

# poplar Union

What we've been up to  
since opening our doors  
three years ago...

Since opening in 2017,  
we've welcomed 5,700  
visitors through our  
doors.

Visitors

5700



M&D

Music & Dance

T&F

Theatre & Film

C&W

Classes & Workshops

N

Neighbourhood

H&W

Health & Wellbeing

K&F

Kids & Family

12 Programmes

3 years

430 events



33  
Kids &  
Family

"Poplar Union is an amazing place to work as an artist, the staff are supportive and encouraging and the space is beautiful and inspiring. I feel extremely lucky to have the chance to work with them."

**Chloe Stephens**

Page One Theatre

"Poplar Union welcomes and respects artists in diverse practices and at any stage of their career - I feel grateful for the warmth and generosity they shared with me."

**Cameron Cook**

Actor and performer

33  
Theatre  
& Film

81  
Music &  
Dance

"Excellent teacher who was very professional. She created a relaxed atmosphere whilst at the same time pitching the routines to match the abilities of the large group. The price for an hours session was also very affordable."

**Yoga participant**

"Poplar Union makes the imaginable possible!"

**Liz Exell**

Jazz Herstory

8  
Health &  
Wellbeing

39  
Neighbourhood

18  
Exhibitions

"I think your art exhibitions are a great idea and I love seeing them change when I come to the cafe."

**Review via Facebook**

"...puts the heart into the community providing a diverse, light, bright and comfortable space for us all to meet up and enjoy a world of art, music, dance and culture."

**Henry Guest**

Social Dancing Facilitator



**4205**  
Participants

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**We've put on over 49 workshops and classes making up our creative learning and participation programme.**

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**Art Class  
participant**

**"The teacher is available for every student, kind and knowledgeable. I learned a lot."**

**Zumba  
participant**

**"A friendly group, good teacher and good value for money."**

**Toddler Yoga participant**

**"It's a really great class, and there is nothing else like it in the area. Things like this are a real lifeline to stay at home mums like me!"**



## Artists in Residence



**Hugh McCann** You Are Here Poplar  
**Hester Welch** Food Project  
**Sophie Wooley** Augmented  
**Emilia Stawicki** Thank You and Goodnight  
**Sonny Nwachukwu** Circles  
**Dickson Mbi Enowate**  
**Nick Gilbert** Mr Brightside  
**Paula Varjack** Cult of K\*nzo  
**Dan Simpson** Avocado Economics  
**Cameron Cook** It All  
**Box Theatre** Camp Be Yourself  
**Zoo Co. Theatre** Sirens  
**MOTH Physical Theatre** Meet the Real Eastenders  
**Moulded Theatre Company** Swish  
**CAJ COLLAB** Interdisciplinary Sessions  
**Sangeeta Pillai** Masala Monologues  
**Peter Edwards** Devotion to Movement  
**Grand Union** Re:Generation Band  
**Sam Mumford and Jack Miguel** Crow



# Partners & Collaborators





## Hire



**£48,900**

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**Income generated through our hire which then goes straight back into funding our arts programme.**

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**"Wonderful venue,  
relaxed staff :-)"**

**"Fantastic venue,  
friendly staff,  
great facilities  
and amazing food  
thank you!"**

**"Thank you for a very  
successful event.  
Excellent  
communication prior to  
the event and extremely  
helpful staff on the day"**



# Festivals



St Paul's Way Festival

DISCOVER  
POPLAR

Bloom  
2019



Money generously  
donated to us by  
our patrons since  
July 2018.

£876





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We have increased our social media following by:



We have built a marketing support network across 42 arts organisations

Blog

	24	Explore - Poplar Union's Blog	
	We have published 24 blog posts and are launching the POP-Talks podcast in 2020		



# Community Champions



Our 12 Community Champions support us through word of mouth, outreach, feedback and social media support.

# Student placements



We have hosted 4 student placements working with the Theatre and Performance department at Goldsmiths, University of London.

## Volunteers



4 who have gone on to paid employment, utilising the skills they have developed as a volunteer at Poplar Union.

## School Outreach

We've worked closely with 8 local schools, delivering assemblies, coffee mornings, private theatre performances and interactive workshops.



Testimonials from school performance of Morley College & Page One Theatre's 'Kunkush: The Refugee Cat'

"We had a fantastic discussion upon our return to school about the themes from the performance and the children expressed how 'cool' and 'magical' it was."

Yasmina Bibi  
Teacher at Marner Primary School

"It was so lovely and I thought pitched so well for the age group. Year 3 listened well and really got it. Really glad I was able to come along and thank you Poplar Union for the invite."

Carol Doherty  
Assistant Head at Marner Primary School





## Membership

**We launched our first membership in August 2019 to further engage the local community.**

**We will be launching more memberships schemes from 2020.**



## Accessibility

**We are committed to making Poplar Union as accessible as possible; we programme relaxed performances, BSL interpreted shows, and offer companion tickets. We have a range of facilities to make it easier for our patrons with access needs, including accessible parking, a hearing loop and full wheelchair access.**





# Funding



East End  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



power to  
change

business in  
community  
hands



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**