



Coming Together

nsead

NORWICH  
UNIVERSITY  
OF THE ARTS

# Power to Placemaking

How does the autonomy of Further Education encourage Artist-Teachers to work with local community projects?

Ronnie Houselander-Cook – Artist-Teacher Conference - 2023

# INTRODUCTION

& My **positionality** in relation to this conference

Who am I?

Who do I work with?

Why do I consider myself an Artist-Teacher?



# AIMS OF THIS PRESENTATION

**Reflect** on the Culture Weston *21st Century Supershrines* project from an educator perspective

**Explore** how Further Education relates to Placemaking

**Consider** How can partnerships with the creative community strengthen the motivations of Artist-Teachers and form meaningful relationships in times of uncertainty

Reflect on the Culture Weston 21<sup>st</sup> Century Supershrines Project from an Educator perspective



Images: Culture Weston



**Explore** how Further Education relates to

# PLACEMAKING

Placemaking means **creating places and focuses on transforming public spaces to strengthen the connections between people and these places**

*Traditionally, we've searched for material objects on the Highstreet but maybe we should be searching for something else*

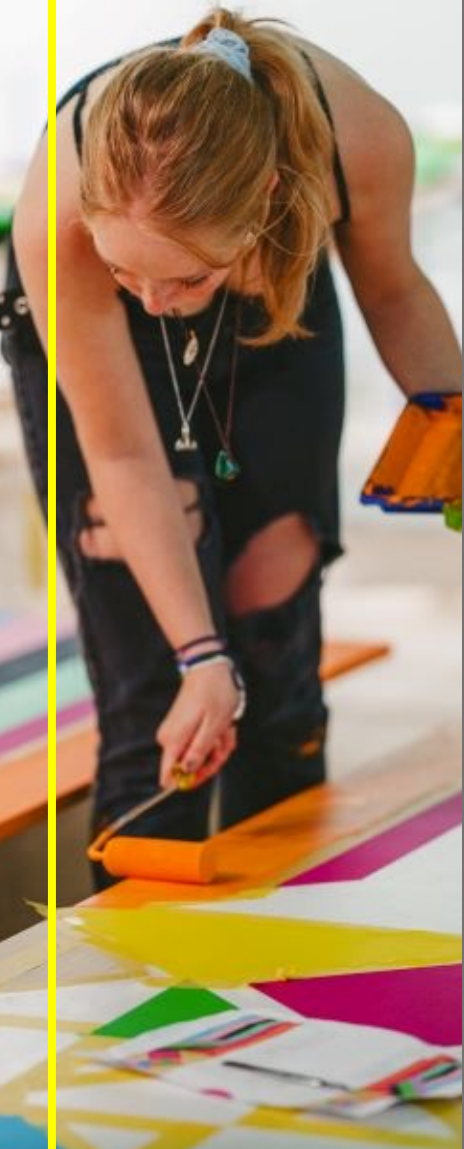
With 16% of the UK High Street empty  
The high street needs a **new vision and purpose**,  
and growing evidence shows that a community-led  
high street is the answer

How does Placemaking relate to Further Education?



Image: Morag Myerscough

Reflect on the Culture Weston 21<sup>st</sup> Century Supershrines Project from an Educator perspective



**Consider:** How can partnerships with the creative community strengthen the motivations of Artist-Teachers and form meaningful relationships in times of uncertainty?

# PARTNERSHIPS

An understanding of pedagogy and inclusive practice that will feedback into the **cycle of placemaking**

Artist-Teachers can gauge greater understandings of the **local creative industry skill shortages** and are able to reflect this back in their curriculum and teaching to strengthen the skills of alumni and therefore strengthen the potential employees of the future.

Possibility to **build your own community** as an Artist-Teacher

A man wearing a yellow hard hat and a blue safety vest is working on a large, colorful, geometric sculpture. The sculpture is composed of many triangular and rectangular shapes in various colors like red, blue, green, yellow, and purple. The man is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a street scene with a building and a cloudy sky.

CULTURE  
WESTON

Image: Culture Weston

Reflect on the Culture Weston 21<sup>st</sup> Century Supershrines Project from an Educator perspective





# SUMMARY

We are existing in a **shifting society**, and we can help navigate and contribute to new possibilities as Artist-Teachers

Artist-Teachers can collaborate and take part in exciting events so don't be afraid to get involved

We are just as **strong** as the communities that we surround ourselves with



• **THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

Any questions?

# References

Culture Weston (2021) 21<sup>st</sup> Century Super Shrines shines a spotlight on Weston Community.

Power to change (2022) Britain's high street crisis reaches tipping point. Power to change.

Images courtesy of Paul Blackmore Photography and Culture Weston