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Our Aims

- ✗ Influencing how Europe and European nations think and act about active participation in the arts and culture
- ✗ Facilitating opportunities for cross national collaborative working
- ✗ Supporting our members to increase their knowledge, skills and capacities
- ✗ Facilitating opportunities for sharing both best practice and innovative approaches to active participation in arts and culture
- ✗ Providing a platform for research
- ✗ Establish Amateo as a strong, visible and resilient network
- ✗ Building our membership



Europe's network for
active participation
in arts and culture



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



In 2008 the Amateo network was formed by some of the national organisations that are there to help support and promote the activity of the voluntary, amateur and participatory arts sector.

Our vision is that all European citizens have access and opportunities to enjoy, participate in and benefit from creative and cultural experiences of their choice, whatever their background and circumstances and wherever they live. Already 38% of the citizens in EU member states are active in arts in culture.

We are a membership organisation that works as an advocate and provides support and opportunities for exchange and collaboration amongst its members, who are national and regional organisations working in the field of amateur, voluntary and participatory arts and culture.

We currently have over 40 national and regional umbrellas and associations from almost 20 EU member states and programme countries. We are growing in number and in strength thanks to the support of Creative Europe through its network programme and are always interested to have new members join the network.

The support from Creative Europe has allowed us to develop a number of new activities through the Arts Take Part programme which is delivered in an ambitious trans-national team model involving over 20 people from 14 nations. The team is mainly recruited from amongst our member organisations.

Amateo's CONNECT workshop in Deventer, March 2018



Dancers performing ahead of Amateo Award ceremony in Slovenia, May 2018



Op Roet from the Netherlands - winners of the first Amateo Award, Slovenia, May 2018



Theatre performance as part of Amateo Annual Conference, Ljubljana, May 2018

We have a new annual **Amateo Award** for best practice in participatory arts. The first winners of that award in 2018 was a remarkable theatre project Op Roet from the Netherlands.

Gathering, sharing and commissioning **research** that helps us to understand the impact of participatory arts and cultural activity is a key part of our programme. Find out more about our research endeavours in this [short film](#).

We are working to create the conditions for our members to learn from and share with each other. This includes opportunities to meet, share and learn at conferences and workshops.

As our work has progressed we have been excited to see and learn about the different approaches to participatory work across Europe through Pioneer Projects. This strand of our work links to CONNECT!, a series of **practical workshops** for participants and organisers.

All of this activity is shared and promoted through our website and social media as well as a regular newsletter for members. Membership costs €75 per year. Being a member not only adds to the strength of our voice but also offers opportunities for networking, learning and collaboration.

