



# TANTRUM

## Tantrum Youth Arts Annual Report

**2021**

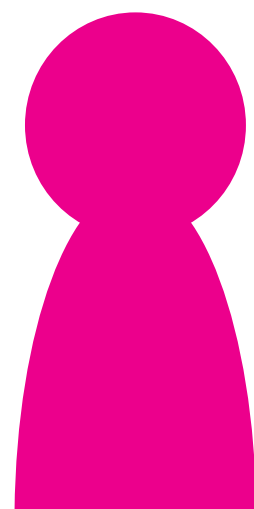




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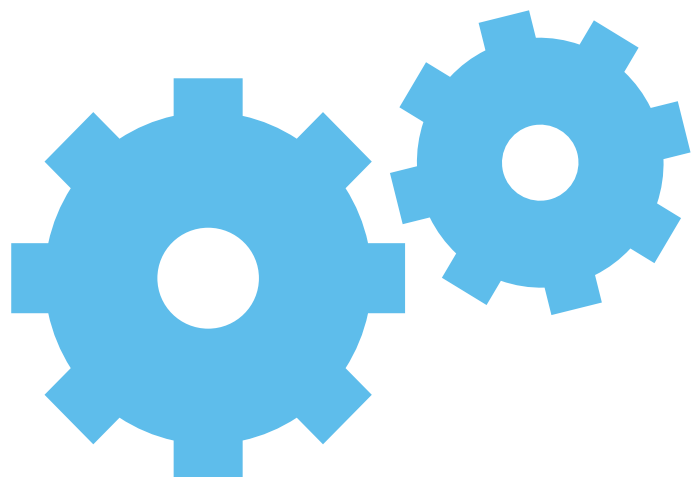


**205**  
young people  
engaged in  
our programs



**245**  
workshops for young  
and emerging artists

**37**  
artists and  
arts workers  
employed



**4**  
emerging artists  
supported to  
develop new work

## Who We Are

Tantrum is the leading youth arts company in the Hunter region (NSW, Australia) and a not-for-profit co-operative. Utilising performance, storytelling and so much more, we offer meaningful creative workshops, projects and opportunities for young people aged 5 to 30 that build confidence, connections and compassion.

We believe artistic expression is a powerful tool for young people to make sense of themselves, their community and the world around them, leading to change.

We're a hub for local emerging artists who want to carve out their own sustainable arts practice within our region, through skills development, networking and making bold new performance.

We're an employer of local artists and art workers who are passionate about taking a creative approach towards making a social impact, supporting young people to become makers in their own way.

**Tantrum is for every young person but especially those who feel left out, like they don't belong or that their voices aren't being heard. We hear you. We see you.**

## Our Mission

To empower young people with creativity, confidence and connectedness. We achieve this through dynamic workshops, projects and partnerships that utilise performance and multiform art. We give young people the tools to positively shape their lives and the world around them.

## Our Story

Tantrum has been making noise in the Hunter for over 40 years. Established in 1976 under the name 2 Til 5 Youth Theatre Co-op as a Saturday afternoon drama workshop program, the company grew steadily through the making of bold, original performances with young people aged 8 to 18.

In 1996, 2 Til 5 established Tantrum Theatre, an off-shoot company catering to emerging artists aged 18 to 25, and the two companies later merged.

In 2014, we relaunched as Tantrum Youth Arts to better reflect our vision and the work we do: providing a space for young people to be makers and doers, while exploring multiple forms of creative expression, to empower confidence, connections and compassion.



We thank all our incredible donors and supporters, who make our work with young people in the Hunter region possible.

## Government Partners



## Community Partners





# Chair's Report

## Rob Oerlemans

**In this, our second full year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the arts sector has been challenged to respond. Lockdowns and restrictions have been particularly hard felt within our sector, and yet the uplift, excitement and inspiration provided by the creative arts, could not be more needed.**

In this year, Tantrum has shown itself to be agile, flexible and responsive and that is a credit to our staff and the Board, who have worked so hard to manage our programs and activities responsively.

We have continued our workshop programs for young people with a mix of in-person and online workshops responding to changing conditions. As a company, and as a Board, we have embraced the digital environment and although we happily look forward to moving back to in-person performance and workshops, these tools will help Tantrum to expand its reach and activities in the long term.

At a time when many of our faces were glued to our screens (by necessity) our Tantrum Flex Ensemble responded to that digital overload with the ultimate screen-free creative endeavour, creating and producing a brand-new board game Heist at the Museum which amused and delighted players of all ages. We were also pleased to launch a brand-new performance ensemble for young adults with disability, the only one of its kind in the Hunter region, and forged important new partnerships with the Civic Theatre and the internationally acclaimed Back to Back Theatre.

Tantrum's success is due in no small part to our fantastic staff. This year we farewelled our Artistic Director/CEO Chris Dunstan after three years with Tantrum, and Engagement Manager Eryn Leggatt, and express our thanks to both for their contributions to the company over the past few years. We welcomed Chloe Warren to the team as Marketing and Engagement Coordinator and Meg O' Hara as Emerging Workshop Facilitator. I would also like to acknowledge the work of David Williams who joined us as a temporary Creative Producer and Amy Morris who stepped up to manage our workshop program.



The Board has been carefully working through the structural model for our staffing to ensure we are best positioned to grow and develop the company as we move into post-lockdown Australia. As a result, in 2022 our General Manager Tamara Gazzard will step into the role of Executive Director, with Nel Kentish as Creative Director, joining the leadership team.

I would like to thank our Board for their contribution to Tantrum this year. It's not always obvious how much work goes on behind the scenes to make Tantrum the best it can be. Our current Board is filled to the brim with a very flexible, committed and creative people. They bring so much skill and experience to the company. Thank you to each of you for your contributions.

Finally special thanks are owed to our former General Manager, and new Executive Director Tamara, who has stewarded Tantrum through an extraordinarily challenging period in our history, always with a smile and optimism for our company.

**Rob Oerlemans**  
*Chairperson, Tantrum Youth Arts*



# Executive Report

## 2021 was a year that surprised us all.

We began the year with bright eyes, and hearts full of hope for a more connected, less disrupted year of creative collaborations and, excitingly, a return to live performances.

As the year unfolded, our plans and expectations necessarily had to shift. But from this position, we surprised ourselves by how ready we were to explore, invent and inspire new ways to make art, make connections and make change in a radically, permanently altered world.

With accessibility of creative opportunities at the heart of our strategic focus for 2021 we boldly established two new creative programs aimed at young people facing barriers to participating in the arts who might otherwise miss out. **Accelerate Ensemble**, our new performance ensemble for young adults with disability, was launched in April, through a partnership with Civic Theatre Newcastle and Back to Back Theatre, proudly supported by Beyond Bank. Eight fearless young creatives formed the Ensemble in its first year and, led by Tantrum's experienced artists, engaged in weekly workshops exploring the ins and outs of collaborative theatre making. During lockdown, the Accelerate workshops transitioned to online delivery and provided a valuable opportunity for participants to stay creative and connected during a time of social isolation.



Our first **Tantrum Outpost** was also launched in April in Dungog. Through this program we facilitated free drama workshops for regional teens, in an area where opportunities to pursue creative expression and connect with like-minded people are extremely scarce. Hosted at Dungog High School, Tantrum artists created a safe, inclusive and creative space for young people to connect, play and express their ideas. The workshops were interrupted due to COVID-19 lockdown, but made such an impact and built such momentum in 2021 that they will most certainly continue into 2022 and potentially beyond.

Always with the greatest respect and appreciation for the creative agency of young people, parts of our 2021 program were adapted in response to lockdowns and restrictions, transforming from planned live performance outcomes into new COVID-safe creative endeavours. We will forever be in awe of the imagination, ingenuity and initiative demonstrated by the **Tantrum Flex Ensemble** in 2021, whose determination to create a playful, participatory art experience for audiences despite the limitations of COVID saw them take the leap into the world of game design, and create a daring, funny and (by all accounts) very entertaining new card game. Guided by Lead Artist Amy Morris, we are immensely proud of the Tantrum teens who gifted our community **Heist at the Museum**.



# Executive Report



Emerging artists who were supported through the 2021 **Tantrum Residency** were uniquely fortunate to develop their works during the first quarter of the year; a brief moment in time when no restrictions were in place. It was a joy to witness the explosion of bold ideas, brave experimentation and generous collaboration that arose from these artists, their projects and the time they spent in our Studio.

2021 simply would not have been the year it was, without the team of collaborative, creative risk-takers who lead and deliver Tantrum's programs. Enormous thanks and admiration to each and every member of the Tantrum team for their contributions in 2021 – our Workshop Facilitators Alex, Alia, Hannah, Keltan and Meg; our Workshops Coordinator Amy Morris; our outgoing Engagement Manager Eryn Leggatt and brand new Marketing Coordinator Chloe Warren; and last, but certainly not least, our outgoing Artistic Director Chris Dunstan. Special thanks as well to David Williams who supported us all in the temporary role of Creative Producer.

We look now to 2022 with such excitement and possibility. 2021 may have been a surprising year, but many of those surprises were good surprises that showed us just how agile and adaptable our people and our programs can be, and just how much determination we have to forge ahead, despite the challenges, to create more creative opportunities for more young people in the Hunter.

**Tamara Gazzard**, *Executive Director*

**Nel Kentish**, *Creative Director*



# Workshops

## On-Site & Online

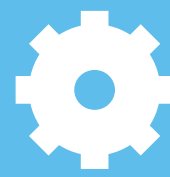
**In 2021, our weekly workshop program provided youth in the Hunter with access to a safe, inclusive creative space to play, connect and grow.**

We delivered 5 afternoon drama workshops every week during school terms, beginning the year with face-to-face workshops at the Tantrum Studio in Merewether (Newcastle), and moving to online workshops mid-Term 3 due to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 lockdown. Using video conferencing platform Zoom, Tantrum's weekly workshops provided continuity of engagement and helped foster social connectedness among our young participants at a challenging time for all.

Our ever-adaptable and inventive workshop facilitators embraced the move to online delivery and worked with our creative young participants to develop a first-ever end-of-year Virtual Showcase – a mini festival of online performances accompanied by an online gallery of creative responses to the word “Celebration”.

In addition, our Tantrum OPEN Scholarship program continued to support young people who face disadvantage to be able to engage with Tantrum's workshop program. This program, funded by generous individual donors, provides recipients with a full year of access to Tantrum's Drama + Performance workshops in 2021 at no cost.

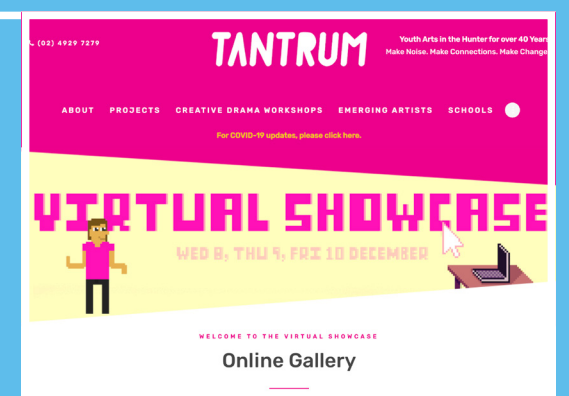


 **22**  
term-length  
workshops

 **147**  
participants

 **306**  
hrs  
of workshops

[Click here](#)  
to take a wander through our  
online showcase of creative  
workshop responses.





# Workshops

## On-Site & Online

*"Thank you for supporting me and making me feel so welcome. I love tantrum and you are all my friends!"*  
– 2021 Workshop Participant

*"It's a safe non-judgmental space where [my son] has been able to be his quirky self."*  
– Parent of 2021 Workshop Participant

*"Tantrum is an exceptional company who welcomes the talents and contributions of all its members. Our son loves Tantrum. It is the highlight of his week. He can be free to be brave and try new things in a wonderfully creative environment."*  
– Parent of 2021 Workshop Participant

*"I thank everyone at Tantrum - you have helped [my child] be able to be himself for the very first time and felt nothing but love and acceptance from all the teaching staff and peers."*  
– Parent of OPEN Scholarship recipient



### Our Workshop Participants say...

Average rating

**8.6**  
out of 10

*"The workshops help me feel more confident about making my own creative work"*

**9.2**  
out of 10

*"The workshops gave me a chance to socialise and connect with others"*

**9.5**  
out of 10

*"I feel welcome and included in the workshops"*



# Tantrum Outpost Dungog

## OUTPOSTS



***“The [Outpost] program is a lot of fun and [students] are developing their skills and confidence in working together. They have said that they feel safe within the group and for some of them this is the only place they can say they have felt this. They say they can be themselves within this group. This is huge for some of our very vulnerable students. I feel that the program is having a very positive impact on our students and we would welcome Tantrum Outpost to our school again next term.”***

**- Louise Rowley, Teacher Dungog High School**

**In 2021, we launched our first Tantrum Outpost - an exciting new initiative to establish ongoing creative workshop programs for young people in regional areas led by regional artists, through training and support from Tantrum.**

In partnership with Arts Upper Hunter, Tantrum Outpost - Dungog commenced in April 2021. Beginning with a creative residency and community consultation, the program evolved into a weekly Drama + Performance Workshop program for young people in partnership with Dungog High School in Terms 2 and 3.

Led by experienced Tantrum artists and supported by a local emerging artist, the workshops focused on wellbeing, creativity, connection and self-expression, providing participants in years 7-10 with a crucial creative outlet. The program took pause in Term 4 due to Covid-19 restrictions on visitors to schools, but we look forward to resuming Tantrum Outpost - Dungog in 2022.

***“I think the most positive aspect of being involved is I can be myself more, it’s fun and I can make new friends”***

**- Tantrum Outpost Workshop Participant**

***“I look forward to Thursdays - I can be myself and have fun”***

**- Tantrum Outpost Workshop Participant**

**arts** UPPER HUNTER





# Tantrum Flex Ensemble

## Heist at the Museum



True to their name, Tantrum Flex Ensemble continued to show their remarkable creative flexibility in 2021, embarking on the ultimate COVID-pivot to create, design and produce a brand new, multiplayer card game.

Originally, the teenage Ensemble were planning to develop a live participatory performance at Newcastle's Civic Theatre in 2021, that would explore what it means to feel at home in cultural spaces and arts institutions.

When the pandemic moved the ensemble online, they instead turned their attention to play, and subsequently created Heist at the Museum, a sneaky and imaginative family card game, which was launched through a simultaneous family game night in October 2021.

Tantrum Flex Ensemble collaborated through this project with Newcastle-based illustrator and designer Ben Mitchell, and professional board game designer Matthew Dunstan. Tantrum Workshop Facilitator Keltan O'Shea also offered up his prowess in animation to develop a quirky and entertaining 'How to Play' video for the launch night.

The game was made available as a free Print & Play PDF for all to download and play at home. A limited run of 100 professionally printed card decks was also produced and hand-delivered to locals in the Greater Newcastle area.

[Download the Free Print & Play here](#)



6

young people  
engaged



70

card decks  
sold and hand-  
delivered



5

artists  
employed



***"Fantastic game, congratulations to the Flex ensemble on a brilliant game. Unfortunately, I never won and will forever be chasing that victory high!"***

**– Audience member**

[Click here](#) to watch  
the highlights video





# Tantrum Flex Ensemble

## Heist at the Museum



*"I honestly can't begin to describe the amount of thrill you get opening your eyes to see the artwork has been stolen!"*

**- Audience member**

*"Congratulations to all of you on how the game has turned out! Was a pleasure to be involved, and hope some of you will keep designing games in the future."*

**- Matthew Dunstan, Board Game Design Mentor**

*"A really clever game, played with great hilarity."*

**- Audience member**





# Tantrum Youth Arts & Civic Theatre Present: Accelerate Ensemble



**2021 saw the launch of Tantrum's Accelerate Ensemble – a performance ensemble for young adults with disability who want to explore their own arts practice and work together to push the boundaries of what theatre can do.**

The program commenced in April 2021, with weekly workshops held during school terms. Led by experienced Tantrum artists, the group explored all aspects of collaborative theatre making, improvisation, and play. As with our other workshop-based programs, Accelerate Ensemble moved to online delivery during the COVID-19 lockdown in Terms 3 and 4.

This program was established in partnership with Civic Theatre Newcastle, and Civic Theatre provides an accessible workshop space for the Ensemble to meet each week in the Civic precinct.

We are also grateful for the support of the internationally acclaimed Geelong-based company Back to Back Theatre, who have worked with us to establish the ensemble, offering training and support to our participants and staff, and aiding in the development of performance opportunities.

*Accelerate Ensemble is proudly supported by Beyond Bank.*



 **27**  
weekly  
workshops  
delivered

 **8** young adults  
with disability

 **2** guest workshops  
facilitated by Back to  
Back Theatre artists

## Participant feedback

- "I felt empowered to contribute to the activities "** ★★★★★
- "I improved my artistic skills"** ★★★★★
- "I felt welcome and included"** ★★★★★



# Tantrum Youth Arts & Civic Theatre Present: Accelerate Ensemble



*"[Accelerate Ensemble] been incredible and I can't thank you enough for allowing me to explore so much with you all"*

**– 2021 Accelerate Ensemble Participant**

*"It's very good as there are very little programs available to adults with disabilities in Newcastle that are free and open to all"*

**– 2021 Accelerate Ensemble Participant**



Civic  
Theatre

Beyond Bank  
AUSTRALIA

BACK  
TO  
BACK  
THEATRE





## Res!dency

In 2021, Tantrum Residency supported three local emerging artists/artist groups to create their own new work and build professional connections to help them develop sustainable careers in the arts.

From January–April 2021, Tantrum provided the selected artists/groups with studio space and the opportunity to forge professional connections around the creative development of their own new performance work. We also matched each artist/team with an industry mentor, providing invaluable feedback and guidance throughout.

### The 2021 Tantrum Residency Artists and Mentors were:

- **Amy Morris & Dominic Fitzgerald**, mentored by Mish Grigor and Malcolm Whittaker
- **Barnaby Donaghy**, mentored by Tristram Baumber and David Molloy
- **Matt Heys**, mentored by Yumi Umiumare

Through our partnership with Shopfront Arts, Tantrum's Residency Artists had the opportunity to attend the Shopfront ArtsLab Industry Event in February 2021, connecting with Shopfront's own residency artists, as well as building their greater industry networks.

Furthermore, our Residency Artists attended a Producing Masterclass, led by Chris Bendall from Critical Stages Touring, to gain insights into self-producing and presenting creative work in the current context.

After 4 months of development, the resident artists presented aspects of their new works to the public in a combined season of work-in-progress 'sharings' at Tantrum's studio in Merewether in April 2021.



***"The residency was very valuable to me. I formed stronger connections with the other artists I collaborated with, as well as making contacts with peers and industry mentors. Having the space and structure to experiment and play was motivating and inspiring. It helped my skills as an artist as well as my personal wellbeing."***

**– 2021 Tantrum Resident Artist**



**early-career artists supported**



**industry artists employed as mentors**



**new creative works developed**





## Tantrum Youth Arts Co-op Ltd.

### Statement of Profit & Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

		2021 \$	2020 \$
Grant & workshop income	2	226,569	205,430
Other income	2	89,743	214,203
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>316,312</b>	<b>419,633</b>
Artist fees, salaries and employee benefits		(214,049)	(237,122)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	3	(19,521)	(19,521)
Administration expenses		(28,531)	(22,338)
Occupancy expenses		(11,613)	(9,542)
Audit of the financial report	3	(2,450)	(2,400)
Other production costs		(4,634)	(15,199)
Sundry expenses		(3,866)	(8,675)
Interest expenses	3	(306)	(812)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(284,970)</b>	<b>(315,609)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>31,342</b>	<b>104,024</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>31,342</b>	<b>104,024</b>

## Tantrum Youth Arts Co-op Ltd.

### Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2021

		2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		233,534	242,361
Trade and other receivables	4	195	15,390
Other current assets	5	3,011	2,860
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>236,740</b>	<b>260,611</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Right of use assets	6	1,229	15,976
Plant & equipment	7	6,644	11,418
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>7,873</b>	<b>27,394</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>244,613</b>	<b>288,005</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	18,133	13,978
Other liabilities	9	72,377	136,066
Employee entitlements	10	7,580	6,310
Lease liabilities	11	1,341	16,470
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>99,431</b>	<b>172,824</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Lease liabilities	11	-	1,341
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>1,341</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>99,431</b>	<b>174,165</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>145,182</b>	<b>113,840</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings	12	145,182	113,840
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>145,182</b>	<b>113,840</b>



## Tantrum Youth Arts Co-op Ltd.

### Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended at 31 December 2021

		2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Operating cash flows</b>			
Receipts from activities, performance, hire and other		89,639	31,396
General administration and employment expenses		(244,670)	(326,563)
Interest received		127	69
Receipts from governments and other grants		162,853	408,174
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	13	<u>7,949</u>	<u>113,076</u>
<b>Investing cash flows</b>			
Payments for plant and equipment		-	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Financing cash flows</b>			
Payments for lease liability		(16,776)	(16,776)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<u>(16,776)</u>	<u>(16,776)</u>
Net increase in cash held		(8,827)	96,300
Cash at beginning of the financial year		242,361	146,061
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial</b>		<u><u>233,534</u></u>	<u><u>242,361</u></u>

## Tantrum Youth Arts Co-op Ltd.

### Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended at 31 December 2021

		2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Operating cash flows</b>			
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Interest received		127	69
Receipts from governments and other grants		162,853	408,174
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	13	<u>7,949</u>	<u>113,076</u>
<b>Investing cash flows</b>			
Payments for plant and equipment		-	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Financing cash flows</b>			
Payments for lease liability		(16,776)	(16,776)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<u>(16,776)</u>	<u>(16,776)</u>
Net increase in cash held		(8,827)	96,300
Cash at beginning of the financial year		242,361	146,061
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial</b>		<u><u>233,534</u></u>	<u><u>242,361</u></u>