

Bring us our creative rights

What we think needs to be done to make sure disabled people can take part in creative life

This document was written by **Disability Arts Cymru**. It is an easy read version of 'Bring us Our Creative Rights: **Disabled People's Cultural and International Manifesto'**

November 2021





wales arts international celfyddydau rhyngwladol cymru



Introduction

Disability Arts Awark of art Cymru



We are **Disability Arts Cymru**. We have been working with:

- Arts Council Wales
- Wales Arts International
- and Disability Wales



Together we have been looking into the **UNCRDP**.

The UNCRPD stands for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People.

It is a written document that says what governments should do to make sure disabled people have the same rights as others.



There are 50 main ideas in the **UNCRPD**. They cover the rights of disabled people in all areas of life, from transport to housing.



Lots of countries have signed up to the **UNCRDP**, including the UK. This means we have agreed to follow the ideas in the **UNCRDP**.



But we feel that we don't always see the ideas in the **UNCRDP** working for disabled people in everyday life.



We believe that disabled people are often left behind when it comes to creative life.



When we say creative life, we mean things like TV and films, theatre shows, dance, painting, photography and poetry.

What we did



In this work we focused on **2 ideas** from the **UNCRPD** to do with:

- creative life
- and making contact with people from around the world.



Idea number 30 says disabled people have the right to be involved in the arts and culture where they live.



Idea number 32 says disabled people have the right to be able to connect with people from other countries.



In October 2021 we asked disabled people from across Wales to tell us if they felt like they had these rights.



People took part in an online survey and in focus groups.



We talked about these rights. We agreed on 9 main recommendations to give to Welsh Government.

Our recommendations



 Include the ideas from the UNCRDP in Welsh laws.



2. Follow the **social model of disability** in all work with disabled people. This will make sure there are no barriers that stop disabled people getting involved.



The **social model of disability** is a way of looking at things and doing things. It says a person is not disabled by their impairment or difference.

A person is disabled by things in our society. Like a building without a ramp for wheelchair users.



3. Stand up for disabled people's rights to be involved in creative life across all government organisations.



4. Make British Sign Language an official language across all government organisations in Wales.



5. Make organisations that get public money write and follow **Equality Actions Plans**.



These plans should make sure the organisations think about the needs of disabled people. And take steps to make sure disabled people can access their work.



6. Make sure there is funding that supports disabled people to get involved. Make sure there is enough support for disabled people to use this funding.



7. Support a **Disabled and Deaf Peoples Cultural Leaders programme**. This will support disabled people to get involved in all parts of public life.



 Make more opportunities for disabled and Deaf people to take part in projects and work happening in other countries. Do this through funding and connecting people.



 Choose disabled people and Deaf people to take part in work and project in other countries.



We will give these recommendations to Welsh Government on **3 December 2021**.



We will keep working to make sure these recommendations happen over the next year.



For more information about this work, contact us:

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