

A group of children, mostly young boys, are wearing blue paper hats with white footprints and white t-shirts. They are holding drumsticks and playing drums. The scene is outdoors, and the children appear to be part of a community activity or performance.

“investing in a future where all young people in Camden thrive”

YOUNG CAMDEN FOUNDATION

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FUND 2018

IMPACT REPORT

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**YOUNG
CAMDEN
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*Image courtesy of BWA



FOREWORD FROM CEO

In 2018, Young Camden Foundation established the first Summer Opportunities Fund. Our aim for the fund was to support and promote the delivery of fun, creative, and life-changing activities for all local young people during the summer holidays.

We were overwhelmed by the interest from our Members, and are pleased to have funded thirteen projects, reaching almost 1,000 young people from across the borough.

We appreciate and understand the importance of summer projects for young people. For many young people who accessed our grants, it provided an opportunity to explore new environments and to learn about themselves and others. By the end of the grant programme, we were encouraged to see the impact it had on the young people, in terms of the new experiences, skills, and positive relationships they had developed.

We believe that summer programmes are an essential part of informal education and are therefore pleased that Young Camden Foundation was able to support the delivery of so many in the borough.

Through the Fund we were able to support some of our Members in increasing the confidence of young people, creating a safe and inclusive space for them to explore the arts, and providing them with the opportunity to learn new skills such as, communication and team-building, preparing healthy foods, and boxing.

I'm pleased to share with you our impact report which provides a summary of the projects we supported through the Summer Opportunities Fund 2018. This report highlights the impact that these programmes have had on the young people who participated.

I'm grateful to the YCF staff team who have worked hard to ensure the smooth running of the grant programme. Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to all of our Members that delivered their summer programmes through our Fund.

Keith Morgan, CEO, YCF

SPECIAL THANKS



Young Camden Foundation are grateful to the family of Jemma Bilton for supporting the Summer Opportunities Fund 2018. Jemma was working with a homeless charity when her life was cut short by cancer at the age of 27. Her mother wanted to set up a fund in Jemma's memory and asked in her will for a donation to be made to a suitable charity.

Jemma was a fun-loving, outgoing young woman with a big personality. At the homeless shelter where she worked, she was often the first friendly face for the young people who arrived in the capital. Her natural cheerfulness and sociability made her popular with staff and residents. One young man from Glasgow, who had been sleeping on the streets for two years, described his sadness when he heard of Jemma's death: 'I heard about it on St Martin's Lane. I just broke down crying. I couldn't believe it. She was the first person in London who was nice to me.'

It seems very fitting that part of Jemma's legacy will be used to support the work of Young Camden Foundation, providing opportunities and fun activities for a new generation of young people in the city.

OVERVIEW OF SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FUND

The Summer Opportunities Fund was designed to enable organisations to deliver fun, new and accessible activities for children and young people during the summer break.

All applications were welcomed, but we were especially keen to support projects which focused on providing activities for transition years and which champion collaboration across Camden's diverse communities.

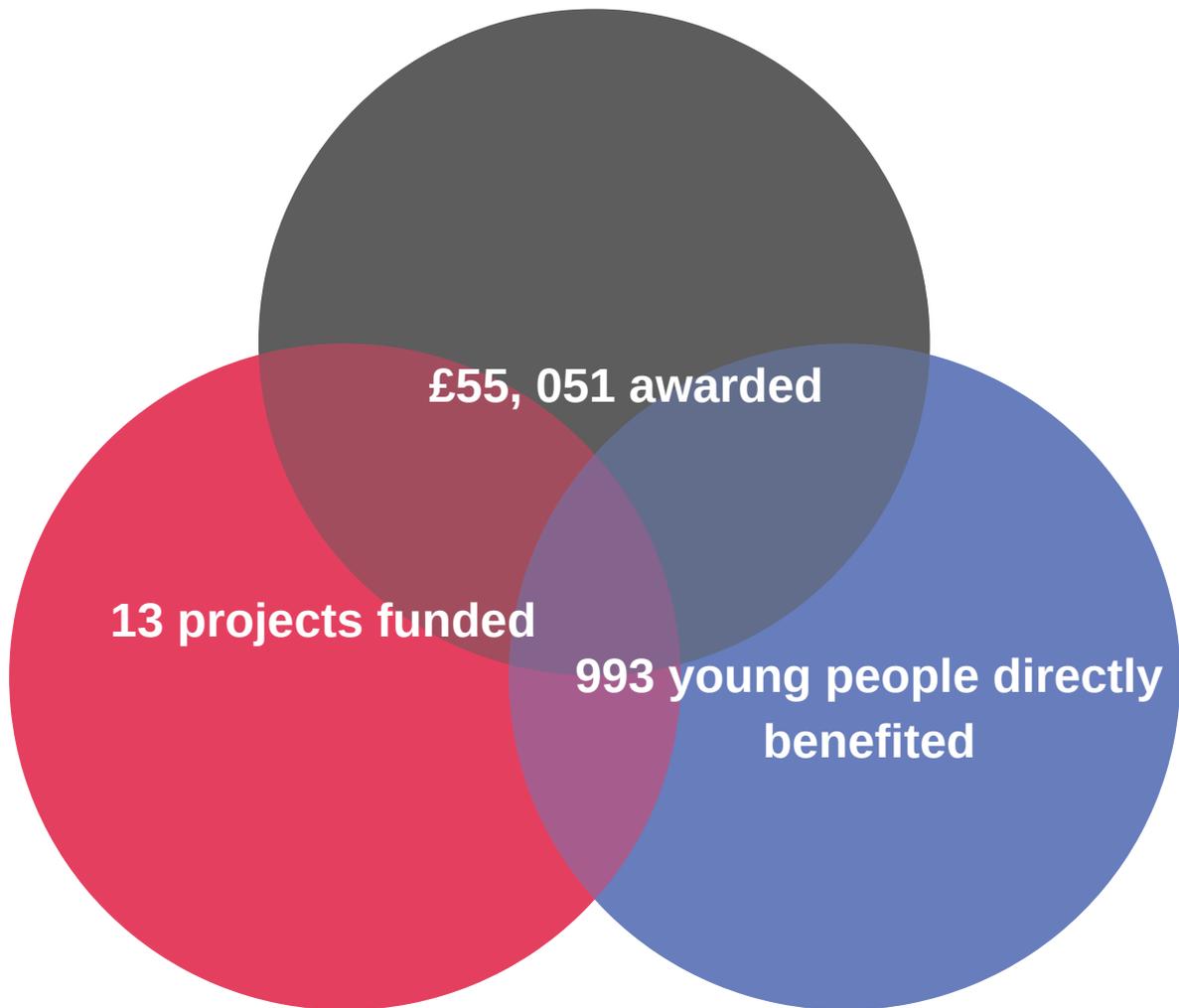
In total, £60,000 was made available to our members. YCF awarded these grants to applicants that were able to demonstrate that their projects both create new opportunities for young people and involve an element of community collaboration.

Following a panel review, YCF awarded grants of up to £5,000 to organisations based on the strength of their applications.



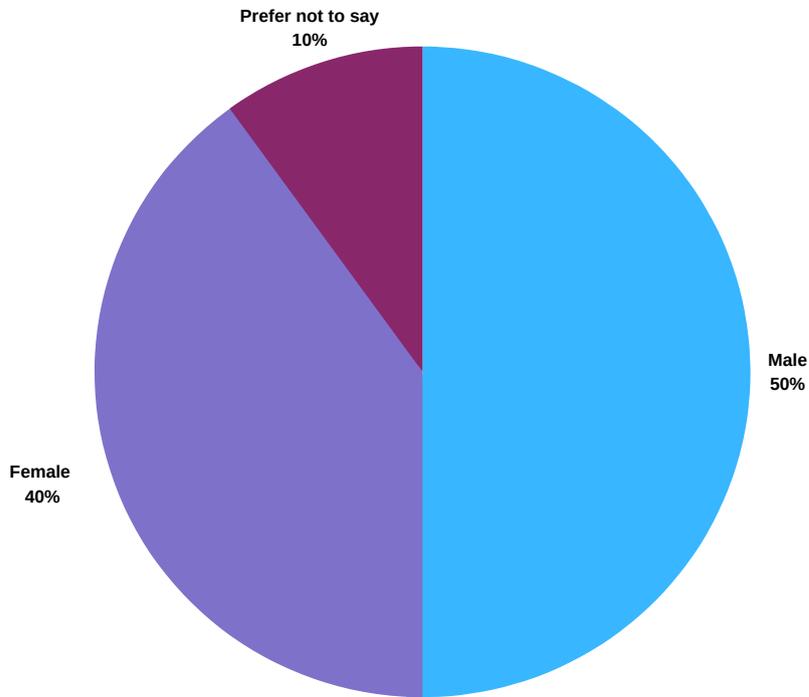
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OVERVIEW

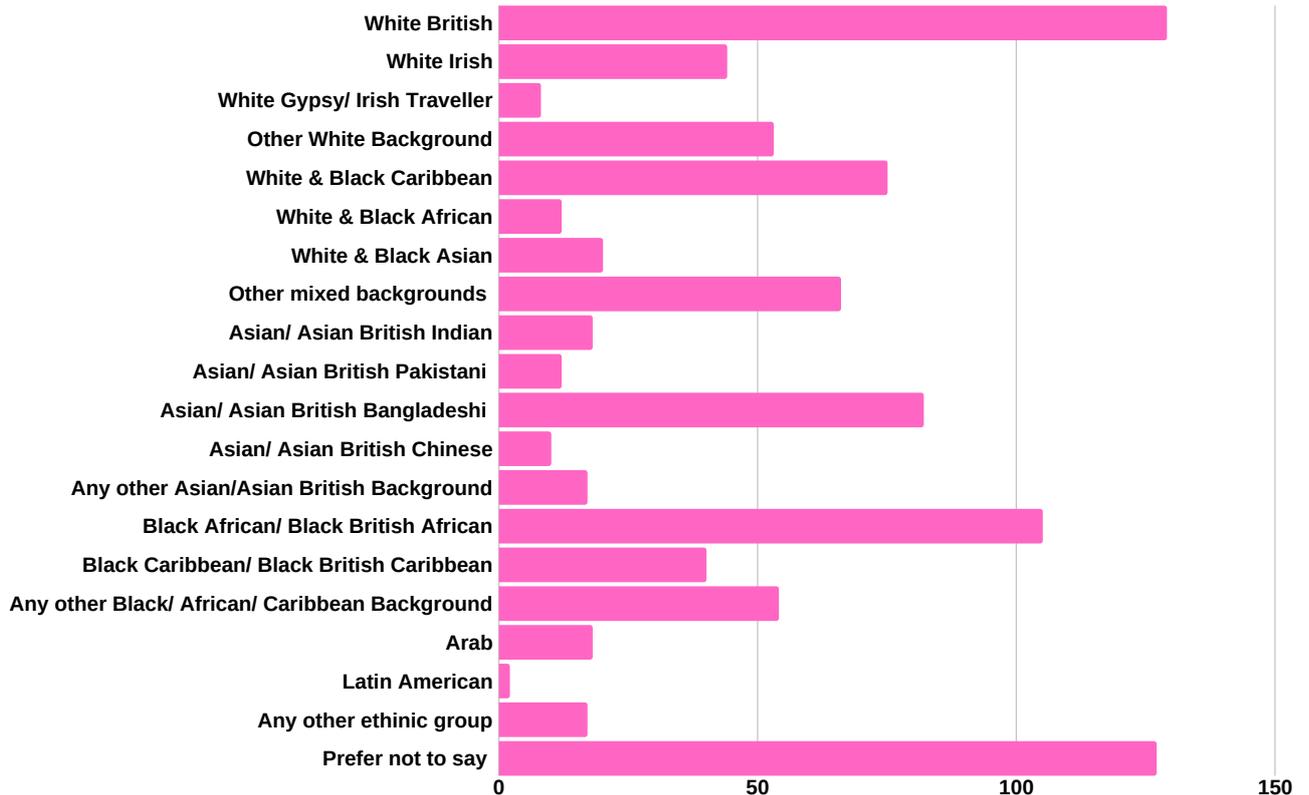


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GENDER

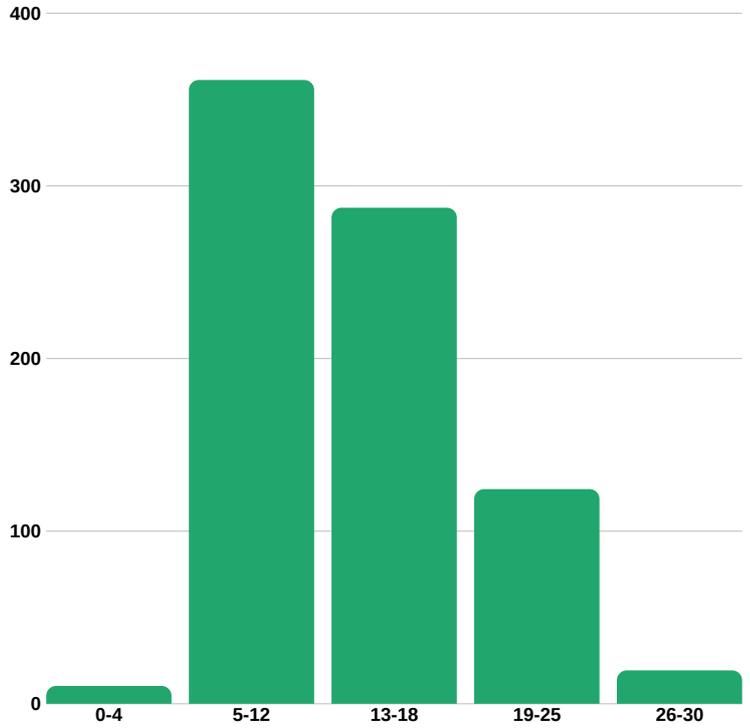


ETHNICITY

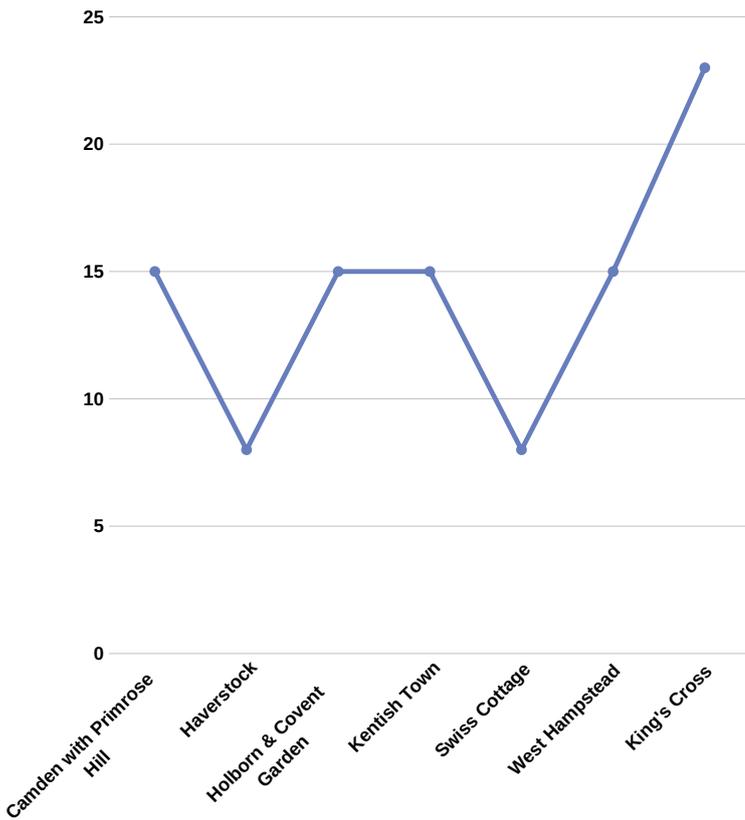


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AGE



GEOGRAPHIC REACH



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



*images courtesy of WAC Arts

OUTCOMES OF THE SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FUND

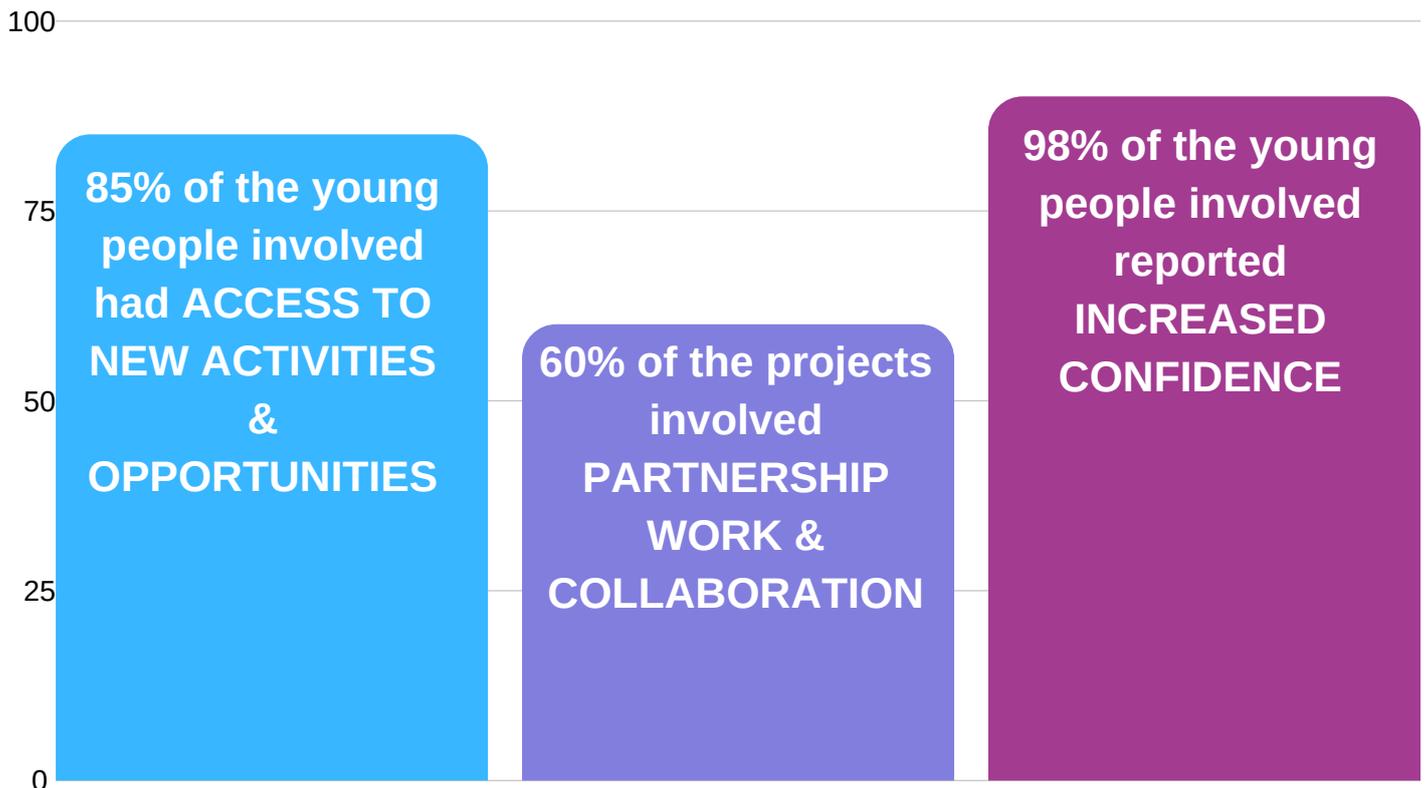
Voluntary organisations were encouraged to focus on projects that would achieve the following outcomes:

1. Children and young people will have **increased confidence**
2. Children and young people will have **access to new activities and/or opportunities**
3. Organisations will have worked in **partnership** to deliver their activities



*Image courtesy of BWA

OUTCOMES ACHIEVED



*Image courtesy of The Winch



*Image courtesy of WAC Arts

HOLBORN CA



*image courtesy of Holborn CA

Holborn Community Association ran a **summer programme** aimed at **targeting diverse needs**. They wanted to grow their vibrant and diverse summer programme for children and young people in Holborn and the surrounding area. This included providing of a **play in a week drama project** for children aged 11 – 14 **focused on transitions and identity**.

The play in a week project supported young people with transitioning from primary to secondary school and provided a space for the young people involved to **explore identity**. During the programme, materials including pictures of children and their families from the local area, during different periods of history were used to stimulate conversations about family relationships. The young people created scenes which told the story of two families who didn't get on, and how being put into a close situation, on holiday, helped them to come together and make friends. This project helped young people develop friendships and networks. Seventy-seven percent of young people involved said that the project had helped them to make new friends. This project also gave young people involved the opportunity to learn new skills and challenge perceptions. Rym, a 13-year-old participant said **'We learned to have confidence'**.

CAMDEN KNIGHTS BASKETBALL CLUB



Camden Knights Basketball Club ran a week-long **Basketball Camp** at the Talacre Community Sports Centre for young people aged 12-19. Camden Knights carried out a survey and found out that local young people under the age of 19 do not have any opportunities to play basketball during the summer/ school break period. The 2017 Camden Physical and Sport Borough Profile document also indicated that there was a high latent demand for physical and sport participation, and that only 38% of girls participated in such activities. The Basketball Camp project was developed in response to low rates of participation. It also **helped to fill a much-needed gap, as prior to the project, there were no basketball clubs offering girls' and junior sessions.**

The aim of the project was to **improve the confidence** of young people by encouraging them to **learn to embrace and accept the things they cannot change** and setting goals to improve things they can change.

Furthermore, the project provided young people involved with the opportunity to **learn about discipline and teamwork**, in order to help them better understand the life challenges ahead of them.

PACE



PACE (Play Adventure Community Enrichment) ran a **summer scheme** for young people currently in Year 6 and transitioning to Year 7. The young people involved in this project have been excluded from mainstream schooling or are at risk of exclusion. Many attend pupil referral units (PRU) or have been excluded from PRU's. This project was developed in response to the lack of suitable provision in Camden for high-need young people.

The scheme was activity-based and focused on **promoting positive peer relationships** and **building on social skills by participating in new activities** such as, natural play and cooking on open fires. As well as **increased levels of confidence**, young people were able to **improve their communication skills** through working together and interacting with key workers and peers. Throughout all of the project activities, participants learnt new ways of coping, improving their behavior, and being better equipped to interact and engage positively with their peers.

BENGALI WORKERS' ASSOCIATION



Bengali Workers' Association ran several **summer programmes including a five-week Street Dance Project**. This project was developed in response to their very popular weekly Street Dance Project. They focused on attracting new users of different ages among young people from the local area who have not participated in regular activities and sessions at the Surma Centre. There was **collaboration between new, engaged users and veterans of their dance project Mix It!**. This was an opportunity for the existing young people from Mix It! to **share their knowledge and understanding** of dance, and support the development of new participants. The young people from the existing group faced new challenges and tasks, such as creating dance pieces and learning how to teach a sequence of dance to new members of the group.

The majority of the young people who attended the project were new to the service and came from other youth groups in the area. Young people created their own dance pieces. Five of the young people involved performed at a community event in front of 150 people. At the start of the programme, these young people did not think they could achieve this. Their dance session was successful, as the majority were new to dance and **gained so much confidence** and are now part of BWA's weekly dance sessions.

THE SOUTH CAMDEN TOGETHER PROJECT



*Image courtesy of Coram's Field

The South Camden Together project ran for a five-week period over the summer. This **partnership project**, delivered by Coram's Field, KCBNA and Somers Town Community Association, brought together 58 young people (exceeding their target) from across the south of Camden. The activities helped to **increase community cohesion and promote friendships across different areas of the borough**.

The **project consisted of providing fun opportunities and experiences that young people would otherwise have been unable to take part in**, including two trips with young people from all three organisations. Fifty-five young people were able to engage in a programme of activities during the summer.

As a result of the project, a new social enterprise coordinated by young people has been developed. Based on the Citrus Saturday model, created by UCL, young people were able to run their own lemonade stall at Camden Market- an opportunity facilitated by a local councillor. This experience provided young people with a taste of employment and also allowed them to **enhance their critical thinking skills**, including budgeting. **Twenty-eight young people were able to achieve AQA accreditation**. The Citrus Saturday Lemonade Stall won the Camden Youth Award 2019 for Best Practice Young People's Partnership.



*Image courtesy of BWA

THANK YOU FROM YCF

Keith Morgan, CEO: Keith@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk

Halima Nessa, Development Manager: Halima@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk

Princess Menkiti-Udom, Administrator: Princess@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk



[young_camden](https://twitter.com/young_camden)



info@youngcamdenfoundation.org.uk



Young Camden Foundation

LABS Camden - Atrium

The Stables Market, Chalk Farm Rd, Camden Town, London NW1 8AH

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