



Impact Report

The Next Generation
FY2023

Contents

03

CEO's Message

04

Esplanade's Strategic Pillars

05

FY2023 Highlights

07

Impact Framework

09

Our Impact on The Next Generation

15

Achieving our Outcomes

22

Journeying with Esplanade -
Interviews

26

What's Next?

27

Appendix A - Our Donors & Sponsors
who contributed to The Next
Generation programmes and
initiatives

Appendix B - List of Programmes and
Initiatives under The Next Generation



CEO's Message



Esplanade entered “adulthood” in her 21st year as the national performing arts centre. In a post-pandemic world, many responsibilities and opportunities emerged out of new habits, needs and aspirations of Singaporeans and the Singapore society. We continued to serve our diverse communities in FY2023 with a renewed sense of energy, responsibility and confidence.

First, we found energy in refreshing several of our key programmes such as *da:ns* and *The Studios* to better engage the next generation of artists and audiences. Second, we renewed our resolve to be an arts centre for everyone with more Relaxed Environment (RE) performances and extending our community engagement programmes to improve the wellbeing of even more beneficiaries from vulnerable communities. Finally, we continued to celebrate our rich cultures and support artistic talents with new works especially by Singapore and Asian artists.

This Impact Report gives an overview of our work in developing The Next Generation, where we seek to spark creativity, learning and understanding for young Singaporeans and where we help realise the creative aspirations of Singapore talents. In our first year of reporting, we have articulated the outcomes we have achieved and how we measure them, in extending our Children & Youth activities and capability development programmes for artists and practitioners.

I thank you for your continued belief in all we do as we work together to inspire and support future generations of Singaporeans and artists towards a more inclusive and creative society.


YVONNE THAM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Our Strategic Pillars

Esplanade has identified 3 strategic pillars that represent our priorities amidst the wide-ranging programmes and diverse communities we serve. They also demonstrate the areas of leadership and impact we aim to make as a national performing arts centre.

Pillar #1 Inclusion & Wellbeing

where the arts are recognised as fundamental to the wellbeing of individuals, to different communities' sense of belonging, and to society's ability to embrace diversity as central to the Singapore identity.



Pillar #2 The Next Generation

where the arts and artists are widely engaged in nurturing future generations of imaginative and empathetic citizens, and the aspirations of Singapore's best creative talents are developed.



Pillar #3 Creative Futures

where the arts shapes Singapore's responses to global challenges and opportunities, through innovation and sustainable practice.



Esplanade's objectives are also aligned with the larger outcomes sought by our parent ministry, Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth (MCCY), of having a fulfilled and engaged people, a caring and cohesive society and building a confident and resilient nation.

The Next Generation: FY2023 Highlights

BRINGING NEW PERSPECTIVES & EXPERIENCES TO OUR YOUNG AUDIENCES & ARTISTS

Inspiring and engaging the young is at the very core of Esplanade's work. **Over the last 21 years, we have built an extensive calendar of quality arts programmes to enable learning through the arts for children and youth. We have also introduced a broad suite of developmental programmes to develop emerging talents and support artistic excellence in Singapore.** We did not waver in these efforts even during the Covid-19 pandemic as we continued our work through digital programmes and educational content on Esplanade *Offstage*.

FY2023 was a year of renewed purpose and commitment to the development of our future generations. As young audiences and students returned, we sought to reignite their love for the arts through our regular programmes and a series of new experiences and initiatives. We launched *PIP's Trail* - an interactive self-guided tour for young ones to explore our centre, and brought Singapore artists to tertiary students through *Campus Invasion*. We nurtured two young and aspiring theatre directors with *The Studios's TRIP* and watched them flourish and grow over two years. We harnessed our partnerships with Ministry of Education (MOE) and the National Arts Council (NAC), extending our reach to schools as part of the *Performing Arts Based Learning* (PABL) pilot scheme. This programme will now be anchored into the curriculum of all Secondary Schools in Singapore to widen arts and cultural appreciation opportunities for our youths.



In FY2023, we expanded our reach to young audiences and artists and reaffirmed our role as the national performing arts centre in inculcating the value of arts in education in the learning and development of our next generation.



NURTURING OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS THROUGH THE ARTS

1,185

activities for children and youth

366

unique schools engaged

33,495

students and educators engaged

5,361

students performed at Esplanade

DEVELOPING OUR CREATIVE TALENTS

778

SG artists & practitioners involved in developmental activities

9

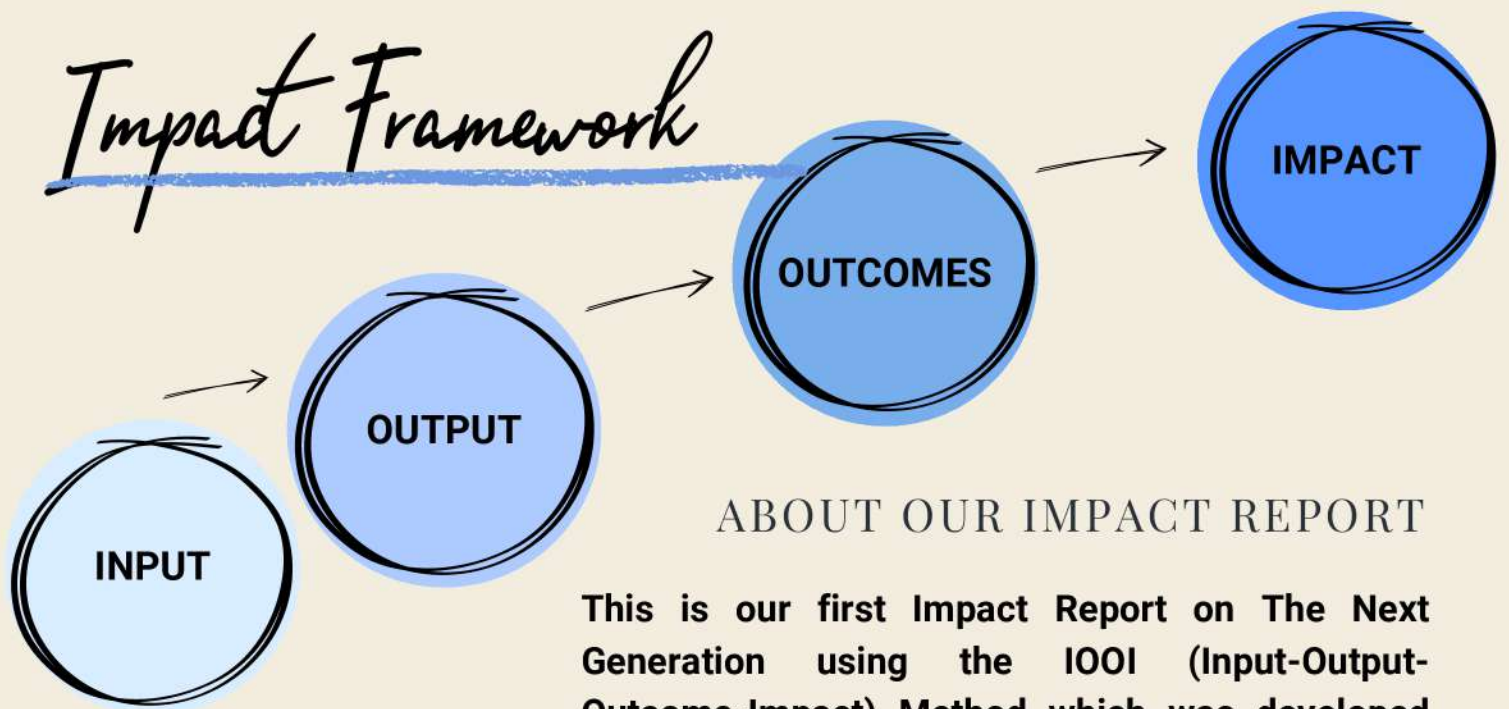
Esplanade Academy programmes

39

masterclasses, residencies, mentorship programmes, labs

163

participants in Esplanade Academy & training attachments



ABOUT OUR IMPACT REPORT

This is our first Impact Report on The Next Generation using the IOOI (Input-Output-Outcome-Impact) Method which was developed by Bertelsmann Foundation to measure impact performance in social enterprises.

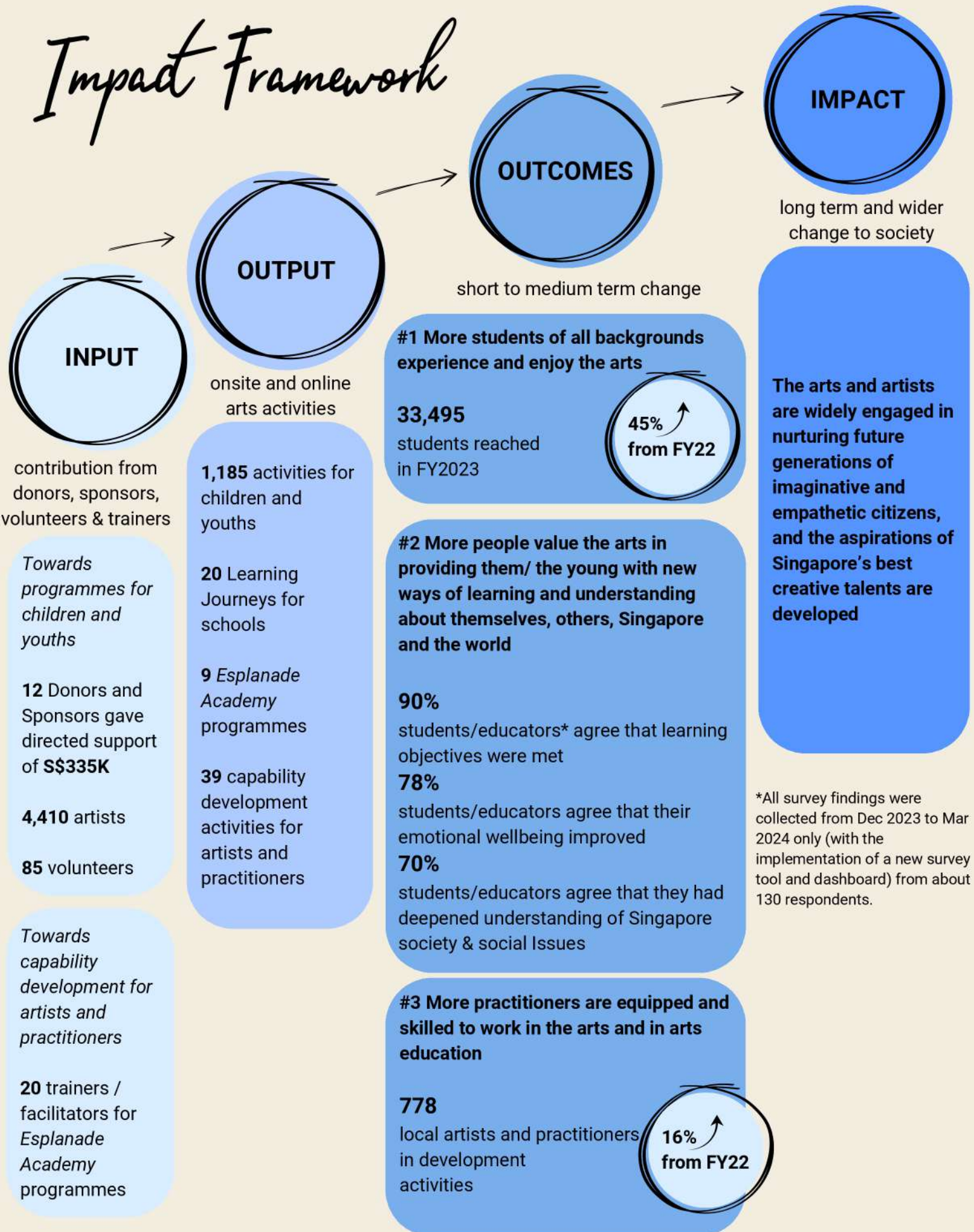
Through this, Esplanade attempts to better capture and demonstrate the diversity of outcomes achieved and reflect the social impact made over time.

The IOOI Method is a resource-sensitive impact measurement tool that provides a clearer, more linear understanding of how our people, time and funds have made an impact on society. **Importantly as we continue to refine our impact measurement, the IOOI Method contributes to organisational learning, allowing us to better plan for Input and Output with a view of desired Outcomes and intended Impact.**

This report is developed to strengthen our accountabilities to funders, donors, sponsors and various other organisations who give to and share in our vision and mission.

As a Charity and Institute of Public Character, Esplanade also provides full disclosure of our annual financial statement, governance and achievements in our Annual Report.

Impact Framework



Our Impact on The Next Generation

We are committed to nurturing future generations of imaginative and empathetic citizens, playing our part to ensure that the creative aspirations of Singapore's best artistic talents are developed.



Esplanade believes that the arts is an integral part of life. From the stages of our early development into adulthood, the arts play a significant role in shaping the way we interact with the world - equipping us with the intellectual and emotional faculties to help us understand ourselves and those around us. The arts challenge us to consider different viewpoints, giving us the opportunities to reflect on the interconnectedness and complexities of society and humanity.

As the national performing arts centre, we are committed to journeying with the next generation of Singaporeans as they fully develop their identities and voices through creative expressions. In this pillar, we seek to make the following longer-term impact:

1

Our Children and Youth are nurtured to become imaginative and empathetic citizens, with the support of educators and parents who value and prioritise the arts as fundamental to the development of the young in Singapore.

2

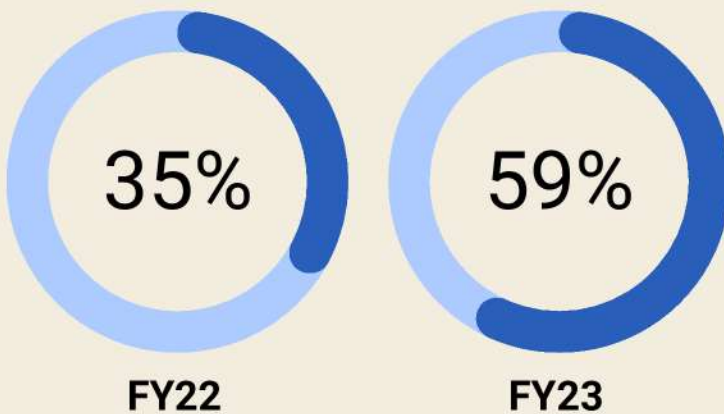
Our Artists and Arts Practitioners fully develop their talents and aspirations and continuously strive to do better in their craft - contributing to the artistic sustainability and vitality of the arts in Singapore.

Measuring Our Impact on The Next Generation

Esplanade contributes to the development of the arts and education sectors in Singapore. To measure the impact of our work, we will take references from national studies and reports including the Singapore Cultural Statistics, NAC's biennial Population Survey on the Arts, as well as Ministry of Education (MOE)'s Education Statistics Digest. Our key indicators include 1) penetration rates for schools across every level, 2) perceptions that students/educators and youths have towards the arts, as well as 3) our contribution to employment and capability development within the performing arts sector.

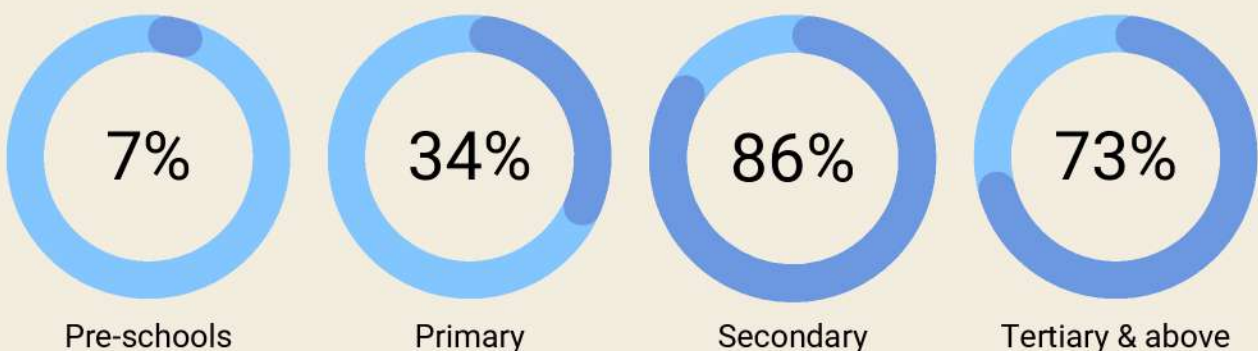
School Penetration Rate*

24% points increase on schools reached (excluding pre-schools) between FY2022 & FY2023



In FY2023, our programmes reached a significant proportion of schools in Singapore and enabled their students to experience and participate in the arts – directly shaping their growth as individuals throughout their formative and developmental years.

% of Schools Reached by Level in FY2023



* School Penetration Rates are calculated based on total number of unique schools engaged by Esplanade against the total number of schools in Singapore in cohort as provided by the Education Statistics Digest by MOE. The figures above do not take into account International Schools, Special Education (SPED) Schools, and Homeschools.

Shifting Perceptions of the Arts Amongst Students & Youths

Esplanade's Findings against National Indicators*

STUDENTS

Perceptions of the arts amongst students who attend Esplanade's programmes are on par with the general population in national findings and reflects our contributions in helping the younger generation **recognise the value of the arts in improving their wellbeing**. As our school programmes explore themes closely linked to the issues of modern society, our work contributes directly to how the young **values the arts in helping to deepen their understanding of the immediate world around them** and supports how they grasp the challenges and complexities of our diverse and multi-cultural society.

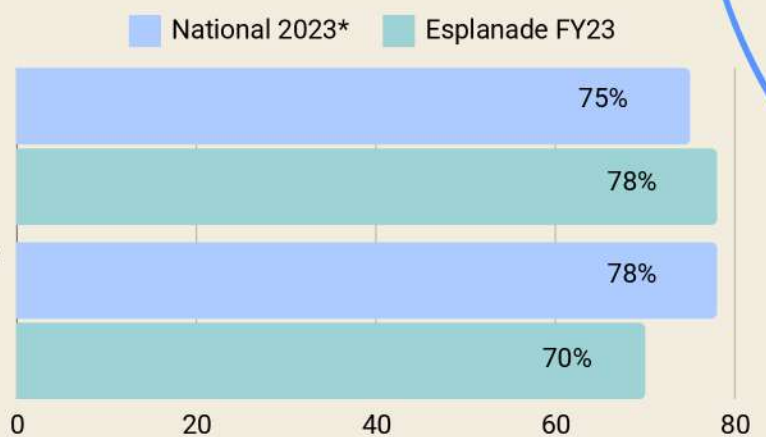


The arts and culture improve quality of life

The arts activity improved my emotional wellbeing

The arts and culture say who we are as a society and country

The arts activity deepened my understanding of Singapore society and social issues



* Findings are extracted from NAC's Population Survey on the Arts 2023

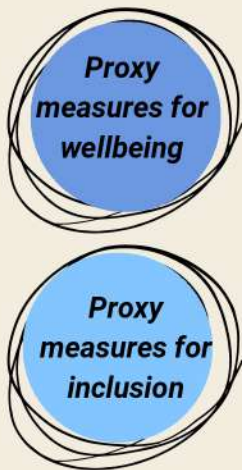


Shifting Perceptions of the Arts Amongst Students & Youths

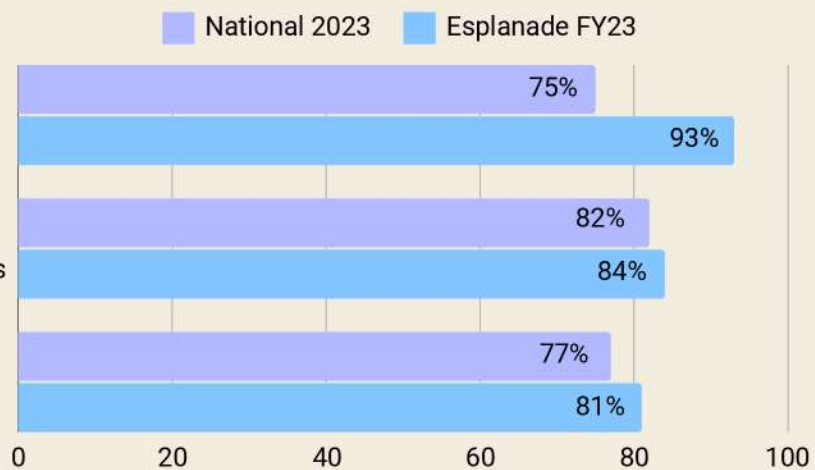
Esplanade's Findings against National Indicators

YOUTHS (15 - 34 YEARS OLD)

Similarly, perceptions of the arts amongst youths who attend Esplanade's programmes are on par with the general population in national findings and reflects our contributions in helping young Singaporeans recognise the **value of the arts in improving their quality of life and wellbeing and in building an inclusive and connected society.**

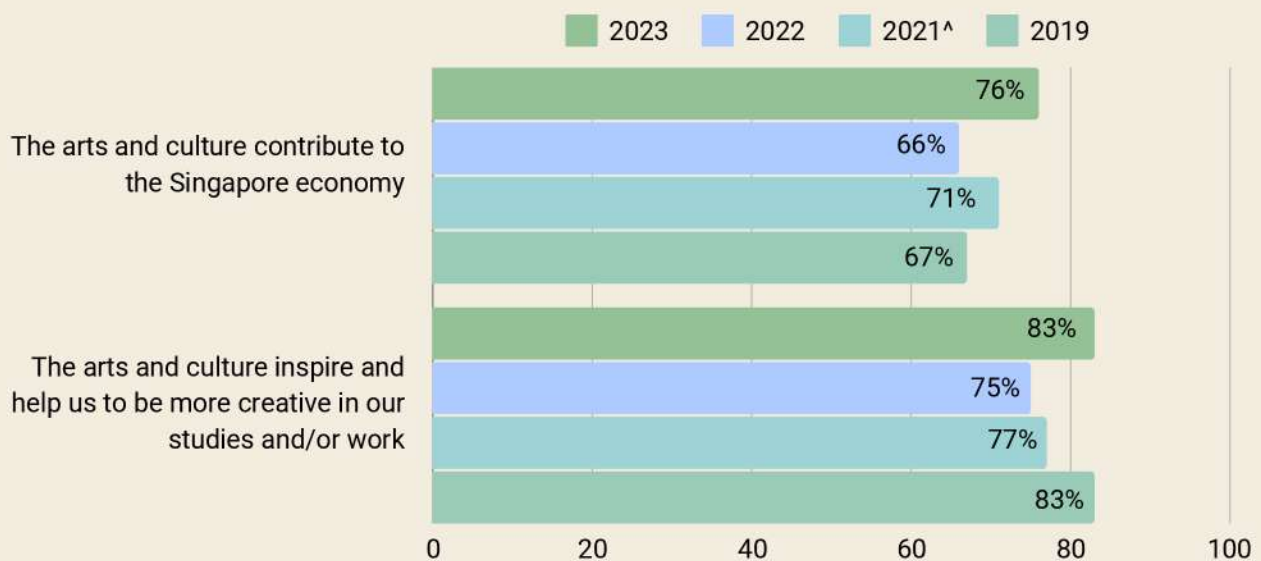


- Improve quality of life
- Improve quality of life and wellbeing
- Better understanding of people of different backgrounds and cultures
- Greater sense of belonging to SG
- Sense of belonging and connectedness to society



National Perceptions of Artistic Talent Development and the Role of the Arts within Singapore's Economy

The long-term sustainability of the arts sector is dependent on the development of our local talent and its role in enabling a workforce that contributes to the growth of Singapore's economy. **More Singaporeans now recognise the value of the arts in enabling a positive impact on their studies/work, and its contributions to the Singapore economy.** Notably, exposure to arts during childhood plays a big role in positively influencing one's perception of the arts at a larger societal level, emphasising the importance of the engaging young audiences in Singapore.



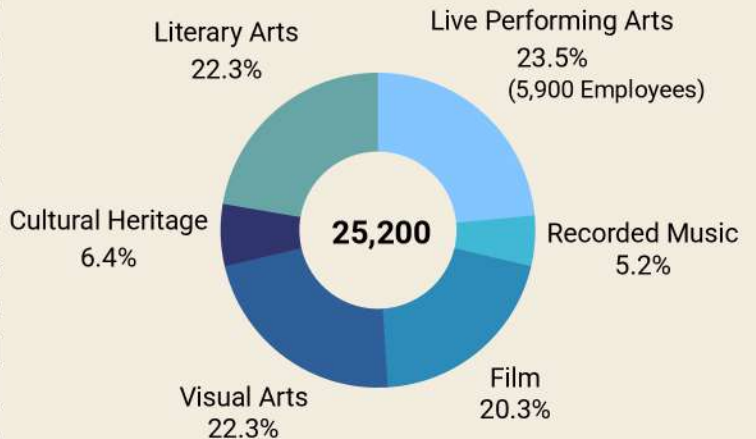
^Affected by Covid-19 when live arts events/activities were restricted.



Creating Opportunities for Sustainable Arts Employment in Singapore

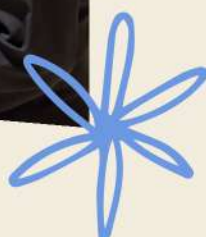
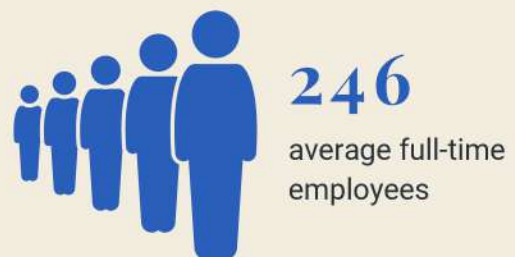
Based on Ministry of Manpower’s annual statistics on employment levels, the arts, entertainment and recreation industry accounts for ~1.5% of total employment in Singapore. The industry has recovered well with employment numbers almost returning to pre-Covid levels of 54.1K as of Dec 2023 - 40% higher than its lowest point in Dec 2021. Employment in live performing arts remained stable between 2021 and 2022 at 5.9K, accounting for ~24% of total employees in the arts and culture sector. **Esplanade plays an important role in providing jobs and opportunities for artists and arts practitioners.** We take pride in ensuring our arts workers are continually equipped with the skills and capabilities to meet the ever-changing workforce demands within and beyond the arts.

Breakdown of Arts & Culture Employment* in 2022



*Based on Total Employee Levels published in Singapore Cultural Statistics 2023.

Esplanade’s contribution to Arts Employment in FY2023





Achieving Our Outcomes

The arts are a fundamental part of education that help shape the identities of our young, providing them with a powerful lens to see themselves and the world around them. Our programmes and outreach efforts take on a three-pronged approach to build awareness and deepen engagement with our children, youth, and young practitioners - providing them with a safe space for artistic expression and exploration.

- **Discover** - Ignite curiosity and generate interest
- **Delve** - Gain involvement and sustain interest
- **Develop** - Impart knowledge and competency

With this approach, Esplanade is focused on achieving the following outcomes to enable a future where our young are nurtured to become imaginative and empathetic citizens, and our artistic talents and aspirations are fully realised:

1

WIDENING ACCESS

More students of all backgrounds experience and enjoy the arts.

2

SHAPING CULTURE

More people value the arts in providing them/the young with new ways of learning and understanding about themselves, others, Singapore and the world.

3

BUILDING CAPACITY

More practitioners are equipped and skilled to work in the arts and in arts education.

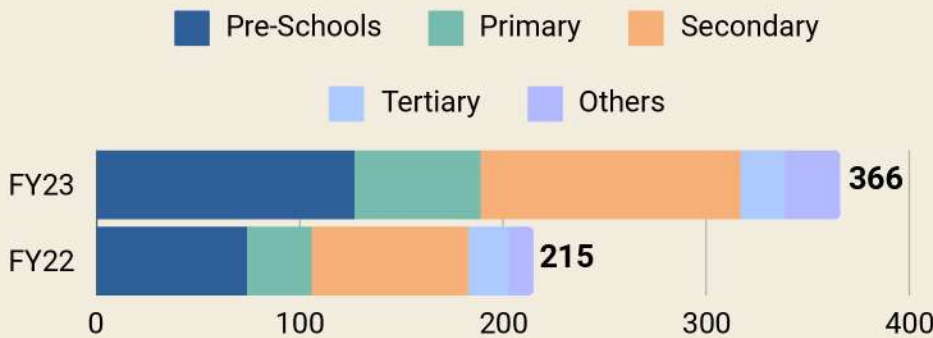
OUTCOME #1

We enabled more students of all backgrounds to experience and enjoy the arts

Enabling arts access for everyone is a core mission at Esplanade. Beyond the general public, we focus our efforts on specific communities such as our students and young through accessible and targeted programmes like *March On!*, *Feed Your Imagination (F.Y.I)* and *PLAYtime!*. These programmes are complemented by participatory tours, learning journeys (LJs), membership programmes, as well as social media activations - creating opportunities and touchpoints for the next generation to experience and enjoy the arts.



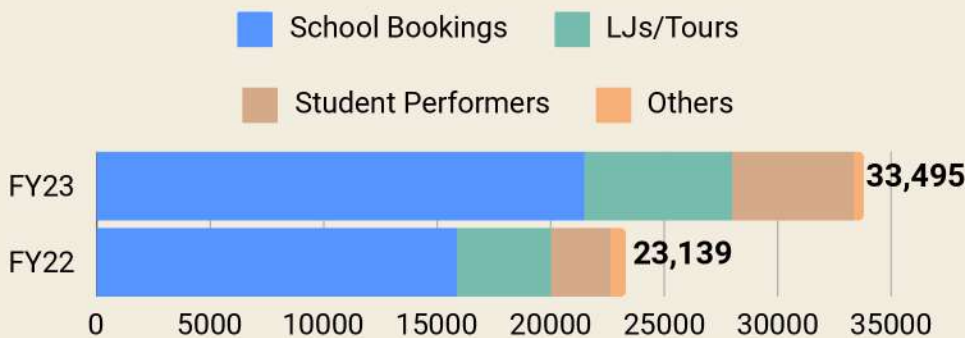
School engagement across all levels



366
 unique schools engaged in FY2023

70% ↑
 in engagements compared to FY2022

Student engagement across all outreach platforms



33,495
 students reached in FY2023

45% ↑
 in engagements compared to FY2022

It's fun and exciting. I look forward to more of these programmes. I loved the music as I was able to understand.

- Student, Canberra Secondary,
Kita Thaka Thom: When Jazz Meets Carnatic Music

High Satisfaction Levels Amongst Students & Educators (CSAT)



96%

students and educators were satisfied with their experience at Esplanade



Deepened engagement with targeted children & youth membership programmes

11,411

Youths with our U26 (Under 26) badge - approx 13% of our total **Esplanade&Me*** membership base. U26 members are encouraged to participate, learn, and co-create with us in the arts.



44%

in U26 members compared to FY2022



30,086

Children 12 years and under in PIP's Club

26%

in PIP's Club members compared to FY2022

* Esplanade's membership programme. Free for all to join and receive benefits to performances as well as exclusive access to new experiences and Esplanade mall promotions.

OUTCOME #2

MORE PEOPLE VALUE THE ARTS IN PROVIDING THEM/THE YOUNG WITH NEW WAYS OF LEARNING AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THEMSELVES, OTHERS, SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

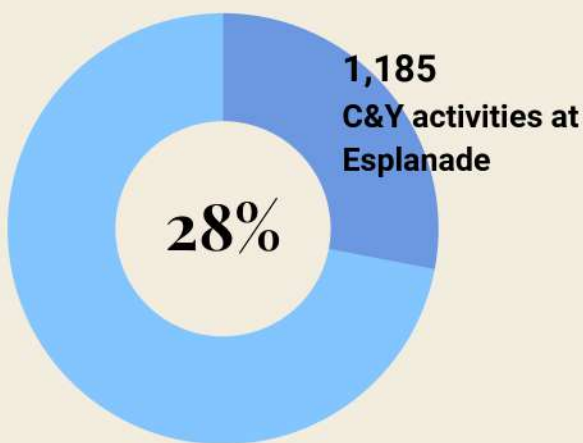
OUTCOME #2

More people value the arts in providing them/the young with new ways of learning and understanding about themselves, others, Singapore, and the world

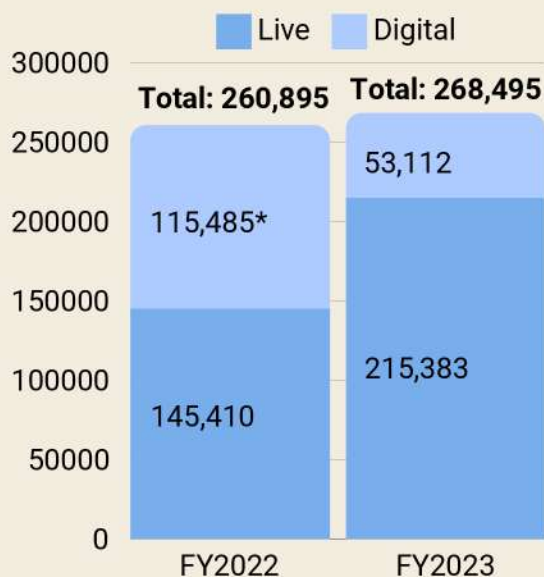


Esplanade’s programmes help our young discern the nuances and fragilities of modern society whilst supporting their personal social and emotional development. Our annual calendar of Children and Youth (C&Y) programmes like *F.Y.I* are intentional in its learning objectives which include “Character Development”, “Genre Exposure”, “Citizenship”, and “Cultural Understanding” while our aspirational platforms like *Limelight* build confidence within young student performers. We continue to collaborate with NAC and MOE on the Performing Arts Based Learning (PABL) programme, equipping students with deepened appreciation for the arts and the value it can bring to the community.

In FY2023, our C&Y activities accounted for 28% of total activities at Esplanade and live attendance for C&Y activities grew by 48% compared to FY2022.



Esplanade’s Activities in FY23



Attendance to C&Y activities

*Includes 68,290 views for *TwoSet Violin’s Explain Like I’m 5* Video on *Violin Playing*

OUTCOME #2

MORE PEOPLE VALUE THE ARTS IN PROVIDING THEM/THE YOUNG WITH NEW WAYS OF LEARNING AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THEMSELVES, OTHERS, SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

My Sec 4 students thoroughly enjoyed the programme. They shared that they have learnt more about the different Malay music genres and understood how music was influenced by what happens round the community.

- Teacher, Compassvale Secondary,
Nuri Terbang Malam: Malay Music in Singapore through Time



In FY2023, our programmes directly shaped the way our young audiences see themselves, and the world they live in.

90%

students/educators agree that their **learning objectives** were met

78%

students/educators agree that the programme **improved their emotional wellbeing** (i.e. increased self esteem, optimism and confidence)

70%

students/educators agree that the programme **deepened their understanding of Singapore society and social issues**

Arts education has a very important place in all schools in Singapore. It is part and parcel of what we call holistic education for our students. You will never find a school, any school in Singapore, which does not offer art and music lessons to its students. So I think fundamentally we need to acknowledge that it is not a luxury. It is central to one's being, and central to one's ability to discern who he or she is, and that whole identity formation.

- Mary Seah, Principal, School of the Arts Singapore (SOTA), *Making A Scene: Arts Education, Interrupted on Esplanade Offstage*

OUTCOME #3

More practitioners are equipped and skilled to work in the arts and in arts education

As the national performing arts centre, **Esplanade takes a leadership role in building the technical and artistic capabilities of Singapore practitioners.** Our year-long calendar of training programmes under *Esplanade Academy*, training attachments, mentorship programmes, residencies, and masterclasses ensures the continual growth and development of creative talents and practitioners that will push artistic boundaries in Singapore, and beyond.



16% more Singapore artists and practitioners were involved in Esplanade's Development Activities in FY2023 compared to FY2022.

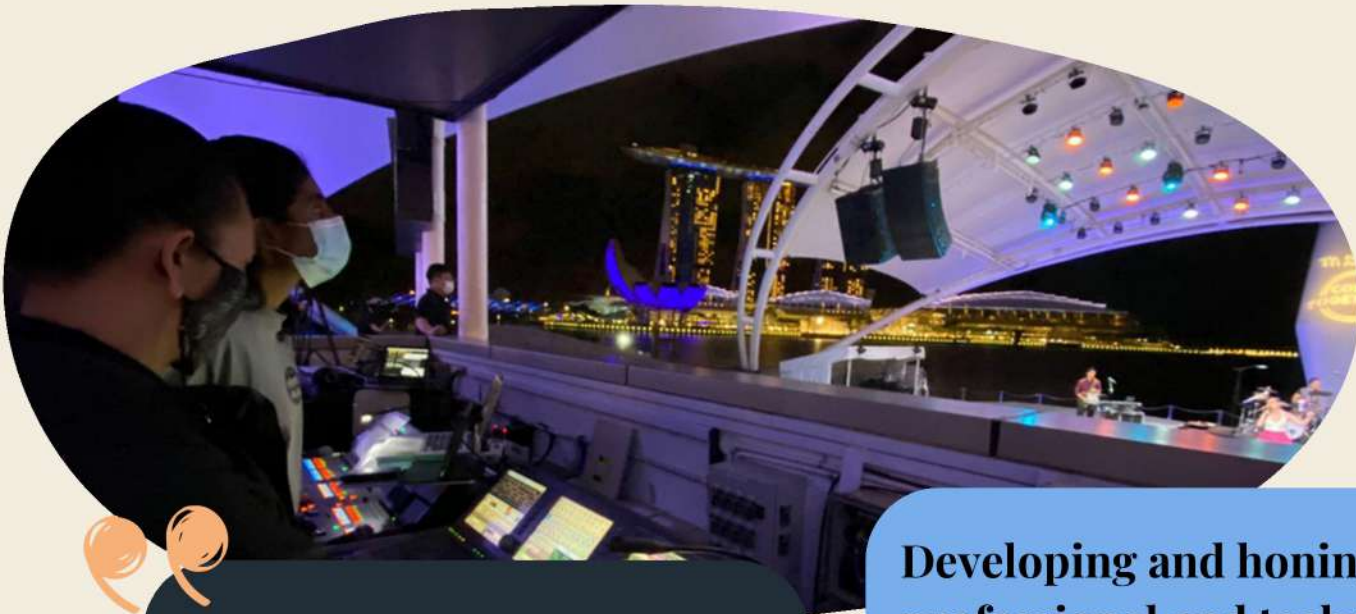


Number of Singapore artists, practitioners in development activities

In the last two years, we introduced new development programmes to enable artists and practitioners to exchange insights and practices with regional and international counterparts:

- **TRIP** - our two-year mentorship platform for early career directors to stage work within a safe space and environment while receiving guidance from industry veterans.
- **International Presenters Visit Programme (IPVP)** which brought together presenters, producers and artistic directors of major festivals from around the world to share and network with artists and practitioners from Singapore.

OUTCOME #3
 MORE PRACTITIONERS ARE EQUIPPED AND SKILLED TO WORK IN
 THE ARTS AND IN ARTS EDUCATION



My attachment programme with Esplanade has been such a fruitful and fulfilling experience as it allowed me to learn a lot of new things that I did not know before. I really enjoyed working at Esplanade as everyone was willing to teach me new things and answer all my queries.

- Ahmad Nurudden B Herman, Trainee, Technical Production

Developing and honing professional and technical skills through *Esplanade Academy*

163 trainees

38% ↑ compared to FY2022

We take pride in presenting Singapore artists and consistently providing opportunities through our programmes.



Number of SG artists who performed at Esplanade



Breakdown of artists engaged in FY23 by profile

15% ↑

growth in SG artists who performed at Esplanade compared to FY2022

89%

of artists engaged in FY2023 are SG artists

Meet Phang Kok Jun



Since his early years as an emerging artist, Phang Kok Jun has journeyed with Esplanade throughout his career and we are proud to celebrate what he is today – a multidisciplinary composer whose music transcends the concert halls. His repertoire includes theatre, film and other forms of media.

You've journeyed with Esplanade throughout your career – what was the most memorable experience you've had?

Esplanade has played a huge role in my music career. This started with my first ever new work, also my first ever *F.Y.I (Feed Your Imagination)* in 2010. For many people their first new work is probably a small piece for piano, or maybe a stringed instrument. But mine was this mammoth of a full length work for a Chinese chamber ensemble with narrator and animation. I recall this project fondly – that youthful, foolish courage to take on such a large work with zero experience, and seeing it through. That has to be one of my most memorable experiences.

But honestly there were many others, some were non work-related too. Life is serendipitous in many ways. The concert that brought my wife and I together was held at the Esplanade Concert Hall. When we planned our wedding, we even joked that we should have a shoot at Esplanade considering how our lives are so intertwined there! Now that we have children, we bring them to watch *PLAYtime!* and *March On* shows.

How has your experiences with Esplanade shaped you as an artist today?

I think there are many aspects to this question.

As a young artist starved for opportunities, Esplanade offered me a lot of space to experiment and hone my craft. These opportunities are highly valuable and the feedback channels from the programmers and audience members allowed me to work on my improvement. The level of trust that the Esplanade team gave me despite my youth was something that I never took for granted. It was an amazing journey and I am thankful for every step.

On another note, while some people believe that a young artist needs to have one's own voice, I never really had the time or opportunity to think about this. With each Esplanade commission, there were requirements to be met and in a way, I was developing my art in a direction that suited the commission requirements. Put another way, the variety of Esplanade commissions and the programmers I worked with shaped my artistic voice, at least in the early stages of my career. I do not necessarily think that is a bad thing though, as I began to be able to produce works that would work for the Esplanade audience, which to me represented the Singapore audience.

However, now that I have graduated from a young artist to a not-so-young artist at 34, my relationship with the Esplanade is evolving. I have gone from knowing very little as a young artist to knowing even less now, so I have more desires to propose things that I want to learn more about. Nowadays I enjoy ideating with the programmers on new concepts, and thinking of crazy things to do, like putting a giant puppet on a boat sailing away from Esplanade pier for example. I'm thankful that teams from Esplanade continue to think with me, dream with me and laugh with me as we learn from one another to create wonderful projects.



Meet Grace Kalaiselvi

Grace Kalaiselvi is an independent theatre actor, director, educator, and writer. An alumnus of the Intercultural Theatre Institute, she hopes to create more works representing marginalised communities and minorities. Working in both English and Tamil languages, she creates a range of productions suitable for young audiences, teenagers and adults.

Some of her works for Esplanade include When Strangers Meet, With You – Without You, Deepavali in Style, Come Back Home with Polyglot Theatre Australia, The Indigo Jackal, Patti's Tales, Marma Medai – Theerppu, Can We Be Friends, Paper Paravai, Amma's Sarees, and many more.

You've journeyed with Esplanade throughout your career – what was the most memorable experience you've had?

It would be the opportunity to create the show *Amma's Sarees*. We worked during the Covid-19 period. We started with Zoom meetings over a few months and then met in person to work, practicing safe distance with the need to wear masks.

It was not an easy process but definitely a fulfilling project done with much love by all cast members, crew and the team from Esplanade. My first show after the dull period caused by the pandemic.



Photo credit: Intercultural Theatre Institute and Tan Ngiap Heng

How have your experiences with Esplanade shaped you as an arts practitioner today?

Esplanade has definitely shaped my practice by offering the much needed space, financial, emotional support to get my works staged.

What is arts education to you and what role do you think the arts play in nurturing our future generations?

Arts education is the introduction to appreciate and feel the richness and joy the arts can give. The arts definitely enable future generations to identify, feel and relay their emotions and thoughts differently.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a young, emerging artist today?

Dream big, pursue those dreams and persevere, no matter what comes in the way.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

I will be 57, in 10 years, I hope to still be in the theatre industry creating, acting, directing, writing and all. Slowly paving the way for younger practitioners.

Esplanade Presents: கோட்டி (Madness)
Dramatised Reading
 by Grace Kalaiselvi
 23 Jun 2024

The Indigo Jackal
 An Esplanade Production
 Playwright & Director – Grace Kalaiselvi
 Story Creator – Kamini Ramachandran
 19 - 20 Nov 2022

MARMA MEDAI
 AN ESPLANADE PRODUCTION
THEERPPU
 (THE JUDGEMENT)
Marma Medai – Theerppu (The Judgement)
 An Esplanade Production
 Playwright & Director – Grace Kalaiselvi
 26 - 28 Nov 2021

Charting the way forward



In FY2023, we continued to strive for the highest standards of artistic excellence and worked with artists, hirers and partners to bring the arts to people of all ages, needs and backgrounds with over 4,200 activities that reached over 3.8 million in attendance. We continued to develop quality arts programmes for children and youth as part of holistic education to nurture the next generation of imaginative and empathetic citizens. As the national performing arts centre, we continued to support Singapore talents, providing performing and development opportunities as they strive for arts excellence.

In a year of growth, transition and renewed focus, we launched new programmes and initiatives to further our work in support a new generation of artists, to reach new audiences and to provide respite for beneficiaries.

FY2023 marks the second edition of our Impact Report for our first strategic pillar – Inclusion & Wellbeing. Similarly using the IOOI Method, this is the first Impact Report for The Next Generation. Looking ahead, we will sharpen our measurement tools and data collection and apply the IOOI Method to our third strategic pillar – Creative Futures.



We could not have done it without your generous *support.* Thank you!

To all our sponsors and donors, especially the following who contributed directly towards supporting our children and youths as well as aspiring artists and practitioners on their journey of self-discovery, building experiences that will broaden the hearts and challenge the minds of our next generation.

Allen & Overy LLP

Daryl Neo

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Keen Footwear

Keppel Care Foundation

Lam Soon Singapore Pte Ltd

Lee Tzu Yang

Low Sze Gin

Peter Chew

Shekeran Krishnan

Singtel

Tan Chin Tuan Foundation

The full list of Esplanade's sponsors and donors for FY2023 can be found on the Esplanade website. Esplanade also receives grants from the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and support for its community programmes from the Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.



Children & Family Programmes



Octoburst! (6 - 8 Oct 2023)

Held in conjunction with Children's Day, *Octoburst!* is a festival that encourages artful play and fun for all through interactive performances and workshops. **5,290 young ones and their parents/guardians joined us for 12 activities.**



March On (6 - 17 Mar 2024)

March On is Esplanade's annual children's festival that explores relevant issues for the young through multi-disciplinary programmes and participatory arts experiences. **We were joined by 68,827 children, parents and educators for 182 activities.**



PLAYTime!

An engaging theatre series for children aged 3 to 6. Each experience is an opportunity to spark a child's creativity and encourage conversations and learning through the performing arts. **In FY2023, we produced 3 productions with 98 performances for 12,892 little ones.**



PIP's PLAYbox

A dedicated space for children and families to discover, imagine and play! PIP's PLAYbox includes a cosy loft, a roomy arts and craft area, a reading corner filled with books by Singapore writers and illustrators, as well as an outdoor play area. **We welcomed 19,530 visitors to the space this year.**



PIP's Trail

A free digital trail for children and families to explore and learn about Esplanade and its various spaces through games, puzzles, and more. **Launched in Oct 2023, the trail brought 1,341 young ones and their caretakers on a journey around Esplanade.**



Dance Appreciation Series

Presented in collaboration with Singapore Ballet, *Dance Appreciation Series* is a ballet education series for children and young audiences. The programme includes both narration and dance excerpts that will educate and excite those keen to learn more about classical ballet. **Over 6 shows, 4,462 children and their families joined us for this series.**

School Programmes & Youth Initiatives



Feed Your Imagination

An arts education series targeted at students where performances and accompanying educational materials are specially devised for specific age groups in primary and secondary schools. Interactive segments allow students to discover the arts in new ways during the performance and a tour around Esplanade is also included in the visit. **11,038 students and educators took part in 76 activities.**



Limelight

Raises the professional standards of high-quality secondary and tertiary school choirs and bands by working closely with the groups to produce their first publicly ticketed performance in our Concert Hall. From selection of repertoire to staging and marketing, Esplanade helps to shape the presentations to a higher artistic quality. **We worked with 11 schools who played to 9,526 attendees.**



Songsmith - Exploring Singapore Songs and Songwriting (PABL) (1 Aug 2023)

Commissioned by NAC in partnership with MOE as part of Performing Arts-Based Learning (PABL) - this special presentation equips students with a new appreciation and understanding of Singapore music and music-making. **1,197 students joined us for this performance.**



In Youthful Company

One of our themes under our free programmes platform - youths take the spotlight with verve and vigour every April with diverse performances. **60,002 people joined us to watch the youths take the stage over 76 performances.**



Learning Journeys & Tours for Schools

Customised to align closely with the learning objectives of schools, students get an exclusive, one-of-a-kind insider experience at Esplanade.



Campus Invasion

Artists take over the classroom at *Campus Invasion*, a new initiative which brought artists and practitioners to tertiary schools to perform and share their industry insights.

Community Engagement Programmes for Children & Youths



We reached out to **2,395** children and youths from various vulnerable communities over **101** targeted community engagement programmes, enabling them and their caregivers to find respite and new platforms of expression through the arts. The flagship projects and workshops held in FY2023 include:

- **Theatre for Dreams** uses applied theatre to encourage vulnerable youths to articulate their goals and how they can attempt to realise these goals. It aims to provide a platform for youths to create independently and own their process of creation, using drama as a tool for engagement. **The 9-session programme culminated at Esplanade for the first time in a private showcase involving 62 family members and caregivers of the youths, Ministry of Social & Family Development (MSF) staff and guests.**
- **Songwriting for Hope** seeks to let vulnerable youth express themselves through song. Through the process of lyric-writing and learning how to make music, youths share their personal stories in a safe space, empowering them to turn these into hope for their future. **The programme culminated in a private showcase to share their heartfelt songs with 94 family members, caregivers, MSF staff and guests.**
- **Community Movement Expression Workshops** provides an opportunity for children of all abilities to learn more about emotional literacy through movements. Through this shared movement experience, we hope it also opens up a safe space for connections amongst participants. **12 sessions were held for 250 participants from different agencies.**
- **Community Ocarina Workshops** reached **212 beneficiaries over 10 sessions** and aims to boost confidence and help participants bond through music

Mentorship & Artist Development Programmes



TRIP (2022 - 2024)

TRIP is a programme presented as part of *The Studios*, that aims to provide early-career directors with the opportunity to direct their own productions and showcase their work at the Esplanade Theatre Studio with guidance from industry veterans.



Baybeats Budding Programme

This is a mentorship programme within *Baybeats* Festival that identifies local bands, photographers, writers, and emcees with the potential to excel. It provides the opportunity to gain insights, network and hone their craft through a mentorship programme with Singapore's music industry veterans leading up to the Festival.

APPENDIX B - LIST OF ESPLANADE PROGRAMMES WHICH
CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT GENERATION PILLAR IN FY2023



Voices Festival Choir

Aimed at inspiring youth choristers by introducing them to fresh aspects of choral singing and creating opportunities for youth practitioners to establish connections with existing professional groups. It is hoped that the knowledge and expertise from these artists will serve as inspiration for this young community.



PLAYlab

A developmental platform targeting artists or collectives interested in Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) for children twelve years old and under.



Kala Utsavam - Open Call

Kala Utsavam Classical Music Stage aims to discover and showcase talents with Indian classical music background such as Carnatic and Hindustani music. FY2023's open call included compulsory mentorship sessions prior to the final performance, with renowned artists such as R K Shriramkumar and Ashwini Bhide.



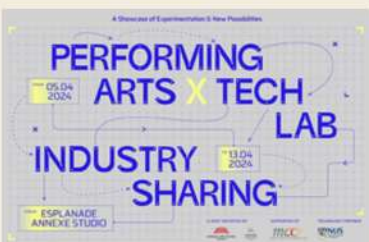
International Presenters Visit Programme

As part of *da:ns focus - Connect Asia Now*, local artists and practitioners are invited to learn, exchange, and network with presenters and producers from major festivals around the world.



Contemporary Performing Arts Research Residency

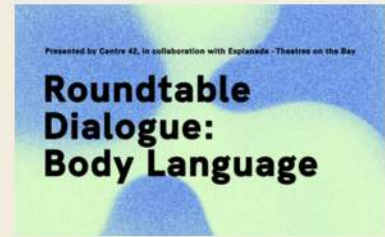
Supported by NAC, this fully-funded residency aims to support creative research in contemporary performing arts by providing its residents the time and space for artistic inquiry, experimentation, development, research activities and opportunities for interdisciplinary and transcultural dialogues. The open call for our 2nd cycle opened in Mar 2024 of which nine residents were selected.



NAC Performing Arts x Tech Lab

The *Performing Arts x Tech Lab* is a new partnership with NAC and Keio-NUS CUTE Center as technology consultant. The Lab seeks to support innovation and experimentation through seeding collaboration between arts and technology fields. The nine-month programme started from Aug 2023 with six projects supported.

Workshops, Masterclasses & Talks for Practitioners



Esplanade offers a range of talks, masterclasses and learning opportunities specifically for artists and practitioners throughout the year as part of our Festivals and Series. Singapore practitioners get the chance to learn from internationally acclaimed artists to broaden their perspectives and sharpen their craft. **In FY2023, over 370 practitioners took part in 16 masterclasses/talks.**

Esplanade Academy



A total of **14 course runs** were conducted for **9 Esplanade Academy programmes** equipping **163 artists / practitioners** with new skillsets to further their arts careers. The programmes offered are listed below:

- Demonstrate Knowledge of Production & Technical Theatre Practice
- Demonstrate Understanding of Basic Lighting Operations
- Specialised Stage Lighting Programme
- Theatre Lighting Design Process
- Perform Basic Stage Operations
- Perform Elementary Stagecraft
- Demonstrate Understanding of Basic Sound Operations
- Sing-Out-Loud! Workshop for Social Service Professionals
- Shanghai Theatre Manager's Training Programme




Esplanade is a charity and not-for-profit organisation. Help us bring the joy and inspiration of the arts to different communities, including the underserved.

1 Esplanade Drive, Singapore 038981 | Customer Experience Hotline: 6828 8377
For queries, please contact us at corporate@esplanade.com

 www.esplanade.com

  EsplanadeSG

 EsplanadeSingapore
#esplanade #mydurian

All information contained in this document is correct at the time of publishing on 1 Sep 2024.

All rights reserved. No part of this report may be reproduced in any form without the prior written permission of The Esplanade Co Ltd.