

Join the Art of Youth Work campaign

#ArtofYouthWork



Sign up to NYA's **Art of Youth Work** campaign to help make the biggest noise about youth work EVER!

Join the nation's youth in creating a piece of music, art or film which celebrates the difference youth work makes to your life.

Celebrate diversity and inclusion

Work individually, in groups or plan a whole club project to create a piece of art or performance which illustrates the way your youth work provision supports you, celebrates diversity and makes everyone feels valued.



This year's theme for Youth Work Week (4-10 November 2024) is **A right to youth work for all – delivering positive futures for young people**. Through the Art of Youth Work campaign, we're inviting you to show how your youth work goes the extra mile to make youth work welcoming and accessible to ALL.

Use your voice

Get creative

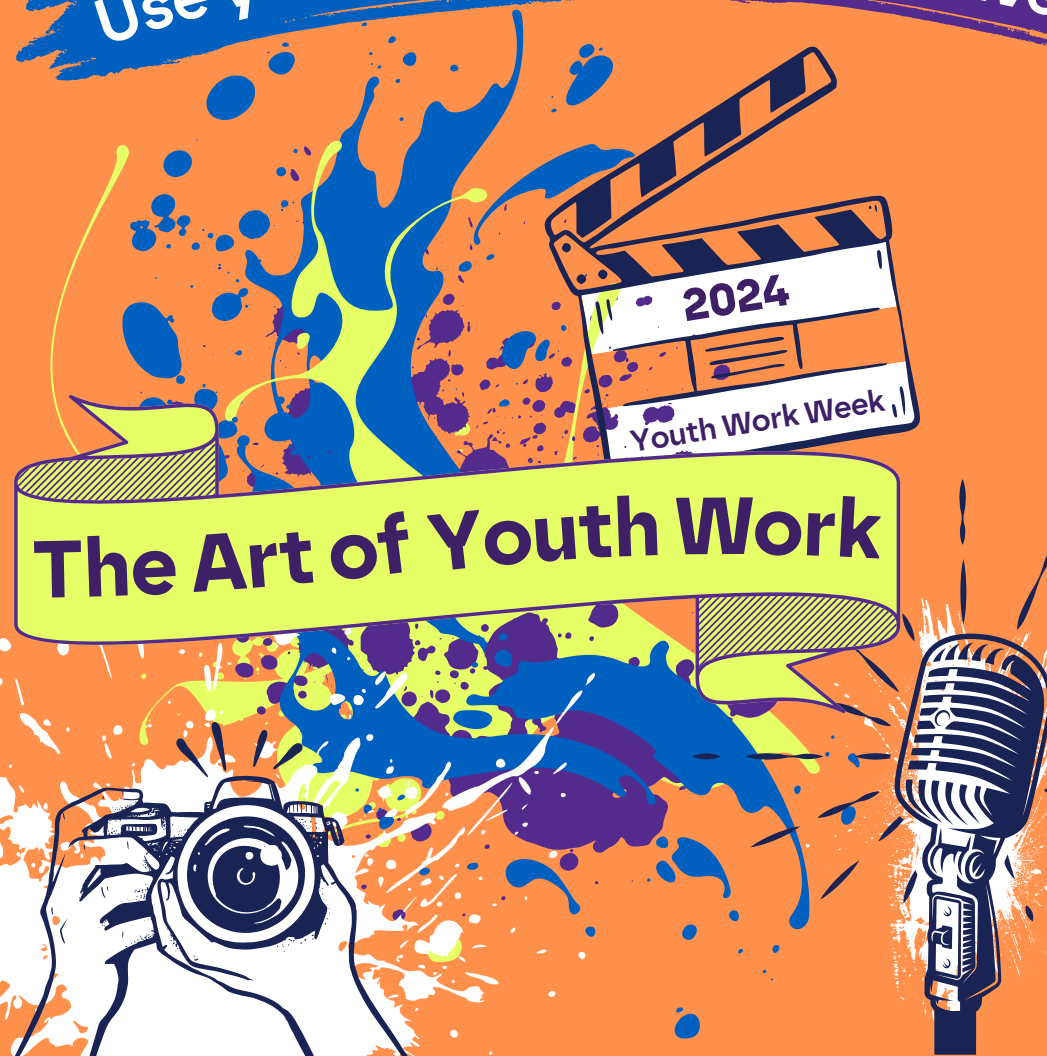
“Youth work unlocks young people's talents and aspirations for their futures, as well as providing them with the support of skilled youth workers to help them to flourish in other areas of their lives.

A youth worker provided my character in BBC Grime Kids with the non-judgemental support he needed to define his values and find out who he really was.

I can't wait to see how young people at youth clubs across the country express what youth work means to them through the **Art of Youth Work** campaign.”



Tienne Simon, who played Bishop in BBC 3 Grime Kids, is backing the Art of Youth Work campaign. Tienne visited the Gifted Young Generation youth club in Gravesend, Kent, to see how the youth club provides creative activities as a vehicle for young people to express themselves, build their self-confidence and have loads of fun.



The Art of Youth Work

Get creative with these ideas:

- Compose a powerful song, rap or spoken word performance which celebrates the inspirational people who are involved in your youth club or provision and how they make everyone feel welcome and valued. If your club works with young people who are deaf, we'd love to see you incorporate BSL (British Sign Language) too. And why not organise a poetry slam for Youth Work Week?
- Choreograph a piece of dance or theatre which tells the story of a young person who has overcome a challenge or transformed beyond recognition thanks to your youth club. Could you create a lively dance or movement performance which includes able bodied and disabled performers?
- You could work with fabrics to create wearable art like scarves or bandanas, or pull it all together into a large-scale patchwork, with everyone in your youth club contributing a square which represents what youth work means to them. Perhaps you could create a giant quilt working with other youth clubs in your area and arrange for it to be displayed in a public space during Youth Work Week?
- Make a compelling film which brings to life the many ways that your youth club has helped young people to learn new skills, feel connected and have a voice in their community. Don't forget to add captioning to make it accessible to all!
- Create a sculpture which will provide a lasting legacy of the importance of your youth club or project and how it celebrates your community's particular culture or heritage.
- Design a colourful mural or piece of graffiti art which celebrates the diversity of young people at your club and why your youth club rocks! It could be a celebration of disabilities and/or neurodiversity; faith or religion or particular customs or belief systems in your community; and gender diversity. Show us through your work how people from all backgrounds and communities are valued and given a voice.



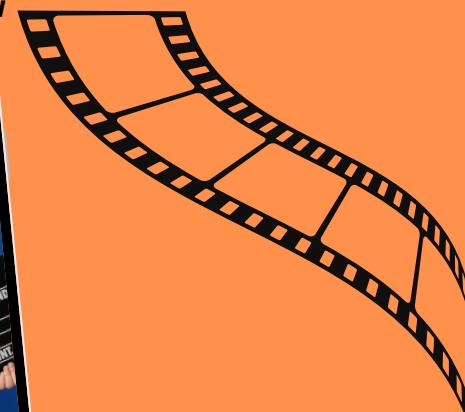
Learn about film making with Into Film

We've paired up with Into Film, the UK's leading charity for film in education and the community, to bring you a free webinar in the autumn all about how to create compelling film. Stay tuned to the NYA's channels for details of the webinar and how to sign up.

INTO
FILM

Submit photos and video of your Art of Youth Work performances and creations to the NYA to be featured in our digital Youth Work Week showcase exhibition and share on social media using #ArtofYouthWork.

Keep an eye on the Youth Work Week webpage for more details of how to submit your content later in the year.



“Youth work works!

As a young person with ADHD and autism I didn't fit in anywhere else. Youth work gave me the sense of belonging and resilience I needed.

I now volunteer at Gifted Young Generation to give other young people a place where they can feel safe to be themselves, laugh, cry, and feel accepted just the way they are.”

“I am delighted to be championing the Art of Youth Work campaign and encouraging deaf or hard of hearing young people to describe what their youth club means to them through the beautiful art of BSL poetry. Each young person possesses imagination, creativity, and artistic voice. All they need is the courage to showcase their talent to the world.”

– Ismael Mansoor, BSL Poet Laureate 2024

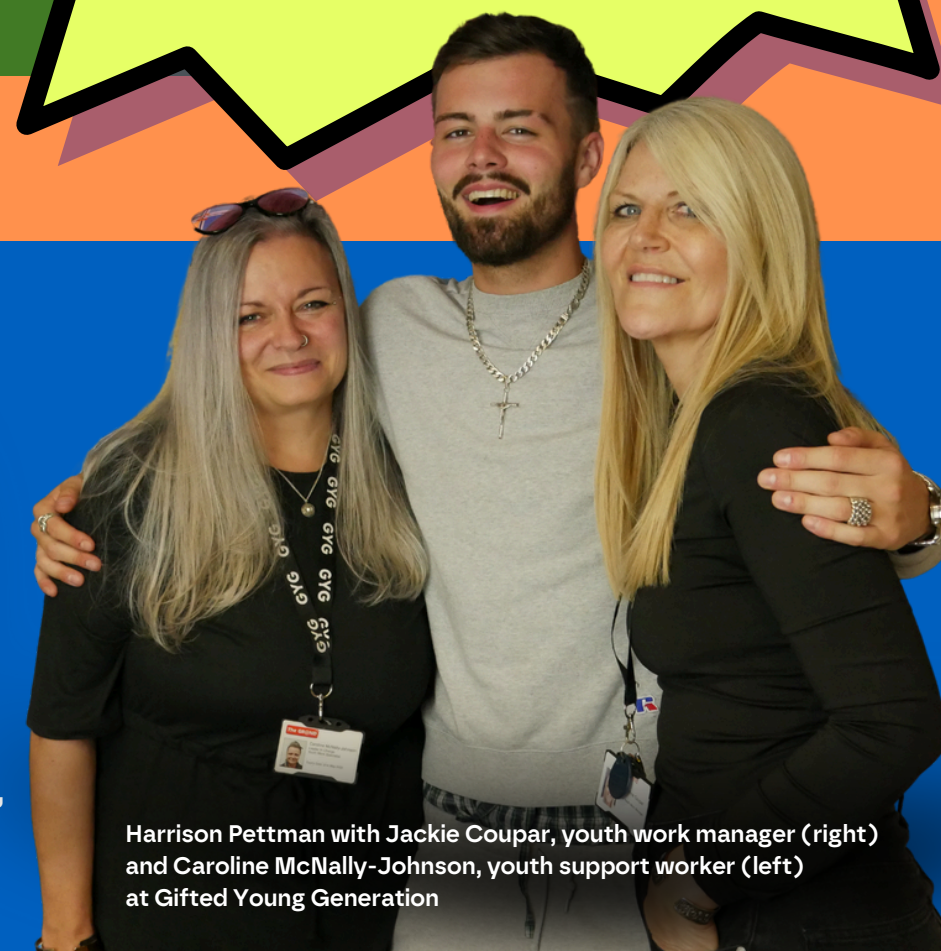
Invite your MP, the local media as well as friends and family for the grand unveiling of your artwork during Youth Work Week.

If you're planning an event to showcase your creation, check out the additional support on the Youth Work Week webpage.



Harrison Pettman, this year's Britain's Got Talent finalist, joined Gifted Young Generation youth club in Gravesham as a young person, where his singing talents were nurtured by his youth workers instilling the self-belief to go on to perform on Britain's Got Talent, in front of millions of viewers.

Harrison now volunteers to support up-and-coming young stars at GYG, bringing his lived experience to the role.



Harrison Pettman with Jackie Coupar, youth work manager (right) and Caroline McNally-Johnson, youth support worker (left) at Gifted Young Generation

INVITATION