

Press Release

Date: 16 September 2021

New fund for collaborative arts-for-social-change initiatives, inspired by collective responses to COVID-19

Today Collaborative Change and Take Note join forces to launch [the Partner-Up fund](#), supporting and empowering impactful arts collaborations for social change.

Groups of organisations with a shared idea for an innovative arts-for-social-change project are invited to apply for funding of up to £30,000 per project.

Alongside funding, successful groups will also receive Take Note's programme of partnership support, with access to tools and resources which help to structure and strengthen the impact of a collaboration.

[Collaborative Change](#) and [Take Note](#) are social-change initiatives incubated by [ftwork](#), a charity that galvanises new ways of working to bring people together and strengthen communities. Collaborative Change and Take Note have a closely aligned vision: to provoke, promote and celebrate extraordinary cross-sector collaborations which have a transformative effect on their communities .

The Partner-Up fund is both inspired by, and being launched to help capitalise on, the momentum and necessity for change prompted by COVID-19. It will bring existing and new partners together to develop innovative, ambitious projects, designed to forge and sustain strong connections across communities and sectors.

Partner-Up is created in the belief that organisations working together and co-creating within their communities can amplify social impact, energise participants in new ways and enhance artistic ambition.

Groups of organisations with a shared idea for an arts-for-social-change project are invited to apply for one of two funding grants - up to £30,000 per project, made available by ftwork.

Marianna Hay and Emily Webb, Co-Directors of Take Note, commented: 'In the spirit of collaboration, we are excited to be working in partnership with Collaborative Change and ftwork to inspire collective action in the wake of COVID-19. Partner-Up is an opportunity for us to co-develop and magnify the Take Note approach to collaboration, delivering not only funding but also our Take Note programme of support to optimise the partners' collective impact, now and for the future.'

Lara Kinner, Co-Founder of Collaborative Change, commented: 'When we create new pathways for new relationships and new commitments to change, great things happen. Partner-Up is a fantastic opportunity to encourage new cross-disciplinary innovations, creating resources for arts based organisations to work with Take Note to deliver social change. We look forward to supporting, communicating and celebrating the impact that will be delivered through this initiative, helping to build the online Catalogue of Collaborative Change and further encouraging others in their missions for social and spatial impact.'

Clare Richards, Founding Director of ftwork, commented: 'Arts organisations often struggle for project funding and support, even competing with each other. But, as Take Note's innovative approach has demonstrated, when groups join forces they can create considerable social impact within communities. This is why ftwork is funding Partner-Up. We also consider it essential to prompt and support collaborations as a means of building identity and solidarity, particularly in the wake of the pandemic.'

Partner-Up welcomes applications from groups of arts and non-arts organisations working together. Organisations can be local or international, the lead organisation must just be a registered UK charity. To be eligible to apply for this funding, partnership groups must already have secured at least 10% of the total cost of the project from other sources. This can include contributions from core organisational funding from any of the partners involved.

For more details on the Partner-Up fund and how to apply please visit the [website](#).

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Collaborative Change



creating
change
together

ftwork

Notes to Editors:

For more information please contact Rachel Calton:

Email: rachelcalton@gmail.com

Number: 07734650322

Images of existing community projects supported by Take Note can be downloaded [here](#).

About Take Note

Take Note is a catalyst for collaboration, set up to facilitate, support and fund stronger, more impactful, more strategic collaborations delivering arts-for-social-impact projects. Through partnerships, experimentation and evidence-building, we have already delivered Connect Labs for grassroots community projects. The Partner-Up fund builds on our work to further develop a rigorous, accessible approach to collaboration for the whole social-change sector and make our 'Collaboration Kit' available to all. www.wetakenote.org

About Collaborative Change

Collaborative Change was set up to celebrate and promote the extraordinary collective responses to the challenges COVID-19 presented around the world. The online catalogue of collaborative examples seeks to inspire and prompt further lasting action, demonstrating the power of new solutions to our many current and future societal challenges. The launch of the new Partner-Up fund is a significant step to encourage this behavioural change. Take Note was one of the first projects uploaded to the Catalogue. www.collaborativechange.global

About ftwork

ftwork was founded in 2016 with the aim of building stronger communities, by ensuring that local interests and clear social principals drive development decisions and by promoting best practice. Having enabled and supported many grassroots organisations with advice, evaluation and funding, ftwork has become a significant force in influencing change and innovation within the social and built environments. Both Take Note and The Catalogue of Community Change are ftwork-supported initiatives. <https://ftwork.co.uk/>