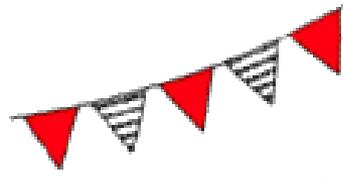


Stella Duffy, Fun Palaces Co-Director



Fun Palaces believe in Everyone an Artist and Everyone a Scientist.

We believe that culture belongs to us all.

Fun Palaces are free, local, participatory events created by the community for the community.

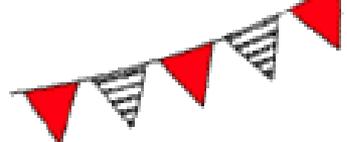
They happen over the first weekend of October every year. They last an hour or a weekend, involve just one activity, or a programme across a city.

Fun Palaces have two vital aims: democratising culture and empowering communities.

Fun Palaces facilitate individual and community engagement in arts, sciences, technologies – all culture.

We believe that each community has the right AND the ability to decide what they believe culture is and how best to share it – and, in doing so, they can create community cohesion and develop civil society.





How Does It Work?

Fun Palaces HQ is a team of 4 people, all part time – our job is to support communities and individuals to create their own Fun Palaces.

Each Fun Palace fundraises independently, and is largely reliant on volunteers and donations, unlocking huge latent value locally and nationally.

We welcome ANYONE, ANYWHERE to make a Fun Palace

Over two weekends in 2014 and 2015 there were 280 Fun palaces across 11 nations made by 5262 local people with over 90,000 joining in.

“It’s an alternative to commercial and institutionalised cultural and creative projects”

*Positively Ponty Fun Palace
Maker, Wales*

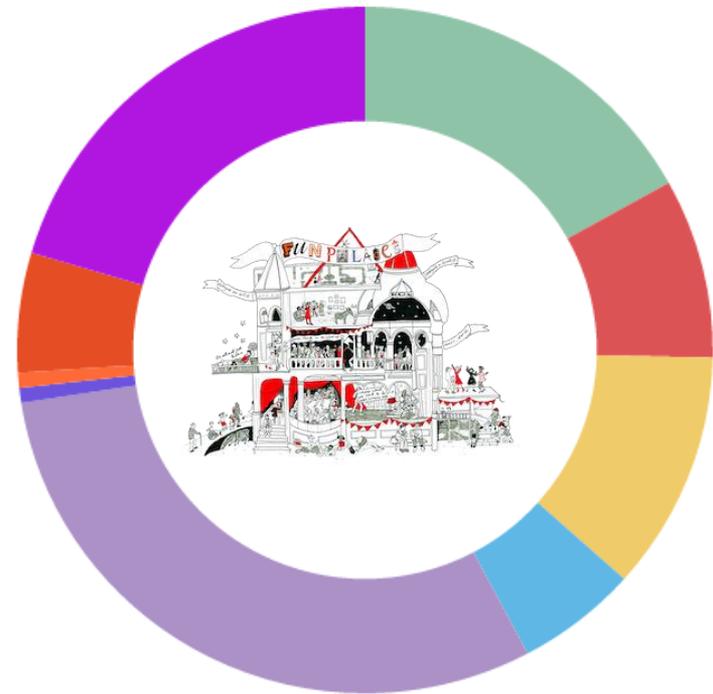
Fun Palaces 2015 - what happened?

142 Fun Palaces across 8 nations

Over 2000 people made them happen

50,000 people took part

“They bring art and science into the heart of the community and show us anything is possible”
2015 Fun Palace Maker



North 16.90% Midlands 8.45% South East 11.27%

South West 5.63% London 30.28% Wales 0.70%

Northern Ireland 0.70% Scotland 5.63% Rest of World 20.42%

Who made Fun Palaces happen?

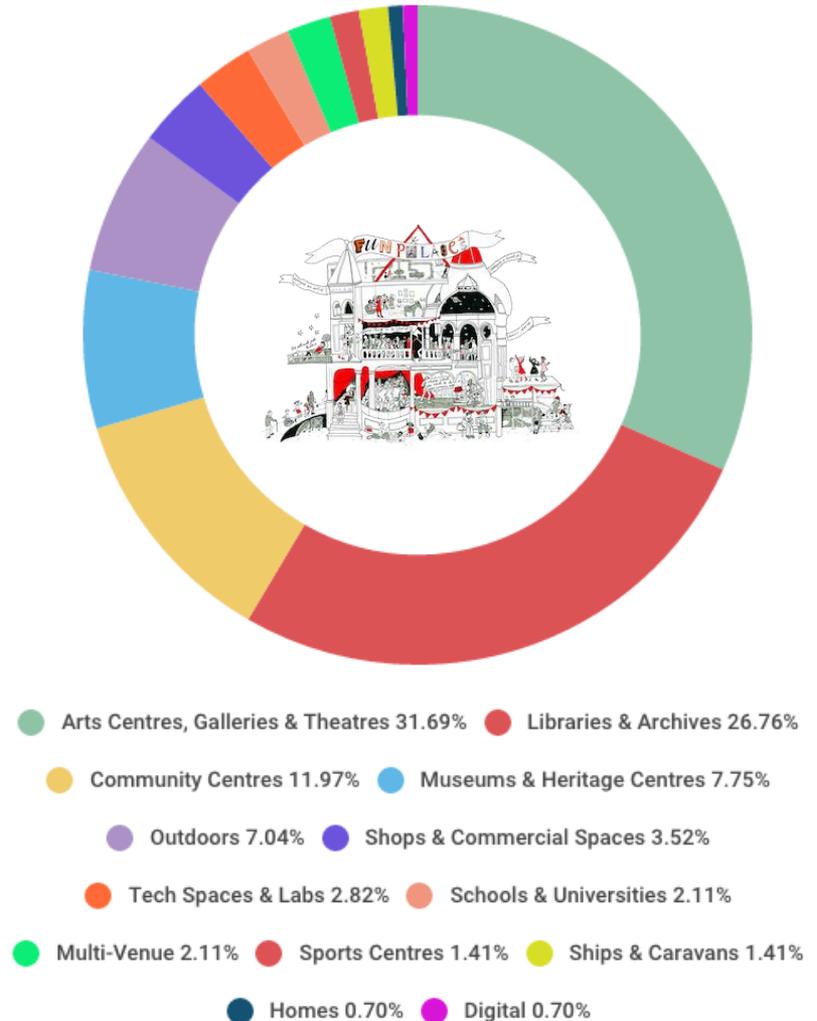
49% of Fun Palaces were created by community members, 51% were created by organisations.

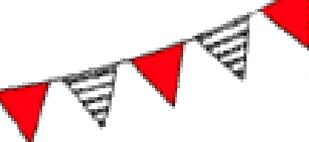
The ethnic background of Fun Palace Makers is within 1.5% of the national distribution for all groups.

Participants come from all deciles of the Index of Multiple Deprivation, with most deciles within 3% of the national distribution.

“(We made our Fun Palace) to bring some community spirit back to our town.”

The Heathen’s Fun Palace Makers, Cradley Heath, West Midlands





What's it like to make a Fun Palace?

After making their Fun Palace ...

- 78% of Makers were proud of the area where their Fun Palace happened.
- 85% felt connected to their community.
- 89% of Makers want to make another Fun Palace (and 96% of participants want another too).
- 62% of Makers found making a Fun Palace showed them they were capable of more than they expected.
- 64% found it revealed resources they did not know their communities had.

“(Fun Palaces) change the conception we have of our place in the community. They encourage engagement, cooperation, social sharing and understanding”

Farnham Fun Palace Makers, Surrey

“It makes people who don't think they are creative or scientific discover that actually they are”

Whitstable Fun Palace Maker

“It's potentially a giant social movement”

Royal Exchange Theatre Fun Palace Maker, Manchester



What's it like to join in at a Fun Palace?

“Communities coming together to try new things”

“It's just a great thing for everyone. And it's all free! I love it!”

“I want to look for things that open up new worlds and this does this in a big way – Amazing!”

“I DID A NEW THING”

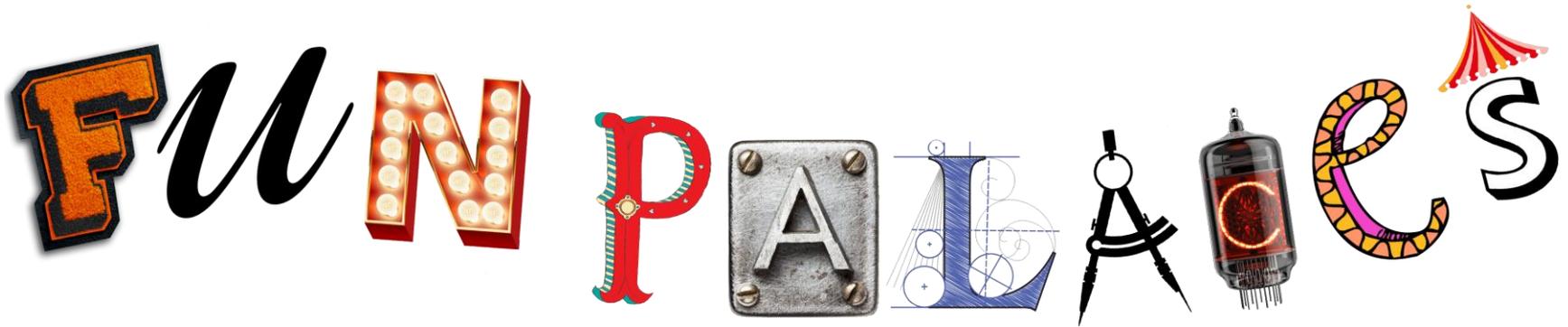
- 430 participants across the country filled in surveys about their experience
- 88% felt it was important that their Fun Palace happened where it did
- 80% felt part of a community at their Fun Palace
- 84% felt motivated to do more creative things in future
- 70% thought they would do something different as a result of this experience.



“Fun Palaces instills creative power in everybody. It doesn’t make arts and science something we read or watch but something we make and do. It’s collaborative and inclusive, bond-building and boundary-smashing.”

Whitstable

Fun Palace Maker

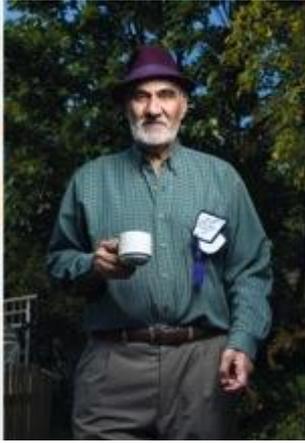


“Fun Palaces is more than just a bit of fun one weekend a year, it is about making change, change that is sustainable, change that will carry forward for years, and that will really make a difference”

Amanda Dalton, Associate Director

(Participation)

Royal Exchange Theatre



THESE PEOPLE MADE

FUN PALACES

