

About Us.

Introduction

NovaCity is dedicated to creating opportunities for physical activity and education. Based in Barnsley and Rotherham our primary focus is on Parkour and Dance, offering programmes that cater to young people as young as two years old and abilities ranging from beginners to professional athletes. With a blend of structured classes and open free play sessions, we provide over 50 sessions each week, available during holidays, evenings, and weekends.

Our educational offerings encompass three main areas. Firstly, our Performing Arts College, Nova Arts, offers post-16 BTECs in performing arts, serving as a pathway into both industry and higher education.

Secondly, our Alternative Education programme delivers essential educational opportunities to at-risk youth facing potential exclusion. This initiative emphasises life skills and aims to equip young individuals with the tools they need to succeed after formal education.

Lastly, our student-teacher program is designed for those who excel in our activities and exhibit an interest in coaching. This program provides valuable work experience and the potential for paid employment.



The building currently occupies a corner plot on Peel Parade. We took on the previously abandoned building for two reasons. Firstly, it provided a space big enough to create our second physical activity centre, with space across three floors. Secondly, we enjoy a project, and revitalising unused space to become a community hub is a huge part of what NovaCity is about.

In 2018 we looked to expand our project in Barnsley to establish a post-16 education opportunity dedicated to performing arts. We made this decision after many of our current performers either gave up on a career in performance due to the lack of high-level, professional training opportunities or were forced to travel outside of South Yorkshire. Some even travel as far as Manchester. The project's first phase and first-floor conversion was supported by Sport England and we welcomed our first students.

Phase 2 was put on hold due to the pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis and a rise in our energy and staffing costs. Recently due to bad weather, the roof of the building failed, with persistent leaks stopping us from starting any work. We are now working with our landlord to address this which will incur significant costs. All the while the interest in the college as a viable post-16 education option has continued to grow. We now feel ready to make our dreams a reality, but we are going to need help to get there.

This project offers the opportunity to grow a post-16 education performance hub in the centre of Barnsley, create additional educational opportunities and training for young people with the option of delivering degree-level training at the site, and regenerate an empty building space and the surrounding area, all of which contribute to better opportunities all round for Barnsley's youth. The recent Glassworks investment has demonstrated the effect of regeneration on opportunity for enterprises and people.

Our project is here for the long run. We want to help to contribute to the delivery of Barnsley's aims and goals.

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2024 - 2025

In September 2024, our new cohort of students started at the college and we are already accepting applications for 2025, preparing careers days, open days and auditions.

Our students and staff team are united with a single vision to secure the future. We will accomplish the following goals.



REFURBISHMENT

Fix Roof Develop floor 2 of the building Develop surrounding area



EDUCATION

Deliver BTEC qualifications Research Degree course offer Begin due diligence for the Degree Work with Barnsley Education facilitators to secure education offers.



COMMUNITY

Deliver a community dance showcase Integrate Nova Arts to deliver dance sessions to young people Work with local performance venues Help new performing arts organisations through support and advice.



FUNDRAISING

Launch GoFundMe page Apply for capital funding Seek support from corporate donors Participate in fundraising events led by the students.

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THE BUILDING - PHASE 2

The second floor of the college will offer more space, allowing us to accept more students to the programme and begin our journey toward degree-level training. The space will also be offered to the community, outside of school hours and during the weekends and school holidays.

CURRENT SPACE



NEW SPACE



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WE NEED SUPPORT.

We cannot do this alone. We are calling on all interested parties to join us in this endeavour and there are many ways to get involved and give support. We are holding events, fundraisers and supporter meetings to bring the community together to help cover the cost of the roof, along with seeking the help needed to refurbish the 2nd floor.

It has always been a goal to ensure that the course and all ancillary opportunities such as shows, workshops, costumes and uniforms are offered at the lowest cost to the students, many of whom are from disadvantaged backgrounds. Fundraising and community events will ensure this happens.

ROOF REPAIR

We currently lease our building meaning that the roof is the landlord's responsibility, however, they are looking to recoup the cost. The repair will likely cost more than the entire year's worth of qualification funding.

LEVEL 2 REFURBISHMENT

Our full refurbishment cost is circa £100,000. Ensuring a high-quality environment to encourage the highest levels of work.

NOVA ARTS SHOWS - WINTER & SUMMER

Sponsorship opportunities are available for our 2 college shows. The students create and perform as part of their qualifications. Shows take place at the Lamproom Theatre. Supporters receive tickets to the show and an opportunity to present awards.

Costs to cover - Venue, customs, photography and film, programme

NOVA ARTS COMMUNITY DANCE EVENT

This community event will invite dance schools from across Yorkshire to learn and perform on stage. It will be a ticketed event each year to raise funds for the college. There will also be a secondary pot, with ringfenced funds for Yorkshire dance organisations/performers to apply for. Sponsorship opportunity - Main stage sponsor / half-time sponsors / programme sponsor Costs Venue Hire, programme creation, photography and film.

CROWDFUNDING & FURTHER FUNDRAISING

To enable to wider community to get involved we will launch a fundraising campaign that will run from November to April. This will consist of online campaigns, work in the community and sponsored events such as bag packs, fun challenges and more.

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DONORS AND PATRONS

When we set out our first vision for what we wanted Nova Arts to be it was important to highlight long-term impact and opportunity for future students and the community as a whole. Part of this vision involves attracting like-minded people to come along on our journey and enable mutually beneficial partnerships and provide exciting and creative opportunities to support the arts.

By becoming a corporate sponsor, donor, or patron, you will play a vital role in shaping the future of the next generation of artists. Your contribution will not only support our students' growth and development but also help us refurbish and expand our building, ensuring we can continue to inspire and educate for many years to come.

Why Your Support Matters:

- Keep tuition-free education accessible to talented students.
- Provide upgraded facilities and cutting-edge resources for performing arts training.
- Offer more opportunities for students to showcase their talents and connect with industry leaders.
- Preserve our college as a creative and cultural hub within the community.
- Invest in the future of the performing arts and ensure its continued vibrancy.

Exclusive Perks for Our Supporters:

- Behind-the-Scenes Access
- Receive exclusive invitations to rehearsals, workshops, and backstage tours to witness the creative process in action.
- VIP Tickets to Performances, Events and Awards ceremonies
- Enjoy front-row seats at our most anticipated shows and student performances, along with priority booking privileges.
- Recognition on Campus
- Have your name or company logo displayed on our sponsor recognition wall in the newly refurbished building, in key spaces like studios and theatres and on promotional material.
- Exclusive Networking Events
- Join intimate events with industry professionals, artists, and students to share ideas, collaborate, and build meaningful connections.
- Customised Patron Experiences
- As a top-tier donor, we'll create a tailored experience just for you—whether that's private performances, a masterclass with one of our expert faculty, or personalised tours of our facilities.

Contributions are not just donations, it's an investment in the future of performing arts and the extraordinary talents of our students.

NOVA ARTS 2030

By 2030 our vision will mean we have secured the future of the college. It will be a viable Post-16 education option, expanding the education offer for young people in Barnsley and beyond. The inclusion of a degree programme will be at the forefront of this endeavour creating higher-level training opportunities and facilitating valuable partnerships with schools and local performance-based businesses.



EDUCATION

Deliver BTEC Performing arts qualifications to over 50 students per year. Develop the degree programme to offer higher education in the town. Develop our teacher training progamme to train the next generation of arts leaders.



COMMUNITY

Connect arts stakeholders in Barnsley Work with theatres and organsations to develop a programme for arts for young people. Create a clear pathway from hobby to professional career.



PARTNERSHIPS

Work collectively to bring more arts funding to the town. Apply for Arts Council for support. Develop relationships in the corporate world to support youth initiatives and opportunity.



GROWTH OF THE ARTS

Advocate for arts and performance in Barnsley. Students from our college go on to higher education. Recognition for performance in the workplace through alumni programmes Develop more show opportunities in Barnsley.

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OUR SUCCESS

Each year we accept a new cohort od students. After 2 years with us they graduate and apply for further education or enter the the work place. We are extremely proud of our pass rate, with 100% fo students attaining the qualifications they need for success.

We are proud to be that first step in our students performance careers and by supporting the college, you too are supporting our students to achieve their dreams.





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