



North Edinburgh Arts receives £250,000 from the Community Ownership Fund, reaching 80% of the fundraising target for the capital development

North Edinburgh Arts has been awarded £0.25m for our part of the MacMillan Hub, following the announcement today that communities across England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales will benefit from over £150 million in funding to support community ownership of local assets.

North Edinburgh Arts was one of nine successful applicants in Scotland

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/community-ownership-fund-first-round-successful-bidders>

This award takes NEA up to 80% of our fundraising target for the capital programme, which is supported by over 96% of our local residents, working to keep NEA at the centre of a creative, connected, inspired and inspiring community.

This £250,000 awarded will be added to funds already secured for the ambitious build from Foundation Scotland, The Garfield Weston Trust, The William Syson Trust, The Robertson Trust, The Binks Foundation, and the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund. Reaching four fifths of our target brings a real boost to our Board, team, participants, visitors, and volunteers alike.

The refurbished, redesigned and expanded venue will be a welcome space for all, offering local residents high quality culture, arts, enterprise and meeting spaces. In addition, our venue will link, on site, to the City of Edinburgh Council's new Library, new Learning and Skills Hub, new Early Years Centre and social housing.

NEA is a well-loved and well-used venue but we had outgrown our building. To meet the needs of current and future generations of North Edinburgh residents it needed to be redeveloped. As part of the new MacMillan Hub the NEA capital programme will:

- Increase the footprint of NEA by 380m², adding two floors of studio and work space
- Extend the café to look into MacMillan Square, and offer enhanced community facilities
- Provide bespoke workshop space for the Community Shed
- Reduce the carbon footprint through better insulation, lighting and environmental design and construction
- Be a fully owned community asset

With the build scheduled for completion early in 2024 NEA has set up a welcome cabin in front of the site to ensure local residents can find out more about the build, join up as NEA members (<https://northedinburgharts.co.uk/membership/>) and share their aspirations for the space. Open Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm to drop in, other events will be happening across the months.

Lesley Hinds, Chair of North Edinburgh Arts said:

‘North Edinburgh Arts is delighted to receive funding from Community Ownership Fund. This funding from the Westminster Government shows the confidence they have in NEA and its future in the expanded facilities at MacMillan Hub.’

Further details at www.northedinburgharts.co.uk/development

Contact Kate Wimpress director@northedinburgharts.co.uk

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news with you today. North Edinburgh Arts has been awarded a substantial grant of £250,000 from the Community Ownership Fund as part of the MacMillan Hub project. This momentous announcement marks a significant step forward in our capital development journey.

We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming support we have received from our local residents, with over 96% backing our mission to keep NEA at the heart of a creative, connected, inspired, and inspiring community. Your unwavering belief in our vision has been the driving force behind this achievement.