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Accumulate Evaluation 2017: www.accumulate.org.uk: Conducted by BOP Consulting.



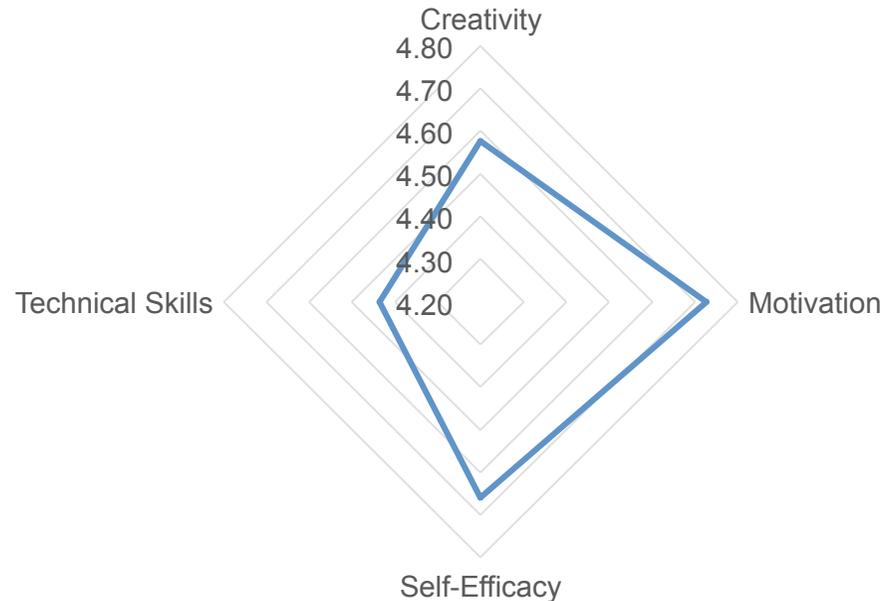
About Accumulate

- Registered charity that uses creativity to help young people who are homeless and living in hostels to move forward positively with their lives.
- The participants often come from difficult, complicated and diverse backgrounds, including abusive relationships, mental health and substance abuse, foster care and prison backgrounds.
- Through the Accumulate programme they become engaged in something personally rewarding and meaningful, begin to develop their self-esteem and sense of self worth and start to have the ambition to think and plan for a more positive future.
- Accumulate creative workshops are held in collaboration with museums and galleries, including Tate Modern, The Barbican, Somerset House and The Photographers' Gallery. This means that participants leave the hostel environment for our workshops, discover and enjoy new places in London and overcome personal challenges and fear about travel to unfamiliar places.
- Ravensbourne tutors teach on the Accumulate workshops and students help deliver the workshops
- Everyone develops skills, confidence, experience and gets rewards through being involved, participating and learning together.
- At end of project, an exhibition is held and participants get 40% from sales of their work.
- Accumulate fundraises and awards scholarships to Accumulate participants to continue and develop their creative education and study at Ravensbourne.
- Other Accumulate participants go on to enter training, education, employment or move out of the hostel.

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Overall development scores

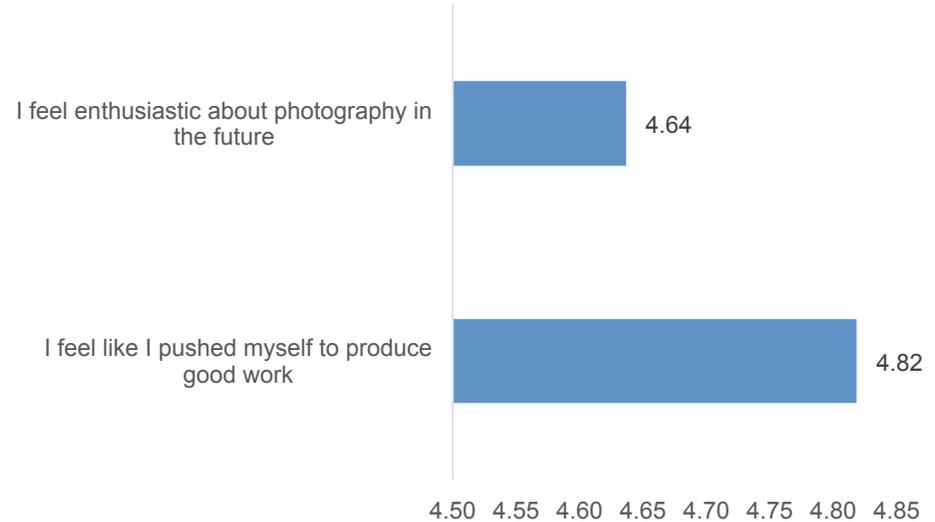
- Participants scored highly across all measures
- Mean scores are between 1 (very low self-perceived development) and 5 (very high self-perceived development)
- Although the sample is small (11 participants) it seems that motivation (4.73) and self-efficacy (4.66) were developed slightly more strongly than creativity (4.58) or technical photography skills (4.44)
- However this could also be to do with how the questions were asked – we need a bigger sample in the future to be very sure of these trends



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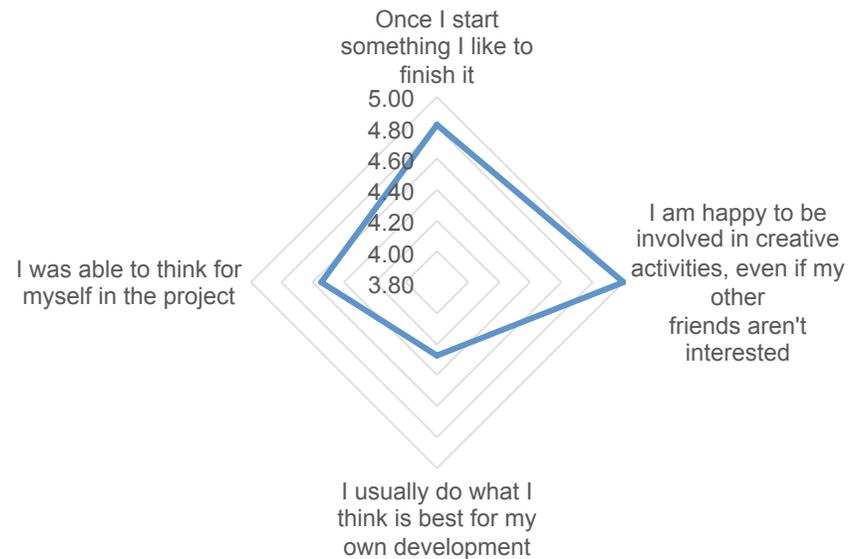
Motivation dimension

- On the motivation dimension we can see that participants felt that they could **push themselves to make good work** slightly more than feeling enthusiastic about photography in the future



Self-efficacy dimension

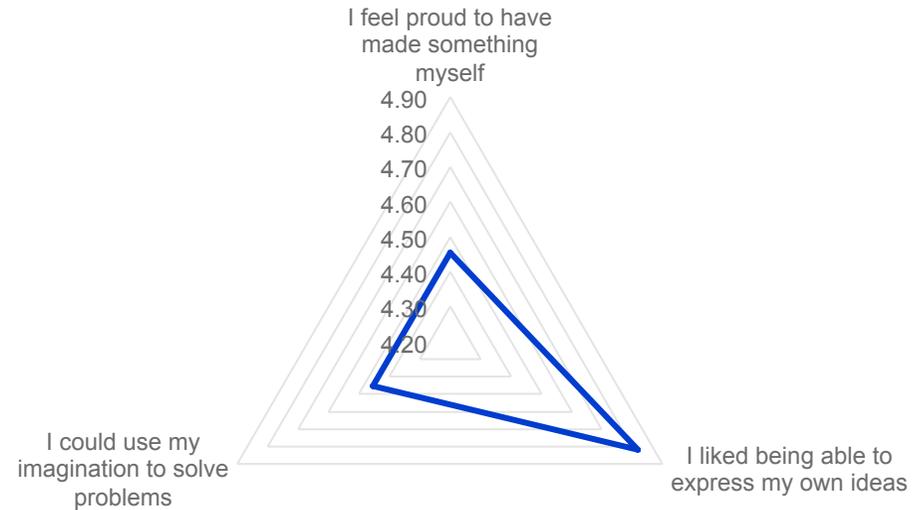
- On self-efficacy, scores were slightly higher for **willingness to participate autonomously of peers and commitment** to finishing things than they were for feeling in control of their own development and thinking for themselves



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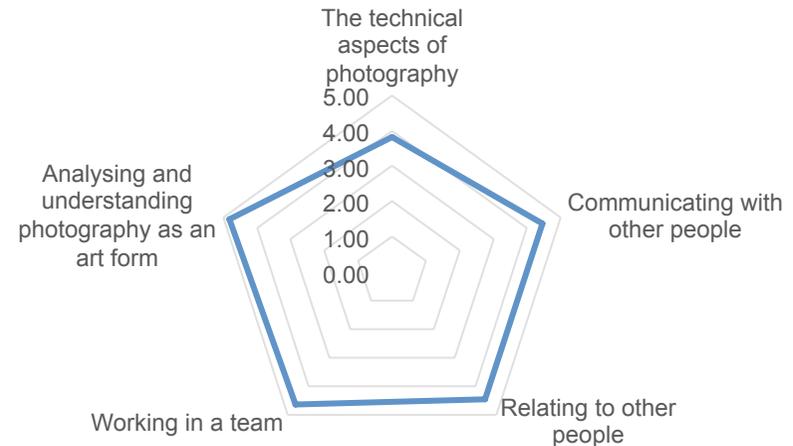
Creativity dimension

- In terms of creativity, participants felt more strongly that they could **express their own ideas**, but also scored highly on feeling proud to have made something creative and using their imaginations



Technical skills dimension

- On technical skills participants scored themselves highly across measures of **communication and team work**, and only slightly lower on mastering the technical aspects of photography



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Implications

- The sample represents a large proportion of the participants who took part this year and can be thought of as indicative of impact.
- The slightly lower scores on mastering the technical aspects of photography could come from the fact that the course is introductory and participants are at the beginning of their technical learning trajectories
- The strong findings relating to motivation and self-efficacy are especially encouraging given that the complex lives some participants lead can limit self-directed development opportunities
- Future evaluation should consider looking at baseline and follow-up surveys to explore change over the duration of the project

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How has taking part in Accumulate affected your future plans?

- It's clarified them and made my future brighter
- This session made me take a decision about my future. I would like to study further and want to find a job which I like
- Tremendously everything is a picture, I see things differently
- In a positive way. Applying for access course
- Clarity. More clearer
- I'm going to make myself a photographer.

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Feedback from hostel staff evidence the positive impact of Accumulate on beneficiaries.

- Vulnerable and damaged clients with low self-esteem and self-worth developed new skills, met new people and saw that they have something of value to offer society and regained their self-esteem and self-worth. (Sue Munroe, CEO of Freedom from Torture)
- Customers gained much improved confidence, sense of wellbeing and meaningful use of time. It was a fantastic project with amazing outcomes for some of our customers. (George Bageya, Evolve Housing)
- Residents who got involved in Accumulate exhibited a sense of reward and became much more motivated toward life and personal achievements compared with residents that have not attended Accumulate. (Shaun Ashley, NLYMCA)
- Participants benefitted from new, uncommon experiences and had the opportunity to visit places they may never have been to before or been able to go to independently. They learnt how to use a professional camera and own their identity through creativity. The project also broke down the barriers between different socio-economic groups. (Poonam Patel, ELYMCA)
- The participants who were involved really enjoyed the course and said it helped them rediscover their creativity. It also helped them gain confidence by meeting new people and seeing new parts of London they had not been to before. As an organisation, it has been wonderful to see one of our past clients gain a scholarship, and we have also had some good publicity for Stonewall Housing in Diva magazine as a result of this. (Ash, Stonewall Housing)

Accumulate



Made By Us

An exhibition of photographs by
people affected by homelessness

Private View

11 May 2017

7–8.30pm

Exhibition continues

12 May–3 June

Open 10am–6pm

**The Guardian,
Kings Place**

90 York Way,

King's Cross,

London, N1 9GU

**Accumulate: Empowering
homeless people through creativity**

**accumulate.org.uk
info@accumulate.org.uk**

Accumulate

Empowering homeless people through creativity