

EDINBURGH'S
HOGMANAY 19

#SCOTART

Scotland's Heart is Captured in Art by Young People Who Call Scotland Home



#ScotArt Young Champions with Cabinet Secretary Fiona Hyslop, Cllr Donald Wilson and Edinburgh's Hogmanay Festival Director Charlie Wood reveal #ScotArt sculptures

- **14 incredible #ScotArt wicker sculptures revealed as chosen by young people across Scotland following months of creative debate and discussion for Year of Young People 2018**
- **From Tam O'Shanter to a Viking Puffin, the symbols represent the hugely diverse and imaginative pride expressed by Scotland's young people covering everything from ancient history to innovation**
- **The #ScotArt sculptures displayed on Edinburgh's Royal Mile from 19 – 29 December following an extensive youth engagement project which reached 100s of young people who call Scotland home**

- **They will then come together on Holyrood Park at the finale of Edinburgh's Hogmanay Torchlight Procession on 30 December, creating a spectacular finale to the Year of Young People 2018**

For months young people across Scotland have been talking, debating and engaging with each other about what makes them proud of the region they call home and what one symbol best captures that pride through #ScotArt, the national youth engagement programme as part of Year of Young People 2018 finale during Edinburgh's Hogmanay.

Over 300 young people have taken part in creative workshops led by #ScotArt Young Champions and emerging Young Artists from Shetland to the Borders to decide on the final 14 #ScotArt symbols which have been realised with assistance into incredible wicker sculptures by lead artist Ariel Killick. The project has reached a hugely diverse range of young people across Scotland, including school groups, young carers, young refugees and LGBT groups. The chosen 14 sculptures represent the brilliant diversity, passion, pride and creativity of young people living in Scotland today.

The final sculptures unveiled today by the #ScotArt Young Champions and Young Artists alongside Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs on Edinburgh's Royal Mile. The sculptures now go on display on the Royal Mile until the 29th December, after which they will come together to form the fiery heart of Scotland as outlined by thousands of torchbearers at the epic conclusion of Edinburgh's Hogmanay Torchlight Procession on the 30th December, providing a suitably brilliant conclusion to Scotland's Year of Young People 2018. #ScotArt Young Champions will also lead the Torchlight Procession, each carrying a banner emblazoned with their regional symbol, with an additional banner representing a 15th European symbol of pride being carried as chosen by young people from across Europe during a recent trip to Edinburgh.

The Final 15 #ScotArt Symbols per Region:

Region	Chosen Symbol
Ayrshire	Tam o' Shanter riding his horse Meg over the Brig o' Doon, pursued by Nannie the Witch
Dumfries & Galloway	Peter Pan and Tinkerbell touching a star over a large open book
Edinburgh & the Lothian	Greyfriars Bobby guarding Arthur's Seat
Lanarkshire	Coal cart filled with Irn Bru
Central Scotland	TV set with thistles for an aerial
Glasgow	Billy Connolly busking with his banjo
Dunbartonshire + Argyll & Bute	Steam boat on Loch Lomond in front of Ben Lomond
Tayside	Person with Scotland flag at top of Dundee Law
Renfrewshire	Witches hat with Paisley swirl for the tip
Grampian	Lighthouse with waves spelling out 'Fit like?'
Shetland & Orkney	Viking Puffin
Fife	Peacock wearing a crown with the struts of the Queensferry Crossing as its tail feathers
Highlands & The Islands	Stag in a kilt, highland dancing with a dram of Whisky in its hand
Europe	Patchwork love heart with peace sign behind
Borders	Highland cow with rugby 7s ball on its head

On the symbol selected from young people in the Scottish Borders #ScotArt Champion Rebecca Tait said: "The symbol for the Scottish Borders was designed by fifteen young people from the region. We had

so many fantastic ideas – from unicorns, to the Eildon Hills, to the Borders railway. We thought about lots of different categories as well, from food and drink, to iconic people to sport.”

“In the end the group voted the symbol they want to represent the Scottish Borders to be a Highland cow with a rugby 7s ball on his head. The Highland cow represents the farming industry in the Borders and the rugby 7s ball symbolises the famous rugby 7s tournaments that take place in each of the Borders towns every summer. The idea of rugby also fits in well with the well-known Borders Scotland rugby player, Stuart Hogg, who is from Hawick.”

On the symbol selected from young people in Edinburgh & the Lothians, #ScotArt Champions Tony Anderson & Chris Marshall said: “The symbol chosen to represent Edinburgh and the Lothians is Greyfriars Bobby guarding Arthur’s seat. The young people had a few options on what symbol best represents their region including the three bridges (Forth, Rail and The Queensferry Crossing), but they decided that the story of Greyfriars Bobby and the beautiful landscape of Arthur’s Seat showed off the best of what we have here in Edinburgh and the Lothians.”

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop, said: “Year of Young People 2018 has been an incredible celebration of our nation’s young people. Projects such as #ScotArt have created new and exciting opportunities for them to express their creativity, talents and views on a world-wide stage.

“From the very start young people have been at the heart of everything we are doing with the Year of Young People. It is only right that they continue to be the beating heart of Scotland as we move into 2019.”

Charlie Wood and Ed Bartlam, directors of Edinburgh’s Hogmanay, said: “A big part of our vision for Edinburgh’s Hogmanay is to actively engage young people across Scotland and to do so throughout the year. So, it’s been great to work as part of the Year of Young People 2018 which last year launched Edinburgh’s Hogmanay by revealing the young people of Scotland’s choice of #ScotWord - #BRAW; and this year – with #ScotArt - we close the Year by asking young people to conceive of a symbol that best sums up their region. The enthusiasm coming back has been brilliant - we’ve engaged 100s of young people from across Scotland and from a diverse range of backgrounds which is reflected in our incredible 14 sculptures, we’re going to showcase the best of young Scottish creative talent, putting young people front and centre of our celebration of the new year.”

“We’d encourage as many people to pop along to see the 14 amazing #ScotArt sculptures on Edinburgh’s Royal Mile until 29th December before they form the heart-shaped fiery finale of our much-loved Torchlight Procession on the 30th December.”

Councillor Donald Wilson, Culture and Communities Convener for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: “Where better to capture Scotland’s soul than right here in the heart of the Capital? This remarkable display will line the Royal Mile this Christmas in celebration of our young people, our shared culture and Edinburgh’s Hogmanay. The culmination of many months of workshops up and down the country, the wicker sculptures will be on show before they form the fiery conclusion of the Torchlight Procession on the night of 30 December.”

#ScotArt is supported by the Year of Young People event fund, which is run by EventScotland as part of VisitScotland’s directorate. The project is a partnership with Underbelly and Edinburgh Art Festival.

Year of Young People 2018 is a celebration of Scotland’s incredible young people, while giving them a louder platform for their voices to be heard.

Edinburgh’s Hogmanay is supported by City of Edinburgh Council, Scottish Government through the Edinburgh Festival’s Expo Fund, EventScotland International Events Programme and Scotland’s Winter Festivals Fund and the Year of Young People 2018 Events fund, all working together to create a bold new Hogmanay for Scotland.

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Tickets on sale now at edinburghshogmanay.com and (+44) 131 510 0395

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Underbelly

Underbelly is a UK based live entertainment company the beginnings of which are rooted in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2000. Its events and festivals division now operates one of the largest operations at the Fringe, selling over 460,000 tickets for over 200 shows in 22 venues over 25 days in 2018.

2019 will be the seventh Edinburgh's Christmas that Underbelly has produced for City of Edinburgh Council (2017/18 saw a record breaking 781,520 tickets issued to visitors from 47 different countries), and the second Edinburgh's Hogmanay also on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, which in 2018 welcomed 160,000 over 3 days.

Elsewhere Underbelly also produces Underbelly Festival on the Southbank in London, this year in its 10th year and one of the biggest multi-arts offerings in London, Christmas in Leicester Square, Udderbelly Festival in Hong Kong, West End Live in Trafalgar Square for Westminster City Council and the Society of London Theatre.

Through its Underbelly Productions arm it produces and promotes live shows in London's West End at the Edinburgh Fringe, and throughout the UK and on tour internationally.

In 2017 Underbelly sold over 1.4 million tickets to its various events.

www.underbelly.co.uk

The City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council has been involved with Edinburgh's Hogmanay since its inception in 1998. The Council is also a core supporter of Edinburgh's 11 Festivals which, alongside major events, enhance residents' quality of life and cultural opportunities, and attracts significant numbers of national and international visitors to the city, along with the world's print, broadcast and online media. Edinburgh Festivals 2015 Impact Study confirms the huge contribution that Edinburgh's Festivals make to the quality of life, international reputation and economic vitality of Edinburgh and Scotland, including attracting audiences of more than 4.5 million and generating an impact of £280m in Edinburgh and £313m in Scotland.

Scottish Government – Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund

The Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund assessment process and funding is administered by Creative Scotland, with input from Event Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Festivals Edinburgh and City of Edinburgh Council.

The 2017/18 EXPO Fund has a budget of £2.1m for Edinburgh's Festivals and £200,000 is provided to Festivals Edinburgh to promote and position Edinburgh as the world's leading festival city.

EventScotland

EventScotland is working to make Scotland the perfect stage for events. By developing an exciting portfolio of sporting and cultural events EventScotland is helping to raise Scotland's international profile and boost the economy by attracting more visitors. For further information about EventScotland, its funding programmes and latest event news visit www.EventScotland.org. Follow EventScotland on Twitter @EventScotNews.

EventScotland is a team within VisitScotland's Events Directorate, the national tourism organisation which markets Scotland as a tourism destination across the world, gives support to the tourism industry and brings sustainable tourism growth to Scotland. For more information about VisitScotland see www.visitscotland.org or for consumer information on Scotland as a visitor destination see www.visitscotland.com.

Year of Young People

A global first, YoYP 2018 is a part of the Scottish Government's themed-year programme which focuses on celebrating Scotland's greatest assets. A year-long programme of events and festivals are taking place across the whole of the country for all ages to enjoy, led by EventScotland part of VisitScotland's Events Directorate. More information at www.visitscotland.com/yoyp2018 Edinburgh's Hogmanay is supported by the Year of Young People 2018 Event Fund, managed by EventScotland, part of the VisitScotland Events Directorate. EventScotland is working with the events and festivals sector to develop an exciting portfolio of Year of Young People 2018 public-facing events which provide opportunities for young people to express themselves through a wide range of activity. Local authorities, schools, youth groups and organisations are running their own YoYP 2018 activity. Search #YOYP2018 on Twitter for the latest news. Young people co-designed the Year. A group of young leaders, Communic18, lead on all key decision making. More than 380 Ambassadors are championing activity. The Year is delivered in partnership between the Scottish Government, VisitScotland and EventScotland - part of the VisitScotland Events Directorate, Young Scot, Scottish Youth Parliament, Children in Scotland, YouthLink Scotland and Creative Scotland. More information can be found at yoyp2018.scot, searching @YOYP2018 #YOYP2018 on Twitter or by emailing yoyp2018@gov.scot

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com. Follow us @creativescots and www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland

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