Of".

We have gathered feedback from participants, participating school staff, and audience members:

Participants:

A says they used to feel "nervous and scared", but they now feel "more confident in speaking in front of people".

F says their most memorable moment from the project is "enjoying my time with the staff and my friends, this is memorable to me because I have really enjoyed my time throughout the six months as the people are really nice"

J says "I have discovered filming is enjoyable and more people should do it. This has been really memorable, thank you!".

- 97% of participating children rated their experience of SG as an 8/10 or higher, when comparing their experience of education on project workshops to their normal learning at school. (55% of these students rated their experience as 10/10).
- 76% of children felt more confident after participating in the project.
- 76% of children felt their team working ability had improved.
- 90% of children want to partake in another Hand Of project.

School staff:

Staff from one of our partner schools says: I "absolutely would encourage our students [to partake] in this project again. I love watching the participants take ownership of the project and chuck themselves into tasks even if they don't fully know what the outcome will be. Becoming brave and realising they are creative"

We are "very impressed with how much wonderful work has been made by the group"

Audience members:

"This kind of work is needed to inspire younger people and give them the opportunity to experience art, because it MUST be experienced! - Well done"

"Provided my daughter with a chance to express herself"

"Keep up your vital work, it's clear the impact you make on local young people"

"What an amazing experience for the students and how enthusiastically they have approached this opportunity"

- 84% of audience members of whom had a child of theirs participate in SG reported that the project significantly benefited their child. 100% of audience members reported SG benefited their child, with 84% rating this as highly beneficial.

Please see below some photos from the project, as well as from the film screening premiere.*

*Please contact us before using any of the images.

Sincerely yours,



Millie Avis

Development Coordinator

Photo Documentation of the Stomping Ground Project and Premiere Film Screening









