

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	The Ark T Centre
Date of TFN event which you pitched at?	17/05/18
Name of the project TFN funded:	ROAR Festival 2018
Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>Ark-T wanted to see young disabled people excited and inspired to engage with the arts and to experience a sense of belonging. We received 513 young people and families over the 2 day festival this year and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, particularly in describing the positive and uplifting atmosphere of the festival.</p> <p>We successfully invested £1000 into workshops with the ROARSOMES to produce merchandise for the festival which raised £400.</p> <p>60 families attended yoga and/or received a basic hand and head massage with all receiving a take home booklet which the therapists all contributed their guidance, advice and tips too. We had large quantities of these booklets handed out over the 2 days, so that attendees could incorporate wellbeing techniques into their own lives. Please see photos attached of a family member looking blissed out and receiving a massage and a young participant receiving a hair and beauty session.</p> <p>We said that we wanted the festival to succeed in challenging stigma and wider communities attitudes towards the role of disabled people in society. We believe we achieved this through inviting the wider public to see the artwork produced by the young people during the holidays which was funded by TFN money. The following quotes further testifies to the shift in attitude which some festival members experienced. "Roar has changed my views of disabled people by giving me a deeper understanding." and "I'm so impressed with peoples abilities not their disabilities."</p> <p>We said £1500 would fund 2 artists to work with up to 30 young people each from 2 of the partners involved in the festival. We successfully engaged with 2 organisations to produce artwork for the festival exhibition and the resulting exhibition was praised for its bold and beautiful presentation. Let's Play Banbury who work with physically disabled children were supported by artist Su Frizzell to produce self-portraits. Artist The Big Orange M worked with Bardwell Breaks to produce a 7 foot tree installation.</p> <p>We said we would work to develop the leadership of the ROARSomes to enable young disabled adults increased influence and decision-making powers.</p> <p>Each member of the Roarsome was given one to two, 1 hour shifts on festival welcome desk alongside a festival volunteer.</p>

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	<p>-Roarsomes spoke to and welcomed those entering the festival</p> <p>-Roarsomes collected tickets gave out programs, counted numbers and answered questions at the welcome desk, with the support of a festival volunteer.</p> <p>Since this, the Old Fire Station have contacted us to ask for advice on how to involve young people like we did with the roarsomes as they looked so comfortable, involved and 'at home' at roarfest at the Ark-t centre.</p> <p>The Roarsomes volunteered to pick up roles throughout the day such as collecting feedback through forms on an Ipad, and collecting money in Roar donation buckets.</p> <p>Overall they engaged very well with the festival attendees, and all got involved in the different workshops on offer, some had massages, all of them enjoyed the Karaoke.</p> <p>Other Quotes taken from Feedback:</p> <p>"Amazing bunch, never ceases to inspire."</p> <p>"After today, I am inspired to get Involved with Cowley Road Carnival and go to see a show or exhibition at Arts at the Old Fire Station." - Attendee</p> <p>"Congrats on an amazing two days, it was so much fun to be there on Friday. Such a special thing to see so many happy people, having a great time, their voices heard, and talents showcased." - Rupert Da Silva, Director of KEEN (disability charity)</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	45%
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	500
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	600
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	Yes
If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?	We were able to attract a further £1000 from Oxford City Council and £3000 from an Oxford University Fund
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	No
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding

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objectives?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	I was particularly impressed with the quality of communication from the staff members at TFN. All queries were dealt with promptly and professionally. The experience was exciting and a challenge for charities to encourage stakeholders to immerse themselves in live crowdfunding. Overall it was a positive experience but did require a significant amount of time in preparation. On reflection it may have been useful to have given an approximation for the work involved in terms of prepping presentation and building up momentum with invited guests. Very much worth it nonetheless!
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	<p>The impact on the young adults who developed as leaders was profound. One of the ROARSOMES, an adult with autism and struggling with mental health as a result of experiencing extreme bullying at school participated in a dance performance at ROAR festival and sang her own song as well as taking on various leadership tasks throughout the two days of ROAR Her dad came to the festival and was interviewed by the BBC who attended the festival and admitted to being moved to tears at seeing his daughter transformed and most importantly respected and appreciated by a large audience.</p> <p>We also saw a mother who attended with her extremely mentally ill son on both days after he felt that it was a safe space for him to come to after being virtually house bound for months. These stories we believe are testament to the inclusive atmosphere and uplifting spirit of the festival. The wellbeing area was booked out very quickly and was a high impact investment as an estimated 60 people received a treatment. I spoke (the director) to two teenage boys, from local learning disability charity Yellow Submarine, about their experience. They had each had a relaxation head, neck and shoulders massage which they had never experienced before. They were grinning and said they loved it and would definitely have one again.</p>