

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



**TANTRUM**

**We acknowledge that we live, work and  
make art on the lands of the Awabakal  
people. We pay our respects to their elders,  
past and present.**

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# 2022 SNAPSHOT



2

new works presented



247

young people engaged in  
our programs

35



artists and artsworkers  
employed



140

hours free professional  
development for emerging  
artists

# Chair's Report

2022 marks a year of consolidation for Tantrum, following the COVID pandemic. Tantrum, along with other artistic companies and not-for-profits, was challenged by the pandemic. Disruption to programs and fundraising, the need to re-engineer to virtual programming and the loss of networks and supporters constrained the staff and the Board. It was a time, however, that we looked to the future and challenged ourselves as to how we could make Tantrum better, stronger and more relevant as we return to a more stable environment.

We were able to strengthen our team in 2022 with a refreshed Board and new staff to join our Executive Director, Tamara. Nel Kentish joined us as Creative Director in February, Hannah Armstrong stepping in as Associate Producer in June, and Sarah Coffee moving into the Marketing role in October.

We were very keen to welcome Clare Twist into the newly created Business Development role late in the year, reflecting the Board's commitment to building a sustainable future for Tantrum through increased sponsorship and partnerships, donations and new grants.

We are very thankful to the Tantrum Team who, despite these staffing changes, managed to deliver an increasing and exciting range of programs and activities throughout the year and into 2023. I encourage you to read the Annual Report for insights into our fantastic company.

Thanks again to the staff for their commitment, above and beyond, and to our Board; all busy people with full lives that manage to carve out a little extra to support Tantrum make some noise in the Hunter.

**Rob Oerlemans**  
Chairperson



# Executive Report

## **2022 was a year to celebrate.**

We celebrated our return to live performance, we celebrated our community connections, and we celebrated diverse voices and stories through our art making.

We kicked off the year with an intergenerational community collaboration which brought together teens and seniors from Lake Macquarie to make and present a multimedia performance work in *Say Something Do Something*.

As well as fostering meaningful intergenerational exchange and a unique creative opportunity for community members, this project also activated an exciting new contemporary performance space, MAP mima, and launched our ongoing partnership with **Lake Macquarie City Council** and our second Tantrum Outpost. We were thrilled to discover a new creative community in this LGA and have the opportunity to establish a safe, inclusive space for young people to express themselves through our ongoing weekly workshops there.

A true moment of celebration in 2022 was Tantrum's collaboration with the internationally acclaimed **Back to Back Theatre**, through the creation of *RADIAL Newcastle* for **New Annual**.

Our Accelerate Ensemble of young artists with disability grasped the opportunity to extend their skills and showcase their talents in a visually stunning short film, shot on a circular track in iconic Newcastle locations.

A project that was originally planned for 2021, but postponed due to the pandemic, *RADIAL Newcastle* was a euphoric experience for Accelerate Ensemble, our collaborators and our partners. Our team were so grateful to have the opportunity to collaborate with the Ibsen Award-winning **Back to Back Theatre**, and for the ongoing mentorship Back to Back has continued to provide to Tantrum's artists and staff.

Our work in supporting emerging artist development continued in 2022 with our Residency program. We received an overwhelming number of high calibre applications, and were thrilled to offer four incredible emerging artists a 6-month long Residency with Tantrum.

These artists worked across diverse practices and disciplines spanning video installation, durational performance, audio theatre and participatory performance. After 6-months of developing their projects alongside their industry mentors, our Residency artists presented work-in-progress showings as part of our inaugural *SHOWROOM* event at the Tantrum Studio.

This emerging artist industry day featured panels, artist talks, showings and a producing masterclass with **Critical Stages Touring**. *SHOWROOM* proved to be a much-needed opportunity for local emerging artists to connect (or reconnect post-pandemic), and will most certainly become a mainstay of Tantrum's programming in future years.

At the end of 2022 we celebrated the completion of our digital redevelopment of Tantrum's acclaimed, long-running theatre-in-education program *Opening Doors*. A pandemic-pivot project which took 18-months to realise, *Opening Doors: Digital* was an exciting foray into the world of digital storytelling and provided crucial paid employment opportunities for local performers, a musician, filmmaker and web developer/designer.

*Opening Doors: Digital* is now available to secondary schools as an online program exploring domestic violence and image-based abuse through an accessible and relatable medium.

2022 was a busy and brilliant year at Tantrum, and could not have happened without our busy and brilliant team. We recognise and celebrate the work of all those who were a part of Team Tantrum in 2022: Hannah Armstrong, Sarah Coffee, Barnaby Donaghy, Sorca Hubbuck, Eryn Leggatt, Alex Mangano, Amy Morris, Meg O'Hara, Keltan O'Shea, Clare Twist, Chloe Warren and David Williams, as well as our many collaborating artists.

We also celebrate our growing community of young people across Newcastle and the Hunter region who have been making noise with us at Tantrum this year. Your ideas, energy and creative voices make Tantrum the vibrant place it is.

Keep making noise in 2023.

### **Nel Kentish**

Creative Director

### **Tamara Gazzard**

Executive Director







# Say Something Do Something

**2-3 April 2022**

**Multi-Arts Pavilion, mima  
Speers Point**

Facilitated by Tantrum's former Artistic Director, Chris Dunstan, *Say Something Do Something* saw a passionate ensemble of Lake Macquarie teens (12-18 years) and seniors (55 years +) assemble to create an original work about who they are and what they stand for. The resulting performance was a live multi-arts mash-up of words, actions, video and theatre.

*Say Something Do Something* was a playful and heartwarming performance blending together bold truths and daring fantasies. Set against a rich digital backdrop and the Multi-Arts Pavilion, *mima's* beautiful lakeside surroundings, the intergenerational ensemble invited the audience on an exploration of identity across generations and communities.

## **Concept and Lead Artist**

Chris Dunstan

## **Ensemble**

Elliott Hutchinson

Brenda Carter

Jordan Kohlhagen

Jade Tenbosch

Rebecca Skinner

Barney Langford

Maree Miller

Daynah Howard

## **Understudies**

Barnaby Donaghy

Amy Morris

## **VJ/DJ**

Just Chuck

## **Production Manager**

Nik Lyons

## **Associate Producer**

Amy Morris

The initial development of *Say Something Do Something* as a workshop and performance blueprint for intergenerational exchange was proudly supported by Inner West Council.

*Say Something Do Something* by Tantrum was proudly presented by the Multi-Arts Pavilion, *mima* with support from Lake Macquarie City Council, the NSW Government through Create NSW and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government Initiative.



"...a wonderful performance of organically grown theatre and a daring blueprint for intergenerational exchange" - Newcastle Live

# Residency + SHOWROOM

In 2022 Tantrum's Residency program supported four emerging artists in the development of their own new work. Tantrum provided these artists with studio space, technical and marketing support, and paired each of them with an industry mentor to further support the development of their artistic process.

The six-month Residency program culminated in *SHOWROOM* - a day of work-in-progress showings, artist talks, discussion and networking opportunities for emerging artists in the Hunter.

At this event, each of our resident artists presented a development showing of their work. The resident artists and Tantrum's wider community were also given an opportunity to attend a Producing Masterclass on the day, delivered by **Critical Stages**.

## **2022 Residency Artists and Mentors**

- Alana McGaughey, mentored by Deborah Kelly
- Kar Mun Phoon, mentored by Wanjun Carpenter
- Meg O'Hara, mentored by David Williams
- Phoebe Turnbull, mentored by Dan Koop

## **SHOWROOM Producer**

Nel Kentish

## **Panel Guests**

Dr Sarah Coffee, Alex Travers

## **Production Support**

Tom Griffiths

With special thanks to Chris Bendall of Critical Stages Touring for his Producing Masterclass.



Customer is  
**NOT**  
always  
right.



**Don't be a hero**  
when it comes to your safety

When faced with customer threatening behaviour follow the

**5 D's**

- Distance
- Door
- De-escalate
- Don't detain
- Don't follow

**KEEP 1.1m distance**

4 emerging artists supported  
4 new works developed  
**50** audience members

# Accelerate Ensemble

Launched in 2021, Accelerate Ensemble is Tantrum's training ground for young artists with disability.

During weekly workshops held throughout the year, the Ensemble members had the opportunity to build skills in collaborative theatre making, and creatively explore their own interests, ideas and lived experience through performance.

Accelerate Ensemble is a partnership between Tantrum and the **Civic Theatre** – the home of live performance in Newcastle. **Civic Theatre Newcastle** provides an accessible workshop space for the Ensemble to meet each week.

Since its inception in 2021, Accelerate Ensemble has been supported by 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 production of new works.

In 2022, Accelerate Ensemble artists had the opportunity to work as professional actors as part of the Reimagining Parenting Possibilities Project, in collaboration with **University of Newcastle** and **disAbility Maternity Care**.

The Reimagining Parenting Possibilities project was a re-staging of a Canadian research project using Forum Theatre performance to critically evaluate how attending the theatre show influences the attitudes of health and social sciences students and healthcare providers to becoming a parent with a disability.

This project provided Ensemble members with their first paid employment in the arts, and valuable experience working on a socially-engaged performance project.



**8** emerging artists supported  
**72** hours of free professional development  
**1** new work created



City of  
Newcastle

**Beyond Bank**  
AUSTRALIA

BACK  
TO  
BACK  
THEATRE

# RADIAL Newcastle

## Film Premiere

2 October 2022

## Civic Theatre Newcastle

*RADIAL* is **Back to Back Theatre's** collaborative film-making process resulting in a portrait of a community in motion. The project has toured the world, making films with communities in Dundee, Berlin, Gold Coast and Geelong.

With the generous support of **Beyond Bank** and **Civic Theatre**, Tantrum's Accelerate Ensemble teamed up with **Back to Back Theatre** to create *RADIAL Newcastle* as part of 2022's **New Annual**.

Filmed using a circular camera track, *RADIAL* films a continuous sequence of action and movement, whilst capturing the surrounding landscapes, combined with intimate depictions of single individuals in space.

*RADIAL Newcastle* captures Tantrum's Accelerate Ensemble playing, dreaming, dressing up, and telling jokes, while they move in iconic Newcastle locations: The Station, Fort Scratchley, Newcastle City Library, and the stage at the Civic Theatre.

## Selected Credits

**Co-presented by** Back to Back Theatre, Tantrum Youth Arts, Civic Theatre Newcastle

### Original Concept

Bruce Gladwin, Rhian Hinkley & Tamara Searle

### Performers

Amber Tull, Angela Kowalski, Jaye Cutting, Montana Blair, Nathan Dunning, Savannah Bailey, Ben Oakes

### Director

Ingrid Voorendt

### Editor

Jiang Naizhong

### Sound

Soup (Thomas) Campbell

### Production Manager

Dans Maree Sheehan

### Producer

Nikki Watson

### Project Mentor

Ben Oakes

### Costume Design

Bonnie Tipper

### Videography

Philip Einwick

### Accelerate Ensemble Lead Artist

Hannah Armstrong

### Creative Director, Tantrum

Penelope (Nel) Kentish



# NEW ANNUAL



**Audiences described RADIAL as...**

"Uplifting, inspiring and totally entertaining."

"Empowering, playful, creative."

"Inspiring, emotional, effervescent."

BACK  
TO  
BACK  
THEATRE

**NEW  
ANNUAL**



City of  
Newcastle



Watch the film

# Opening Doors: Digital

In 2022, Tantrum undertook a major project to transform our long-running theatre-in-education program, *Opening Doors*, into an accessible online resource.

Responding to the challenges of delivering in-schools programs during the pandemic, Tantrum initially worked with a digital creative specialist to reconceptualise the program as a digital offering.

Tantrum collaborated with local actors, a filmmaker, song writer, music producer, and web designer, and a Sydney-based writer, to develop *Opening Doors: Digital*.

This online program is an interactive web-based experience where school students follow the story of 15-year old aspiring musician Zoe as she navigates her healthy and unhealthy relationships via online vlogs, live streams, text messages, phone calls, and other content.

The goal of the program is to educate and empower young people to engage in healthy, respectful relationships and to feel more confident in seeking support when needed.

## **Directed by**

Penelope (Nel) Kentish

## **Created by**

Tamara Gazzard

## **Adapted for Screen by**

JoJo Zhou

## **Filmmaking and Editing by**

Jonathon Burrows

## **Website Design and Development**

Eryn Leggatt

## **Cast**

Alice Hollot

Barnaby Donaghy

Linden Allen

Allon Silove

Thomas Henry

Sarah Coffee

Hannah Armstrong

Savanna Cull

Caitlin Maher

Olivia March

Penelope (Nel) Kentish

## **Music**

### *The Other Side*

Written by Alexandra Rose Mangano

Performed by Alice Hollott and

Alexandra Rose Mangano

Recorded, produced and mixed by Allon

Silove

Zoe??

I know you're online.

Where have u been? are u ok?



Watch the trailer



Proudly funded by



# Tantrum OUTPOST

Tantrum Outpost is our ongoing initiative to establish free, creative drama workshop programs for young people in regional areas led by regional artists, through training and support from Tantrum. We work in partnership with community groups to create these important opportunities for young people to make noise in their communities through performance-making.

In 2022 we continued our partnership with Dungog High School, with support from **Arts Upper Hunter**, delivering weekly drama workshops during Terms 2 and 3.

In Term 2 we established our second Tantrum Outpost in Lake Macquarie, in partnership with **Lake Macquarie City Council**. The program commenced with a weekly afternoon workshop for teens and one for seniors (over 55s), with the teens workshop becoming ongoing for the remainder of the year.

In both of these regional areas we were thrilled to support young people to find a safe, inclusive space to be creative, connect with likeminded peers and make their voices heard.



# Workshops

In 2022, our after-school drama workshops continued to provide young people with a space to play with purpose. We delivered 5 afternoon drama workshops every week during school terms at our studio in Merewether.

After the success of our Lake Macquarie Outpost, Tantrum continued to offer weekly workshops for teens in Lake Mac, with in-kind venue support being offered through our partnership with **Lake Macquarie City Council**.

In Term 4, we established a new weekly workshop for over 18s, the Trajectory Ensemble, where emerging artists could explore experimental theatre making, old-school drama games, and make connections with other emerging artists in the Hunter.

Led by Creative Director Nel Kentish, these weekly workshops were attended by our workshop facilitators and other local artists as accessible creative professional development.

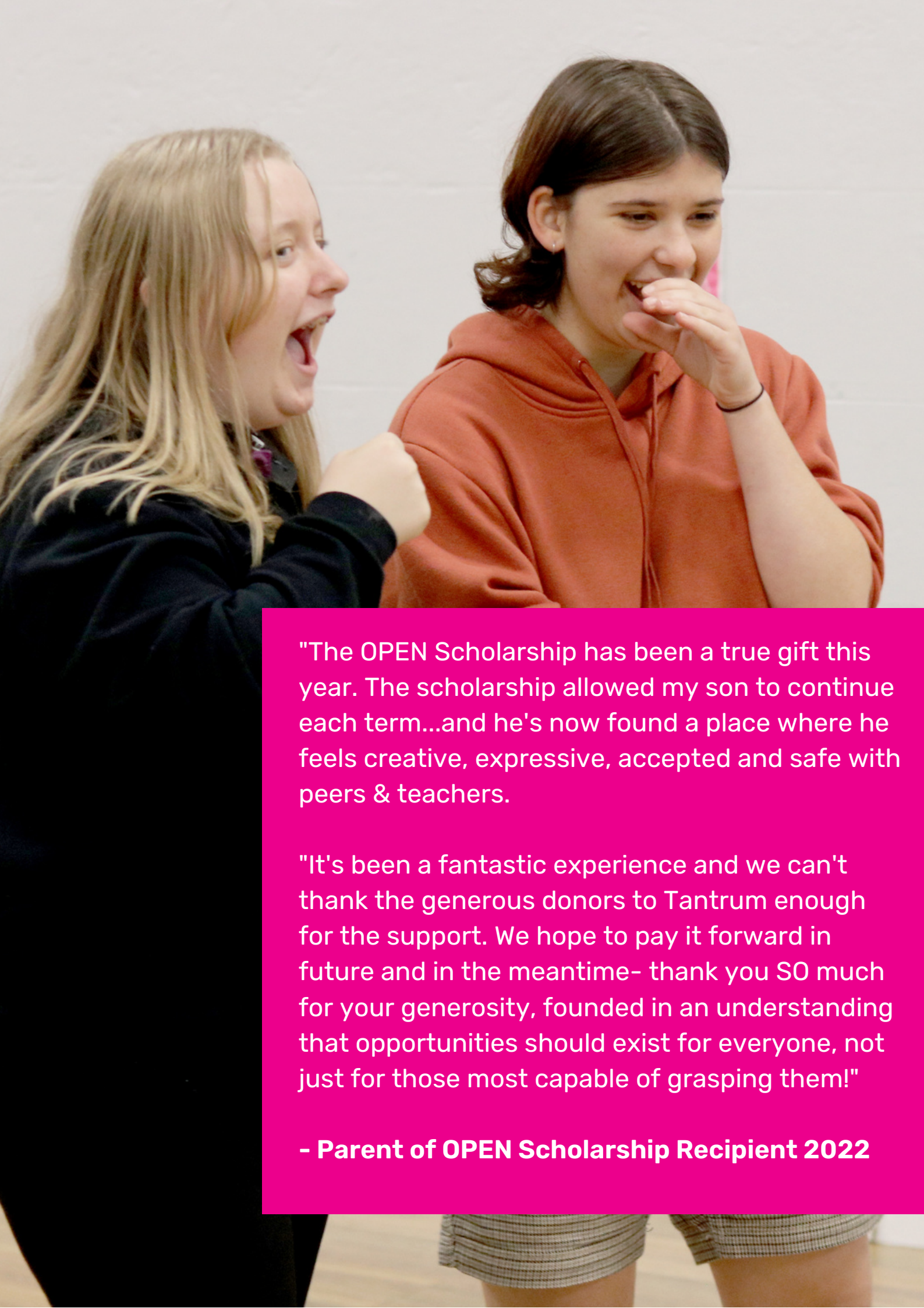
We finished the year with a return to the Civic Playhouse in December for *Building Worlds*, the end of year showcase which saw all five workshop groups from Merewether – as well as our Lake Macquarie Outpost group and Accelerate Ensemble – perform original short plays for an audience of parents and supporters.

# OPEN Scholarships

Tantrum's OPEN Scholarship program supports young people facing disadvantage (including social isolation, financial hardship, or barriers due to mental health or disability.) to engage in Tantrum's workshop program and build their confidence, creativity and social connections. This program, funded by generous individual donors, provides

recipients with a full year of access to Tantrum's after-school drama workshops at no cost.

In 2022, OPEN Scholarships supported five young people to participate fee-free in Tantrum's programs.



"The OPEN Scholarship has been a true gift this year. The scholarship allowed my son to continue each term...and he's now found a place where he feels creative, expressive, accepted and safe with peers & teachers.

"It's been a fantastic experience and we can't thank the generous donors to Tantrum enough for the support. We hope to pay it forward in future and in the meantime- thank you SO much for your generosity, founded in an understanding that opportunities should exist for everyone, not just for those most capable of grasping them!"

**- Parent of OPEN Scholarship Recipient 2022**

# Our People

## Staff

### Executive Director

Tamara Gazzard

### Creative Director

Penelope (Nel) Kentish

### Business Development Manager

Clare Twist

### Associate Producer

Amy Morris (to June)

Sarah Coffee (Jul-Oct)

Hannah Armstrong (from July)

### Marketing and Engagement

#### Coordinator

Chloe Warren (to Oct)

Sarah Coffee (from Oct)

### Workshop Facilitators

Hannah Armstrong

Barnaby Donaghy

Sorća Hubbuck

Eryn Leggatt

Alex Mangano

Amy Morris

Meg O'Hara

Keltan O'Shea

## Board

### Chairperson

Robert Oerlemans

### Treasurer

Renee Bryant

### Secretary

Tahnee McWhirter (to May)

Alex Travers (from May)

### Directors

Peter 'Barney' Langford

Joe Conneely

Claudia Chidiac

Paschal Daantos Berry

Zachary Haas (to May)

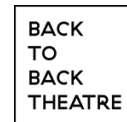


# Our Supporters

## Government Partners



## Program Partners



# Our Donors

**We wish to express our gratitude to  
the generous individuals who  
supported Tantrum in 2022.**

Tim Minchin AM  
Robert Oerlemans  
Renee Bryant  
Brian Adamthwaite

Adam Waugh  
Alana McGaughey  
Alexander Simpson  
Barney Langford  
Brad Hutchinson  
Brett Eeles  
Craig Long  
Daynah Simmons  
Debra Griffiths  
Emily O'Hara  
Erin Mobberley  
Evan Harris  
Jessica Grey  
John Thacker  
Kyle Odowd  
Meg O'hara  
Patrick Cooper  
Peter Lobach  
Phoebe Turnbull  
Samuel Grant  
Susan O'Hara  
Tim Clark  
Timothy Yarham  
Anonymous x 4



**TANTRUM**