



WELCOME

In a year which saw the exciting development of both our Artistic and Creative Engagement programmes, we have been delighted to see our reach stretch from our communities at home through to artists across the planet. We are proud to be local, proud to be national and proud to be international.

Our contemporary circus and theatre programme on stage welcomed visits from six countries including Australia, Germany and Finland, as well as presenting a thriving children's theatre programme for families.

Our second full year in our newly redeveloped building saw an increase in events and classes and thousands coming through our doors whether to see a show, relax and eat in our wonderful cafe, A La Mesa, or access our Warm Welcome offer during the wintery months.

Jacksons Lane's work across our home borough of Haringey stretched from social circus for young people and children to creative brunches for older adults, not forgetting our annual Christmas Day event which supported over 300 people this year with the help of 121 dedicated volunteers.

We shared site-specific circus performances both outdoors in Tottenham for North London Lates and in the grand setting of Alexandra Palace for Haringey Feast. Our Youth Circus programme expanded into our neighbouring borough Barnet, and we launched a brand new Circus in Schools initiative delivering free circus workshops and teacher training across Haringey.

We are so grateful for the continued, invaluable support of our community: from signing up as Supporters and Friends to making donations at Christmas, from supporting our free ticket schemes and contributing to our wall of kindness to promoting and championing our work. We truly could not create the impact we do without you.

Adrian Berry

Artistic Director & Joint CEO

Hannah Cox

Executive Director & Joint CEO

"IS THERE A WORD FOR LOVE AN AUDIENCE CAN FEEL TOWARDS TWO CIRCUS PERFORMERS? F NOT. THERE OUGHT

TO BE

The Guardian on Nikki & JD's Knot



ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Jacksons Lane's artistic programme continued its focus on high quality, diverse contemporary circus and visual theatre which played to packed houses throughout the year.

We supported and presented Legal Aliens, the pioneering company made up of Asylum Seekers and Migrant artists with the ensemble production Ali in Wonder (Eng)land. Performance artist Eloina took up residency for several weeks to further develop and sell out two nights of the critically acclaimed High Steaks which toured the country and was a huge hit in Edinburgh. We helped to grow our national circus sector by supporting 17 new works most of which went on to tour the UK. Live Art & circus performer Laura Murphy returned with our co-production Contra, also spending time in our theatre developing "daring, dynamic, and destructive" A Spectacle of Herself which we presented as the London premiere (The Scotsman).

We presented outdoor & site-specific circus around Haringey and North London, including performances from Associate Artists Brainfools at Highgate's Fair In the Square, Haringey Feast at Alexandra Palace, and North London Lates in Tottenham.

We hosted 26 artists with our Associate Artists Scratch & Cabaret Nights, featuring exciting new work in development from diverse artists, including Zaki Musa's sellout Queer Euphoria cabaret. These nights gave a glimpse into the future of new work by the artists of tomorrow with Jacksons Lane's support, along with a miniscratch season from five companies with accessibly-priced tickets. Our supported artists Nikki & JD presented all three of their works in Nikki and JD Fest - a real highlight of our year.

CIRCUS & THEATRE PRODUCTIONS HOSTED

95 TOTAL PERFORMANCES

TOURING PRODUCTIONS

162 ARTISTS PRESENTED & SUPPORTED



ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

Jacksons Lane supported over 80 artists with space, time, mentoring and advice to develop new work in our building, across our five studios and in our theatre as part of *Transmission*, our Summer residency programme that provided over 500 free tickets for work-in-progress performances. We supported artists including Livia Kojo Alour, Maisy Luk, Zaki Musa and Laura Murphy, working across a range of circus disciplines and themes. Brand new work in our season included sold out performances by Orange Skies with *Space Junk* and Chivaree Circus with *Open BETA*. We also welcomed a Finnish circus residency & performance with Rosa Marie Autio and the acclaimed clown director Jenni Kallo. Our support will ensure the national and international circus sector develops further into 2025 with new touring work.

"Truthfully we couldn't have done what we do, or be where we are today, without Jacksons Lane" - Mark Morreau & Natalie Reckert, 2023 Residency

We welcomed 50 young graduates from National Centre for Circus Arts and Circomedia for their Ensemble performances, also supporting students with talks, tours and mentoring for their future careers. Many previous graduates also made their Jacksons Lane debuts with performances in our circus scratch and cabaret nights.

1,620 IN-KIND HOURS OF ARTIST SPACE

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCIES

510 FREE TICKETS FOR SHARING

ARTIST WORK-IN-PROGRESS PERFORMANCES



WORKING INTERNATIONALLY

This year Jacksons Lane hosted and supported artists from Australia, Finland, France, USA, Germany and Holland. Our Dutch Circus Showcase *This Is Not a Circus* collaboration with TENT saw a week of artists showcase their work in our theatre and in the grand setting of Studio 1 to thrilled audiences, the astonishing *Sawdust Symphony* being a major highlight. Our Finnish partnership has developed further with residencies and three productions, including Kallo Collective's only UK performance of *Only Bones v1.9* with the continued support of The Finnish Institute in the UK and Ireland, as well as supporting the Finnish artists Jam Shenanigans to present their UK premiere. Finnish tightwire superstar Hanna Moisala also made a welcome return to Jacksons Lane with Lumo Company's beautifully balanced *Fineline*. Meanwhile, Berlin's Still Hungry spent a week developing their new work, *Show Pony*, with direction from Bryony Kimmings, premiering it later in March. New partnerships began with producers and artists in Lithuania and Estonia which will materialise in 2025.

We collaborated with Bristol Circus City and The Lowry in Salford to bring the highly acclaimed Overhead Project from Berlin to the UK with What Is Left, a beautiful ensemble acrobatic work. "Again and again, the actors spiral into the air with amazing body control, one holding, carrying or hyping the other" — Reutlinger General-Anzeiger

We had representation at circus festivals and showcases in Rotterdam, Montreal, Helsinki and Edinburgh, also beginning relationships for the future with Quebec and Taiwan at these festivals, meeting international artists and forging new partnerships with venues and producers all over the world. Jacksons Lane's international programme continues to grow and flourish.

75 INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS PRESENTED & SUPPORTED

19 INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES

1,619 AUDIENCE MEMBERS



THEATRE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Our work for younger audiences continued to thrive with weekend, half term and Christmas productions on our stage. We welcomed visits from Australia's Arc Circus with the uniquely brilliant *A Bee Story* as well as fellow Antipodeans *Splash Test Dummies*, plus a first visit for Flock Theatre in half term with ten popular performances of the much-loved book *There's a Tiger In the Garden*. Children and grown-ups adored LAS Theatre's *The Littlest Yak* and the return of Practically Perfect Pictures with *The Museum of Marvellous Things* to two sold out performances. Finland's Jam Shenanigans wowed us with their retro juggling spectacular and Morgan and West rounded off the season with packed houses for their truly magnificent *The Massive Magic Show for Kids*.

Christmas saw us produce for the third year running with a contemporary take on *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, combining astonishing circus with comedy and a clever twist on the original tale with almost 50 performances loved by all ages. Our Pay It Forward scheme ensured 650 Haringey residents could attend the theatre for free across the borough. Our family programme this year was wide-reaching, diverse and extremely popular!

"Kids and their families will get a buzzy buzz out of this delightful, gravity-defying circus show celebrating the amazing talents, resourcefulness and resilience of bees." - Auckland Arts Festival, Australia on Arc Circus's A Bee Story

650 FREE TICKETS

FAMILY WEEKEND & HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES

48 CHRISTMAS SHOW PERFORMANCES

ARTISTS PRESENTED

8,750 AUDIENCE MEMBERS



CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT: OLDER ADULTS

Our work with older adults provides a quality-led experience for our 50+ community, with the mission of improving participant wellbeing in innovative and exciting ways. We know that it is never too late to engage with the arts, and presenting our older community with opportunities to get creative, to socialise and to access physical exercise has shown great results.

Our social events for those 50+ combine these elements around a delicious meal and a wide variety of inspiring performances, to provide unforgettable moments of togetherness. Whether onsite at Jacksons Lane with our longstanding Social Lunch or offsite with the legendary Broadway Brunches, our talented performers dazzle and delight and always get our participants up on their feet and dancing.

Our physical activity programme has proved particularly popular, with Seated Yoga providing a gentle but effective weekly stretch, and Caribbean Dance getting our muscles moving and our minds in check as we provide important historical content to the dance routines we learn. It has been fantastic to see participants experience the benefits of these classes over time, from improving aches and pains felt in the body, to memory retention.

We are incredibly proud of the variety of activities we have provided across the year, designed in collaboration with our older community. Our studios have been transformed into wreath-making workshops decked out with materials foraged from Highgate Wood, a choir for all abilities and into a therapeutic collaging and free-writing space. Our partnership with The Reader continues to thrive, with shared reading sessions encouraging powerful discussions about 120 works of literature in the past year.

187 PARTICIPANTS

QQ EVENTS



CHRISTMAS DAY AT JACKSONS LANE

A project going back as far as Jacksons Lane's beginnings as a community centre, Christmas Day has remained a flagship moment: a culmination of the warmth, welcome and focus on wellbeing that runs through our wider outreach programme throughout the year. As we approach our 50th year, we continue to open our doors to isolated older adults on the 25th December, in a day run for the community and by the community. This two-pronged operation is almost entirely volunteer-led, and our reach has increased each year. In 2023 we extended 104 invitations to our sumptuous Christmas event and provided 214 beautiful food hampers, hand-delivered to isolated adults across our borough.

This Christmas Day was a beautifully curated celebration in our newly refurbished and accessible building, with a three-course meal served by our in-house café A La Mesa, and a fun and varied lineup of entertainment. While some have been guests at Jacksons Lane for decades, others experienced the space for the first time. 90% of our guests are Haringey residents, and it is wonderful to watch connections blossom between neighbours as they enjoy Christmas Day together.

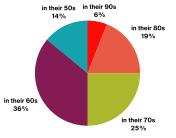
Our Christmas Day project would not be possible without our volunteers and supporters. This year 121 extraordinary volunteers joined us to prepare food, wrap gifts, make deliveries, collect guests, decorate the space and entertain our guests on the day, while 16 local businesses provided vital in kind donations of food and gifts.

This year's event featured in <u>Haringey Community Press</u>, with photos of the event shared in <u>Reuters</u>, <u>Washington Post</u> and <u>Gulf Times</u> depicting Christmas experiences around the world.

318

PARTICIPANTS

40% IDENTIFIED ACCESS



Organising an event on this scale takes a huge amount of labour. In the lead up, we sent 300 letters, made 945 phone calls, and sent thousands of emails to ensure guests and volunteers knew exactly what was happening.

Thank you to our many supporters who raised £19,480 though the Big Give Christmas Challenge and a further £14,720 through website donations, bucket collections and generous support from Trusts and Foundations.



CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT: YOUNG PEOPLE

Now in its eleventh year, our Youth Circus Programme continues to enhance skill development, resilience, confidence and the making of long-lasting friendships for young people aged 4 to 18 across the borough. Our offer extends to the provision of enrichment opportunities, masterclasses and workshops during the school holidays.

In addition to our youth work in the east of Haringey, we were delighted to launch a new Youth Circus in our neighbouring borough of Barnet thanks to a new partnership with OneStonegrove and funding from the John Lyon's Charity.

The hard work of our young participants across Haringey and Barnet culminated in an exciting and dynamic showcase performance on the professional circus stage here at Jacksons Lane. We were wowed by over 45 performers sharing their skills, from juggling to hula hooping to poi and acrobatics, to a packed audience of friends, family and community members.

Across the year we have developed a new methodology, giving participants increased ownership across the programme. Our Youth Board meets regularly to cocreate new opportunities. They took a vital leadership role in designing and delivering our annual Youth Circus showcase and collaborated with professional circus group Brainfools to create an original performance piece for a cast aged 6-15 as part of 'Haringey Feast' with a performance at Alexandra Palace. These experiences were enriched by trips to watch professional circus companies including Cirque du Soleil and our very own Christmas production, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff.*

Participants showcased their skills alongside other talented young people at Alexandra Palace and as part of the Haringey Youth Festival. An invitation to a National Youth Circus Event at National Centre for Circus Arts was extended to four participants, who jumped at the opportunity to try out new circus skills and meet other youth circus groups nationwide.

277 YOUNG PEOPLE

587 PARTICIPANTS AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

YOUTH BOARD MEMBERS

5,208 PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

We have continued to collaborate on local initiatives, working with the Haringey GP Federation to provide 2 terms of weekly fitness classes as part of the Children Weight Management Programme, as well as offering Circus Skills workshops to the community during Alexandra Palace's 150th anniversary celebrations, at the Triangle centre, at Trove Market in Tottenham and as part of community celebrations at OneStonegrove.



CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT: SCHOOLS

We are incredibly proud to be a lead partner on Haringey Creates, the Cultural Education Partnership for Haringey. This year we were successful in helping secure £191k of funding from Arts Council England towards 'Creative and Cultural Pathways for Haringey'. In partnership with schools across the borough, this project will deliver a bold cultural education programme between 2024 and 2026.

In May 2023, we worked with our youth board to deliver a community day full of gentle circus and sensory activities to bring together our Youth Circus and students from The Vale School, a community school for young people with special educational needs.

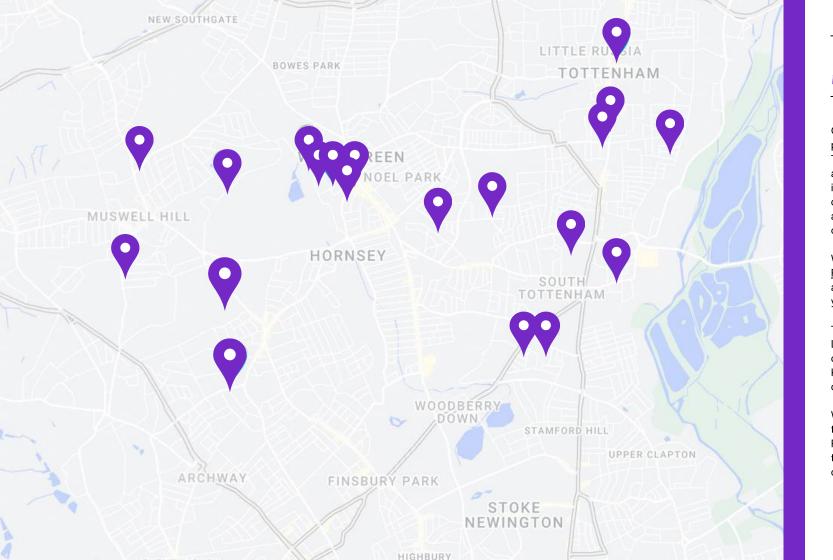
We were excited to launch our new 'Circus in Schools' programme, supported by Go! London, a partnership between the Mayor of London, London Marathon Foundation and Sport England, which will develop circus, wellbeing and employability skills in schools across Haringey over the next 3 years. Our first partner was Harris Academy Coleraine Park, with additional taster workshops run in Alexandra Primary School and Heartlands High School. This project will provide lasting impact and legacy by investing in circus equipment for each partner school, providing teacher training, and embedding school partnerships within our work.

We are passionate in our support of the next generation's creatives and cultural leaders. This year we provided week-long placement opportunities to students from The Archer Academy, St Michael's Catholic Grammar School, Copthall School for Girls and St Aloysius College, supporting local young people to explore creative careers and discover how an organisation like ours runs day-to-day. We have provided student volunteering opportunities, career-focused talks and workshops and are proud to employ a number of our young participants as paid assistants on our holiday projects, supporting them to establish their first step into the world of

work.

SCHOOLS

PARTICIPANTS



A COMMUNITY HUB FOR HARINGEY

Our work as a community and cultural hub for Haringey continues to grow, with programmes and activities reaching audiences and participants across the borough. This year we worked in 22 sites in Haringey including schools, community spaces and housing schemes, provided free circus workshops and performances at many inspiring Haringey events. At Jacksons Lane we hosted 42 weekly classes and courses, welcoming over 11,000 class-goers and supporting many local practitioners and businesses to thrive, as well as running 4 sold-out holiday Circus Camps for over 80 young people.

We were delighted to commemorate one of our founders, Nicky Gavron, with a new <u>Pink Plaque</u> to mark her significant contribution to Jacksons Lane and the local area. Over 120 people gathered to celebrate her impact at our launch event, and you can now see the plaque mounted proudly on our building.

This winter we once again offered a Warm Welcome as one of Haringey's 6 'Local Living Rooms' providing accessible, welcoming and safe spaces for those in our communities impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. Donations made to our Wall of Kindness from the local community provided hundreds of free hot drinks and meals over the winter months to those in need.

We were delighted to showcase both artists and our inspirational Youth Circus through Haringey Feast; Haringey's iconic celebration of culture held at Alexandra Palace in November 2023. Circus artists - young, emerging and professional - came together to create original circus performances which celebrated joy, creativity and community, performed to an audience of 500 people.

Our reach and impact is only made possible through our inspiring partnerships with Haringey organisations who support us to connect, collaborate and empower our communities. This year our partners included: Sky City Community Centre & Metropolitan Thames Valley, Collage Arts, Haringey Shed, Haringey Creates, Tottenham Green Pools & Fitness, Triangle Children, Young People & Community Centre, Haringey Council Housing and Regeneration, Haringey GP Federation, Harris Academy Coleraine Park and OneStonegrove.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This was a great year for the environmental sustainability of Jacksons Lane and for improving our impact on the local environment. Not only did we continue to reduce our environmental impact, but we are now better placed to track, monitor and report our progress.

We undertook a full independent energy assessment on the overall efficiency of the building and recommended areas for improvement. In March 2024 we were successful in securing over £15,000 from Haringey Community Carbon Fund to undertake the first steps of retrofitting our theatre lighting stock to more efficient LED fixtures which will have an immediate impact on our energy consumption.

We replanted the small garden spaces around Jacksons Lane including using pollution-reducing plants to help protect us and our visitors from the high pollution of Archway Road. These areas are now maintained by a small group of committed volunteers for which we are very grateful.

Looking ahead we will be working with a local nursery group over the summer to create a bug hotel, supporting environmental education and further enhancing the biodiversity of our green environment. We will continue to focus on reducing the impact our theatre has on the environment and fundraising for the next stage of our retrofit. Our ambitions are supported by our Board and through sector support provided by Julie's Bicycle.

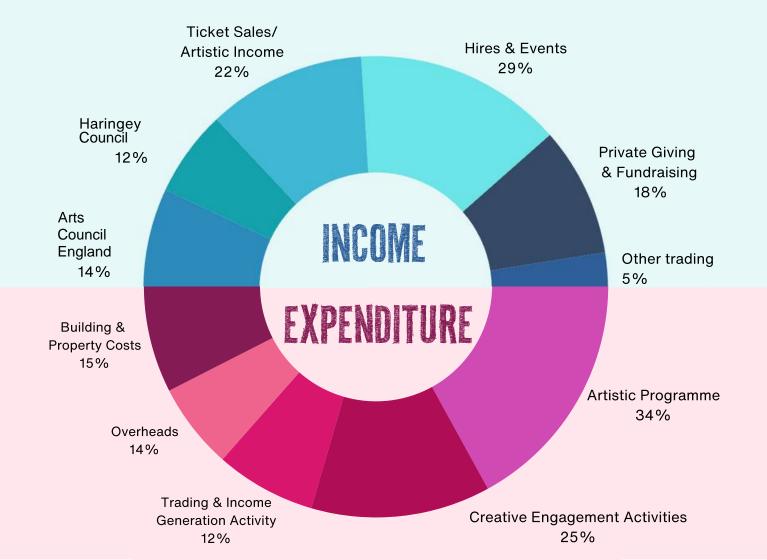
50% OF ALL WASTE WAS RECYCLED

WE CONTINUE TO HAVE A
ZERO TO LANDFILL POLICY

11.44 TONNES OF CARBON AVOIDED

16.1 TONNES OF WASTE WAS DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL

168 TONNES AMOUNT OF CO2 WE OFFSET IN 2023-2024



FNANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY & ECONOMIC IMPACT

While we continue to feel the impact of a challenging economic environment, we have been heartened by the continued growth of our Hires and Private events programme. We currently have 42 dynamic classes and courses running every week from Jacksons Lane, along with an incredible 160 celebrations hosted in our studio spaces. We have been delighted to see our hires reach grow, with Jacksons Lane studios featured in the King's Coronation, Eurovision Song Contest and on The Apprentice, as well as hosting our first Corporate Away days with a Jacksons Lane circus twist.

With the launch of our new Supporters Scheme, we have been thrilled to see members of our local community sign up for regular giving. We were delighted to raise over £32K to support our community Christmas Day, with over £20K coming from individual donations.

We are grateful to our project funders who have helped us to support artists, participants and communities, including: Big Give, Chapman Charitable Trust, Charcoalblue, Circuscentrum, Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund delivered by The National Lottery Community Fund, Cyril and Eve Jumbo Trust, Embassy of Quebec, Firetoys, Hornsey Parochial Charities, John Lyon's Charity, The Finnish Institute in the UK and Ireland, The Foyle Foundation, The George Michael Estate, The Go! London Fund, The Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation, The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, The Marsh Charitable Trust, The Royal Victoria Foundation, The W.G. Edwards Charitable Foundation and Tottenham Grammar School Foundation.

110/0 INCREASE IN HOURS
BOOKED FOR PRIVATE
EVENTS

90/0 INCREASE IN CLASSES AND COURSES BOOKINGS

8.5% INCREASE IN EVENT BOOKINGS OVERALL



VISITORS AND AUDIENCES

In 2023 – 2024 Jacksons Lane engaged over 72,000 people through our Artistic programme, Creative Engagement projects and building offer. 17,973 tickets were sold across 80 productions (including external hires) and our Engagement programmes provided creative, cultural and social opportunities to over 1,700 people.

Through our pay-it-forward free ticket fundraising scheme we were able to provide over 1,000 free tickets to performances at Jacksons Lane, with 650 of these given to families and community groups in Haringey who face barriers to accessing cultural opportunities.

We were delighted to welcome 20% of our audiences to their first performance at Jacksons Lane, as well as reaching a further 1,750 audience members through offsite free performances at events such as Haringey Feast, Fair in the Square and North London Lates.

Our Cool Space and Warm Welcome offers supported over 3,000 people impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, while over 11,000 people attended the regular classes and courses held in our building every week.

20% FIRST-TIME BOOKERS

25% OF TICKETS SOLD TO HARINGEY AUDIENCES

Photo by Mark Morreau

THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS IN 2023-24



Big Give

Chapman Charitable Trust

Charcoalblue

Circuscentrum, Belgium

Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund

delivered by The National Lottery Community Fund

Cyril and Eve Jumbo Trust

Embassy of Quebec

Firetoys

Hornsey Parochial Charities

John Lyon's Charity

Lady Gould's Charity

Royal Victoria Hall Foundation

The Finnish Institute in the UK and Ireland

The Foyle Foundation

The George Michael Estate

The Gol London Fund

The Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation

The Jack Petchey Foundation

The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust

The Marsh Charitable Trust

The Morrisons Foundation The W.G. Edwards Charitable Foundation

Tottenham Grammar School Foundation

Haringey

Christmas Day supporters:

Archway Tavern Beavertown Brewery

Collectiv Food

Heaven Scent

Highgate School

JTM Homes

Made by Tottenham

Morrisons Wood Green

My Supper Hero

Seggiano

Tesco Park Lane Express

The Boogaloo

The Flask

The Woodman

Wellington Fresh

Wenzels

Friends and Supporters:

John Bird

Hannah Murphy

Julie Quinn

Gillian Smith

Catherine Utley

Dirk Benade

Sarah Ferguson

Mary Kuhn

Margaret Vartanian

We'd like to extend our warm thanks to the many local community members who made donations to replant and replenish the Jacksons Lane Garden in August 2023, in memory of Jonathan Boswell.

Cover: Arc Circus, A Bee Story, photo by Kei Leishman