

ArtRoots Funding in Scotland

Kasia Jackowska, Network Development Officer, Engagement



“Art is essential to the enjoyment of public spaces and placemaking, encouraging more people in Scotland to travel actively”

JOHN LAUDER, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SUSTRANS

ArtRoots Fund

- NCN and PfE
- ArtRoots offers grants up to £6,000 to enable communities to produce art projects
- Community-led art projects can enhance neighbourhoods and encourage more people to explore their local areas by walking, wheeling and cycling.
- ArtRoots inspires communities to shape their local environment by making traffic-free routes more attractive and accessible for everyone.



Tragic O'Hara painting a mural in Ardrossan, July 2023. ArtRoots for PfE

ArtRoots Fund

- The fund also supports projects led by organisations and individuals who can demonstrate strong community involvement, consultation and engagement.
- Previous ArtRoots-supported projects include:
 - Temporary installations
 - Performances and events
 - Sculptures
 - Heritage signs and information boards
 - Murals.



Positive Imaginings by Rowanbank
Education 2023

What makes a successful ArtRoots project?

- A successful ArtRoots project will:
 - Put the power of creative change into the hands of the community
 - Raise awareness of active travel benefits and local traffic-free National Cycle Network routes for everyone to use
 - Demonstrate strong knowledge of the local area and what artistic contribution could make the best improvement to the environment
 - Make traffic-free National Cycle Network routes and PfE areas more enjoyable and attractive places to explore
 - Encourage and build confidence in local communities to use active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) to visit or experience the project.



**Dundee City and Harbour Community Council
Whale mural by Adam Millroy**



Colinton Tunnel

“ArtRoots serves a really valuable function in encouraging art in public spaces”

Mike Scott, Chairman, Colinton Tunnel

The creation of good public artwork provides real opportunities for community engagement and involvement. In our case, that community engagement was recognised with a major award from the Association for Heritage Interpretation. The real benefit, though, is that extensive community engagement helps to protect the artwork, because the community has a sense of ownership. Similarly, it is well documented that public space art helps to deter “taggers”, i.e. casual graffiti artists, who are known to respect good artwork.



A dark and scary tunnel transformed, 2020



ArtRoots educational projects

"The Circus...was the highlight of my year to date. Hundreds of faces, of all ages, races and backgrounds, watched wide-eyed and spell-bound at arboreal antics that stretched the imagination to the full and broke-down all barriers between culture, nature and creativity."

Asylum seeker – participant of the ArtRoots project by Rowanbank Environmental Arts & Education



6 October, Edinburgh



Thank you!

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