

BCP CULTURAL COLLECTIVE

APPENDIX 2

Q12. What would you like to see emerge from this Covid experience in terms of the cultural ecology of BCP?

Responses fall under the following key categories and include sample comments from the completed surveys:

COLLABORATION

- More collaboration. More sharing. Even more working side-by-side to demonstrate the importance of the arts in our society. Better arts provision in education for all.
- Priority in supporting those organisations both from a financial sustainability point of view and networking/collaborations.”
- Closer links between galleries/libraries/museums.
- More unity in thinking
- Artists make the work, artists are freelancers, therefore freelancers need specific and urgent support. Going forward they need to be involved in decision making processes and collaborate with managers/producers to guide the direction together
- Better communication between organisations, it is so fragmented and so little co-operation – the future is going to be so challenging there needs to be smarter thinking – but we are still so defensive of our patch and funding.
- More recognition and value placed on artists and smaller arts organisations
- Artists to be on boards of large cultural organisations paid for one day. This would create a strong community where artists are valued and have a place at the table to influence. This should be on a changing artist system to allow more voices to be heard.

FINANCE/INVESTMENT

- Much more funding in kickstarting back up this industry to happen for us!
- More financial support for performance places and spaces, and artist opportunities within these places, that allow cross disciplinary work to continue to take place.
- Develop a full Green Book case BCP, HEI's, LEP, ACE, Cultural Organisations, Media, Digital economy for direct funding to stabilise and invest in Creative Industry Economy.
- Collaborate on designated 'cultural regeneration' bids to Big Lottery
- Invest in flagship Arts Centre, Gallery, Museum and Enterprise Quarters
- Where possible offer financial incentives and discounts for creatives to live and work in the city centre (shopping district) locations
- Recognition that cultural activity is key to our identity and key to our local economy. • Financial and strategic support for the creative industries at the highest levels. Development of a long term cultural strategy for the region.

VENUES/SPACE

- Contemporary Art Pop up events in empty buildings in Bournemouth / screenings / talks / seminars / exhibitions / sonic events
- Support for both public and private spaces where music, art and performance etc. take place availability of affordable rehearsal and creative spaces too.
- Give support to artists. This doesn't always need to be financial. They need space, and they need a voice and they need help with viability and platforms on which to be celebrated.
- Creation of a network of smaller outdoor and indoor venues (Maybe adjacent to railway stations)

HEALTH AND MENTAL WELLBEING

- That Mental Wellbeing is at the top of the agenda and more focus is put on people
- Stronger partnerships, full comprehension of the importance that culture has in people's lives for their livelihoods, health, wellbeing, creativity and expression.
- The arts are the perfect tool to draw us back to our collective humanity and give voice to our frustrations as well as our sense of awe and wonder.
- Awareness of the arts for wellbeing

BCP COUNCIL

- More support for music, arts and culture from BCP council
- A review of how event organisers and BCP can work together in order to promote, support and improve events.
- More established links and support between BCP, educational establishments and performance venues.
- Enable pop up economy – populate empty shops (increase footfall/audience development)

INTERESTING OVERARCHING COMMENT:

“I would like – but do not expect – things to go back to where we were in, say, December 2019, with good work attracting good audiences and with a decent margin to cover normal risks. From where we are now, I hope BCP Council will be able to sustain infrastructure on which the ecology is built. That includes strengthening the ties between the creative workers and the support they need in terms of supplies and outlets. But the ecology won't be sustained without audiences for the work and the energy that comes from connections to the larger world of the arts – so, touring shows, the ability of local artists to exhibit and perform in other locations, and the venues that bring them and their audiences together.”