Community Fundraising Pack

Thank you for your interest in fundraising for darts and supporting our work! This pack contains everything you need to organise a fundraising event on behalf of our charity, from ideas for events to practical tips on bringing your event or initiative together.

After you have read through this pack, please do get in touch. We can help with promoting your fundraising, and if there is any other help you need please do let us know!

If you have any questions, or want to talk through your ideas, please contact Sophy Sylvester, our Director (Fundraising and Development) at sophy@wearedarts.org.uk

Who we are

darts creates art with people in Doncaster to improve life, learning and health. We are an experienced team of artists, creative professionals and support staff making high-quality, inclusive, creative experiences across the borough of Doncaster. Our programmes are open to everyone, particularly those who have the least access to the arts.

Our experiences are always designed for the purpose of those taking part. We are person-led and our sessions and artists respond to our participants' needs – working together collaboratively to bring a huge range of skills, experience and expertise to deliver inspiring and accessible programmes.

The arts are a proven way to help improve physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. We focus on arts and education and arts and health. The creative experience is the value. The life improvement is the added extra. We are here for anyone in Doncaster to learn and connect by taking part in the arts. For everyone to feel an accepted and valued part of the community. Creating a healthier and more connected society.

The Point is our home – it is a purpose-built arts centre in the middle of Doncaster to make and share art. It is a friendly welcoming building where lots of creative activity happens and a regular programme of family-friendly and world-class exhibitions, events and activities.

It's more than a place to just come and see. It's about coming together and being a part in the arts. It's about the doing. For everyone to have a safe place to come to and feel comfortable to express themselves, learn and connect.

The difference you make

Your fundraising will help us to continue to create art with people in Doncaster to improve life, learning and health. We shape programmes directly around the needs of Doncaster residents, adapting our programmes as local need changes. In an average pre-pandemic year, we fill 55-60,000 places in our sessions, engaging people from every Doncaster ward, with 40,000 visitors to The Point.

Your fundraising can help us to deliver;

- Weekly visual arts workshops for Disabled children and young people
- Weekly music sessions for adults living with dementia and their family and friends
- Weekly art sessions for adults experiencing mental ill health
- An exhibition in our gallery bringing world class art to Doncaster
- A training programme to skill up the next generation of excellent participatory artists
- Weekly sessions at The Point and in schools, nurseries and family hubs with 0-5 year olds whose communication and language skills have been severely delayed by the pandemic

£75 raised through hosting a coffee morning could pay for a professional musician to run a Singing for Memory session, enabling a person with Dementia to spend quality time with a loved one.

£250 raised by an open mic night could pay for a Doncaster resident experiencing mental ill health to attend our Creative Directions programme, making new social connections and exploring recovery through creativity.

£1000 raised through a group sponsored cycle could pay for all of the art materials needed to run Art Club, where Disabled children and young people can build confidence, develop self-esteem and learn life skills in a fun, inclusive and accessible space.

"Nothing would stop us from coming to Singing for Memory. Coming to the group is my only time to have some respite and do something fun, so it's really important to me."

- Carer

Learn more about the impact of darts' programmes through participant and artist case studies here: https://wearedarts.org.uk/the-point/blogs/

What can I do to fundraise for darts?

You could...

- Run a dance-a-thon
- Host a quiz night
- Walk, swim, cycle or run
- Organise a sponsored read
- Have a pyjama day at school
- Have a bake-off with your friends
- Live or shop plastic free for a month
- Put together an art exhibition and auction the pieces
- Fancy dress pub crawl
- Clothes swap/fashion show
- Organise a concert, open mic night, battle of the bands or jam session
- Do a sponsored silence
- Host a seasonal event – an egg hunt, festive singing, or summer BBQ?
- Screen a film for friends and family
- Organise a community nature walk
- Talk to your Company and suggest adopting us as charity of the year
- Set up book swap your workplace with proceeds going to darts

"I live for this group. It's the only thing I leave the house for."
– Creative Directions participant

"The Point is one of the most beneficial places with the most beneficial events I can think of. I can't sing its praises highly enough!"
– Parent of a Disabled young person

More ideas

- Create a sponsored giant art work: 30 metres of knitting, or a huge mural
- Give up chocolate for a month
- Host a comedy show, cabaret performance or joke-a-thon
- Run a coffee morning
- Perform an act of kindness every day for 30 days
- Organise a street choir performance or flash mob
- Run a birthday fundraiser for us on Facebook
- Sponsored head shave or hair colouring
- Let your child dress you every day for a week
- Have a 1990's dress up day to celebrate darts' foundation in 1992
- Get crafty and hold a handmade items sale

"The world that you have created at The Point is fantastic. The opportunities that darts staff and artists have provided over the years has given us so much as a family."
- Parent

Creative Classrooms has engaged - even entranced - our tricky Y6 this half- term in such a marvellous way. It's been phenomenal to see how they have become engrossed in the unfolding story.
- Primary School Teacher

"Dad can be quite difficult at home, but when he comes to Singing for Memory, he's happy and smiling!"
– Family carer

Things to think about

Here's a list of things to consider when you're organising your event or initiative - and don't forget we're here to help if you get stuck!

- Once you have chosen a date, double check that it doesn't clash with any other local events
- Get friends, family or colleagues to help you make a list of what you need to do
- Think about how much you'd like to raise. Will you need to set up a budget for your event?
- How will you let people know about your event? You can make an event for free on Facebook and invite people to come along! Make sure you let us know about your event too, so we can share it on our social media or in our newsletter
- Have you thought about health and safety at your event, and will you need to write a risk assessment?
- Is there any insurance that you need, or licenses if you're selling food or drink? Will you need a license for collecting donations? You can check with Doncaster Council if you're not sure.
- Depending on your event, it might be easier to receive donations online. If you're able to Gift Aid please do, as it adds an extra 25% to donations! We are registered on CAF for online donations, please ask us for more information or click here: https://bit.ly/2Lqo90E
- Please do take lots of photos and videos of your event and tag us on social media for images you share - we would love to see how everything goes on the day! Don't forget to ask for people's consent before taking and sharing images.
- Most important of all, please remember to thank everyone who supports your event or donates towards your fundraising!

“Swag is the best. I’ve been finding my voice more since I lost my sight and I love singing loads of different songs here. I’ve made lots of friends and really like the instructors and all the people who help make it happen.”
– Swag Choir Participant

“darts makes loads of differences to other people's lives because it helps them become more independent and builds up the skills that they need.”
- Volunteer

darts
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Registered Charity (1056799)
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Social media

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thepoint.org.uk