

The Giant Supporter's Club – flying the flag for children's arts

About Giant

Giant's vision is to create inspiring, curious and unexpected arts experiences for children under 12 and their families.

Our artistic aims are:

- To commission new artists to create new work for and with children
- To create platforms for local and international artists to collaborate with children
- To explore the possibilities and invention within a multi-art form approach to provide children with the richest arts experience
- To ensure that our work is accessible and reaches the hardest to reach children
- To challenge our peers and communities to celebrate and value children as artists
- To be rigorous in producing the highest standard of work



My son has come out of his dark world into the light and it is a joy to see he is happy, and loves what he does, time to be himself which he didn't have before Giant

About The Giant Supporter's Club

The Giant Supporter's Club is a new way for individuals to support exciting arts opportunities for children in Scotland. Traditionally our funding has come from public spending and charitable trusts and foundations. In 2009 our funding situation changed and we have been looking at how best to develop a secure funding base for the future.

At a Giant event or project, children and their families:

- *have a great time*
- *get introduced to new experiences*
- *learn new skills*
- *meet new friends*

In the past we have received individual donations in relation to small campaigns. Now we want to develop this into an annual programme.

This new club helps us to plan our work more easily as we know there is a guaranteed amount of money being received on an annual basis.

We don't have a glitzy venue for corporate parties or a shop with lovely things to offer discounts on. Instead of offering a complex range of benefits in return for a donation we would like to develop a more straightforward arrangement. You offer a donation you can afford and we deliver a brilliant programme of work to children and families which we keep in touch with you about and offer advance information on ticket sales.

I have 2 sons, my oldest has autism which includes difficulties socially and imaginatively. From the start the staff have shown a readiness to understand his needs and engage him in all sorts of visual, tactile and even foodie stimulation, helping him to express himself confidently. My youngest son is full of mischief and curiosity about the world and again the staff demonstrate their energy and humour working with him. Brilliant, Giant is an inspiration to us all.

What kind of team is Giant?

Our programme is delivered by a core staff of three and a huge support team of artists. Together we deliver across four strands of work:

Curious Events

Family events which are unexpected and often hidden in unusual locations in Glasgow and beyond. They can be immediate and short lived and may involve performance, music, dance and making. Artists are asked to respond to the location and each other, with participation from families.

For example: A Curious Valentine, families receive clues taking them on love heart trail in the city. Following valentine rhymes they will discover the resting place of St Valentine himself, experience the glamour of ball room dancing and indulge in the perfect Valentine's chocolate experience.

Sites Specific

Sites Specific is work made for a specific space, place, location or community group. The work is generated through research and interpretation of the site's unique characteristics and topographies, whether architectural, historical, social and/or environmental; discovering the hidden meaning in a space and developing methods to amplify it. This may also be done through commissioning e.g. music created by a local composer especially for the site.

For example: Touch the Skies, a programme of work in Sighthill, Glasgow working with children and the community to create a celebratory publication. The groups have worked with visual artists, a photographer, designer and writer to create stories and images from the area. A Market Day was held to gift artworks to the community in exchange for story or secret.

No Fixed Abode

Creating work that has the potential to expand and travel and has longevity. The work may be created in collaboration with another company and develop to have international connections. It might be virtual or very much in reality.

For example: Little House, nursery age children join a visual artist and performer to transform the abandoned drab space into a rich, multi-sensory environment.

Artist's Opportunities

This area of work is represented through a wide range of support and development for artists. By supporting artists through residencies, networks and training we can ensure that the work we produce for and with children is artistically challenging and exciting.

For example: artist's residencies allowing space and time for artists to develop new ideas for working for and with children as part of their own work.