

IMPACT SUMMARY

All Access AUB

Exhibition and Celebration Event



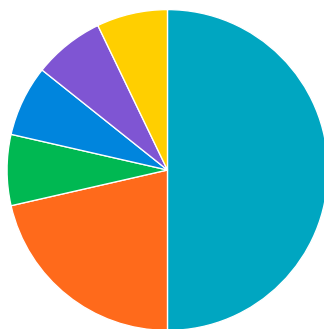
Overview

The exhibition and celebration event plays a significant role within All Access AUB, largely because it brings together participants' parents, carers, and wider support networks. During the summer residential, participants produce creative work that is later curated and displayed in TheGallery. They are then invited back to campus along with their families and supporters to view the exhibition and celebrate everything they have achieved. For anyone unable to attend in person, the full exhibition and all

featured work are also made available online. The purpose of this event is to strengthen connections with the wider networks surrounding All Access AUB participants and to further build the confidence of the young people involved. It aims to help them see studying at AUB as a realistic and exciting part of their future pathways, aligning with the idea of developing "horizons for action" (Hodkinson and Sparkes, 1997).

Attendees

14 participants attended the event - 44% of the cohort, an increase from 31% last year, accompanied by 32 parents, carers and supporters, bringing the total number of guests to 46. (Last year's event welcomed 22 guests.) Half of the attending participants were from the BCP area, with the remainder travelling from a range of locations including East London, Hampshire, Staffordshire, Nottingham and Sussex. The event was also supported by six members of wider AUB staff and eight event staff.



- BCP
- Hampshire
- East London
- West Sussex
- Staffordshire
- Nottinghamshire

The event

Welcoming Address

Louise Whittaker – Senior Access and Participation Officer

Championing Creative Education at AUB

Tim Metcalf – Dean of School of Arts and Communications

Reflections on a Creative Summer

Louise Whittaker – Senior Access and Participation Officer
Isabel Rentoul – AUB Tutor

Opportunities at AUB and Beyond

Louise Whittaker - Senior Access and Participation Officer
Kirsten Bryan-Brown – Senior Careers Coach

TheGallery: AUB's Creative Hub

Violet McClean – Gallery Manager and Exhibitions Curator
Will Hernandez Abreu – Gallery Technician

Meet the Curators

Logan Marr – Outreach Ambassador
Isla Woolley – Outreach Ambassador

Lunch and Exhibition Viewing

Campus Tours

Outreach Ambassadors

Successes

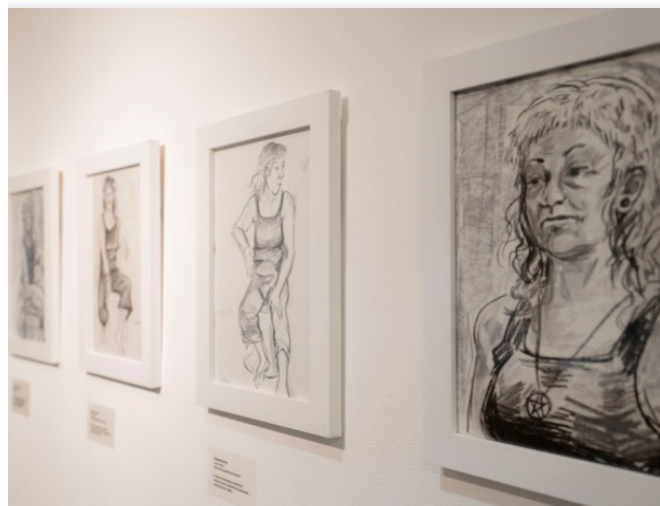
Semi-structured interviews were carried out with parents/carers and supporters in which respondents were asked about their young person's experience on the programme, their own feelings towards the exhibition and celebration event, and the impact it's had on them and their young people. Three interviews were carried out which provided much positive feedback about the programme as a whole, and the exhibition and the celebration event in particular.

"It's like a family here... everybody knows [participant]... what an incredible position to be starting university life, already feeling comfortable in your own skin and knowing the space."

"You guys have done an amazing thing, really. It was a really nice opportunity... being here for me is just as much to say thank you for that happening in the first place."



The main themes discussed by the parents/carers and supporters were increased confidence and personal development, with one supporter describing a transformational change in their young person, the exhibition event showcasing participants' work to a high standard, allowing families to see the outcomes and progress, and a reinforcement of pride and motivation to continue into creative HE. The welcoming and inclusive environment at AUB was highlighted by all respondents.



"It's a chance to see the people that [participant's] been working with, which is really nice... and see her being at home in this kind of environment."

"It's nice for them to see the employability side of it... and now they're like raving about it, saying yeah, this is great."

"Thank you so much for a lovely day. We have now so much info about AUB."

Learnings and next steps

Attendance at the event increased by 13% compared with last year, demonstrating positive progress; however, it remains an area for continued focus, as the target of 50% attendance was not fully achieved. Feedback from parent/carer interviews offered valuable suggestions for enhancement, particularly around the presentation of the Film work. Due to the smaller and more specialised nature of the Film stream, this work had a reduced physical presence compared with the Art and Design pieces, making it feel less impactful within a gallery environment.

Consideration should be given to how work from smaller or more specialist streams can be exhibited in ways that maximise their visibility and ensure an equally meaningful experience for participants and their families. In addition, the future location and timing of the exhibition should be reviewed to ensure closer alignment with both the aims of the Access and Participation Plan and the priorities of TheGallery.