

Press release – Monday 12th June 2017

National Saturday Club: Summer Show
 Embankment Galleries, Somerset House, London
 12-18 June 2017

SOMERSET HOUSE EXHIBITION SHOWCASES NATION'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S CREATIVE TALENTS

A model city on Mars, a Shakespearean stage set, commemorative football designs and drawing robots are just some of the creative work produced by young people from across the UK, which will on display in central London today.

The National Saturday Club's Summer Show selects work created by over 1200 young people, aged between 13 – 16, who have participated in free Saturday morning clubs held local universities, colleges and museums across the country over the last year.

The Summer Show presents highlights from across the Saturday Club disciplines, which include art & design, science & engineering, fashion & business, and for the first time this year, writing & talking. This year's exhibits include a model city on Mars created by children from Cambridge in conjunction with Rogers Stirk Harbour +Partners, a set for English National Opera's production of *The Winters Tale* made by Hounslow teenagers, commemorative illustrated footballs designed for Mitre's 200th anniversary and drawing robots.

Young people taking part in the classes are able to explore a range of techniques and disciplines, using facilities and equipment rarely found in school, and under the guidance of expert tutors, students and over 100 leading professionals. This year's mentors included architect Yasmin Al-Ani Spence of Wilkinson Eyre; structural engineers Arup; artist Barnaby Barford; designers Sebastian Conran and Ella Doran; artist Holly Graham; creative director of Montblanc International Zaim Kamal; Matt Jones of Google Creative Lab; Creative Director of Pentland, Katie Greenyer; Heatherwick Studio; and Nick Wade, lead animator on *Peppa Pig*.

National Saturday Clubs aim to help attendees grow in confidence and self-esteem and make more informed choices about further study and careers within the creative and scientific industries. An average of 30% of Club members progress onto courses at the college or university. At school, teachers report 80% of pupils who attend Saturday clubs achieve a grade higher than anticipated at GCSE in the relevant subject.

Sir John Sorrell CBE, co-founder of the National Saturday Club Trust said: *"My wife Frances and I were able to ignite our careers when we were 14 years old, in Saturday morning art and design classes provided to all children for free by the post-war government. These led to our successful careers in design. We believe that, like us, every child in the country should have the opportunity to study subjects they love on Saturdays at their local college or university, free of charge. They can discover their talents, grow in confidence and find careers they will enjoy."*

Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair of Arts Council England, and guest speaker at the show's private view on Thursday 15 June said: *"The initiative in establishing the Saturday Club is an imaginative response to the need to develop the creative potential of young people in the fields of art, design, craft and technology. As a nation, we need these skills for the future of our economy, but also in order to make our world a better place to live, work and communicate with each other."*

A parent of a Club member added: *"The Saturday Club has had a great impact on my daughter's life. Her social communication skills have improved so much. She's happier and less anxious, and has really gained confidence since she started."*

The Summer Show is open to the public 12th-18th June 2017 and entry is free.

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Notes to editors:

1,200 young people / 53 Club locations in the UK / 30 Saturday mornings / 100 leading professionals / 30% progression / 80% higher grades

1,200 young people from **376 schools** have attended Saturday Clubs between 2015-2016. They have been taught by **285 tutors** in **46 universities, colleges** and museums, with the help of **210 student assistants** and **96 professionals** giving Masterclasses.

Each club lasts for up to **30 weeks** through the academic year with members receiving up to **100 hours' free tuition**.

Participating institutions: Banbury and Bicester College; Blackburn College; Bolton School of the Arts, University of Bolton; Bradford School of Art, Bradford College; Cambridge School of Art, Anglia Ruskin University; Cardiff Metropolitan University; Cleveland College of Art & Design; Coleg Sir Gâr, Llanelli; Cornwall College; Cove Park; Cranford Community College; East Coast College–Great Yarmouth and Time and Tide Museum; Goldsmiths, University of London; Greater Brighton Metropolitan College; Grimsby Institute; Havering College; Highbury College; Hull School of Art & Design, Hull College; Kingston University London; Lincoln School of Architecture and Design, University of Lincoln; London Metropolitan University; Manchester Metropolitan University; Manchester School of Art; Middlesex University; National Glass Centre at University of Sunderland; North West Regional College, Derry-Londonderry; Nottingham Trent University; Plymouth College of Art; Ravensbourne; Sheffield Hallam University; Truro and Penwith College; University for the Creative Arts Canterbury; University for the Creative Arts Epsom; University for the Creative Arts Farnham; University for the Creative Arts Rochester; University of Brighton; University of Huddersfield; University of the Arts London - East; University of the Arts London - North; University of the Arts London - South; University of the Arts London – London College of Fashion; University of West London; University of Oxford; University of Westminster; Victoria and Albert Museum; Writers' Centre Norwich and University of East Anglia.

The Saturday Club Trust is supported using public funds by Arts Council England and the Department for Education.

<http://saturday-club.org/>

Social media

Twitter, instagram, pinterest: @natsatclub

Facebook: National Art&Design Saturday Club

The Saturday Club Trust is a charity established in 2016 to take over the development of Saturday Clubs from the Sorrell Foundation. The trustees are Rt Hon. Lord Adonis, Diana Osagie, Patrick Reid, Frances Sorrell OBE, Sir John Sorrell CBE, Edmund de Waal OBE, Philip Watkins, Cecilia Weckström, David Weil and Professor Julius Weinberg.

The Sorrell Foundation is a charity set up in 1999 by John and Frances Sorrell. Its aims are to inspire creativity in young people and improve lives through design. In the last seventeen years, the Foundation has created a number of innovative projects that link children and young people with industry professionals to gain insights into the design process and how design impacts our everyday lives. The Foundation has worked with 10,000 young people directly and impacted indirectly on 500,000.

John and Frances Sorrell ran Newell & Sorrell for 25 years, which was one of Europe's biggest and most successful design and identity businesses, before establishing the Sorrell Foundation in 1999.

John has chaired both the Design Council and the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. He originated and chairs the London Design Festival, London Design Biennale and the Creative Industries Federation. He is a UK Business Ambassador, appointed by successive Prime

Ministers to champion the UK's creative industries overseas. He is chair of the University of the Arts London. John was appointed CBE in 1996 and awarded a Knighthood in 2008 for services to the Creative Industries.

Frances is Chancellor of the University of Westminster, a Visiting Professor at University of the Arts London and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. She has an honorary doctorate from the Open University for Exceptional Contribution to Education and Culture and Honorary Fellowships from Falmouth University and Hereford College of Arts. She was formerly a trustee of MENCAP. Frances was awarded an OBE in 2016 for services to design education.

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