

# epicarts

## 2016 Review and Annual Report



# **IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN THE WORLD OF EPIC ARTS!**

We'd like to thank all of our staff, students and partners for helping us make further progress towards our four key aims:

**Spread the Message**  
**Be Sustainable**  
**Raise our profile**  
**High quality in all that we do**

Here are a few examples of how we did this in 2016...

spread the  
**MESSAGE**  
'every person counts'

Epic Arts spread the message that 'every person counts' through our work, to encourage a more inclusive society and challenge the perceptions of people with & without disabilities and the arts they create.



  
  
**WOW!**  
**20,000**  
**PEOPLE**

The total amount of people we recorded as actively engaging with Epic Arts this year, through our Education, Community and Social Enterprise Programs.



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH 'SHAKE IT OFF'](#)



a total of  
**250,000**  
people watched  
us 'Shake It Off'!

We make our parody videos to raise the discussion about the role of people with disabilities within popular culture.

All of our videos feature members of staff and students with and without disabilities.

**450,000**  
video views in 2016

of our parody videos 'Uptown Funk', 'Happy' & 'Shake It Off'

as well as the videos we produced for GIZ Cambodia, WaterAid Cambodia & UNICEF Cambodia.



## 267 VOICES SHARED

with 70 community VIP's and local decision makers

The 'I Can' community tour focused on developing the confidence and self-belief of people with disabilities through Arts based activities.

The tour also gave participants the opportunity to share their opinions on everyday issues to local decision makers.



“ People with Disability are human like us. **Their rights are the same as people without disabilities.** I want to see them achieve their goals in life.

As a member of the local commune council I think **we need to commit and promise to give them education.** When they have education they will be able to support their family to escape from poverty. ”

- commune council member

# 3 INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

for staff at all levels to develop professionally.



Finance Manager, Rachny, (far-left) attended a social enterprise conference in Singapore. She was then selected to go to a follow-up conference in Jakarta.



Epic Encounters Co-ordinators/ Dancers, Savy & Sokun represented Cambodia at the 'Arts For All' Conference in Bangkok.



Sokun and Senior Manager, Anthony, attend the British Council's 'Arts & Disability Forum' in Singapore.



## 3 INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Epic Encounters worked with well-established Companies & Creative Directors to create new performances.



# Be **SUSTAINABLE**

Create sustainability through the organisation in areas of funding, staff development, programmes, social businesses and in the way that we grow in the future

# 65%

of our total income  
comes from our  
**Social Enterprises**



# 14,611 CUSTOMERS at Epic Arts Café

Our first social enterprise, we opened the Epic Arts Café in 2006 to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Kampot.

The café is now a successful model that generates funds for our Inclusive Arts projects and education programmes.



# ONE NEW Social Enterprise

ត្រឡប់មកវិញ កាន់តែត្រចះត្រចង់  
**COME BACK BRIGHTER**

We produced our first tourist show in Kampot, which was opened to tourists and locals alike. 'Come Back Brighter', the dance piece Epic Encounters toured the UK with in 2014 had it's own run of shows in The Old Royal Cinema, Kampot.



**12 SHOWS**  
over **4 MONTHS**

**545 PEOPLE**  
attended

**49% KHMER**  
audience

After the successful run in 2016 we ran the show a second time in early 2017.  
we're planning a third run of the show in late 2017

[CLICK TO WATCH THE TRAILER](#)

# 2,039 PEOPLE

either took part in an Epic Encounters workshop or watched a Performance.

“Epic Arts workshops are a fantastic way to learn about and meet empowered, creative Cambodian artists. They are also fantastic for group work and team building.”

Workshop participant,  
July 2016



# 1 YEAR OF LEARNING & DEVELOPING NEW SKILLS

## Professional development is high on our agenda for all staff

This year we developed team leader structures for our performance teams giving our performers more autonomy and fostering leadership skills & responsibility in our staff.



Savy (pictured) had support to develop new skills in administration & logistics for his extra responsibility as Performance Coordinator of Epic Encounters.

“

**This Year I've had the chance to learn new skills and have more responsibility as a co-ordinator for the Epic Encounters team.**

**I want to share my experience with the team and be supportive and encouraging for the whole team.**

**I'm looking forward to developing more leadership skills at Epic Arts in 2017**

”

Savy  
Epic Encounters Coordinator

# ONE CAR donated

Since 2014 we've gained a number of Cambodia-based partners. With these exciting partnerships comes the need for our staff to travel regularly for meetings and performances.

Our first car, **donated by GIZ Cambodia**, will make traveling to Phnom Penh to meet partners so much easier!



# RAISE OUR PROFILE

Raise the profile of Epic Arts as a leading international inclusive arts organisation, on both a national and international scale.



A woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a plaid shirt, is smiling warmly while holding a young child. The child is wearing a striped tank top and looking towards the camera. They are in a classroom, with a blue bulletin board featuring various papers and photos in the background.

We worked with: **4 partner schools** to create **3 integrated classes** & **4 inclusive classes** which all enrolled children with disabilities.

“ The Epic Arts teachers have experience with children of all types of ability so I'm not worried about leaving my daughter.

I didn't enroll her at school in the past because I was worried that teachers at the school wouldn't understand her. ”

- Mother of student  
in an Intergrated Class

[CLICK TO DONATE & SUPPORT THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME](#)



**10 OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARTISTS & ARTS PROFESSIONALS**  
to work with Epic Arts in Cambodia and develop professionally.

# 174 children expressing themselves

as part of our Arts in Schools project which sees our team of facilitators with disabilities take dance, drama & visual arts to local primary schools.

**“Art Class makes me happy every week. I really like my teachers from Epic Arts, they are the best Art Teachers”**

Srey Noch\*,  
Student,  
Arts in Schools Project

**CLICK HERE TO HELP  
FUND ART CLASSES**

\* Name Changed for privacy

# 7 Silent films

Created for WaterAid Cambodia's  
#WorldToiletDay awareness campaign

# 190,000 views

We partnered with professional Clown,  
Kiki Lovechild, to develop our team's  
comedic talent.

[CLICK TO WATCH THE FILMS](#)



# ONE EPIC DAY IN THE UK

As part of our ongoing partnership with Attenborough Arts Centre & Leicester University Epic Arts produced a weekend event for 33 UK artists with learning disabilities, providing professional development activities led by London based partners Corali Dance Company



# HIGH QUALITY

in all that we do

Develop the quality of all our work to a high standard, ensuring best practice in all areas of management, the arts, inclusive practice and in the wider creative field.

CLICK TO DONATE TO THE COURSE



## 12 SMILING STUDENTS

100% retention on our Inclusive Arts Course

“ The course is a dream come true. I've always been interested in the arts, I've learnt so much. I'm more confident and I don't feel alone anymore because of Epic Arts Inclusive Arts Course!

Savun,  
IAC Student 2015 -2017

The Inclusive Arts Course is a two-year arts training course. Students from the disabled and non-disabled community study an arts based education program.

Students learn to believe in their abilities, see the opportunities that are possible for them and develop skills and confidence. For many of our students and their families this is something they never saw as a possibility.

# ELEVEN

the number we turn it up to in our **new recording studio**

The completion of new music studio has allowed us to expand our Inclusive Education curriculum.

With the new facilities we were able to employ a music teacher and add music lessons for our students, expanding the learning outcomes of the Inclusive Arts Course.

The studio has also helped us to expanded our creative output for partner projects, which generate income for Epic Arts.

*The studio project was supported by our partners, United World College of South East Asia, Singapore (UWCSEA)*







# 131 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES went to school for the first time

as part of our Special Education Programme partnership with Aide et Action to intergrate children with disabilities into mainstream schools

## This is Channy\*

Channy's mum tried to enrol Channy at the local village school for 10 years with no luck. Thanks to the Special Education Project, Channy is now studying in our Intergrated Class at the school in her village.

**DONATE TO SPECIAL EDUCATION**

“ She loves to learn! Channy is a very enthusiastic student who enjoys answering questions & learning to write Khmer. ”

- Channy's Teacher

“ When Channy didn't go to school, everyday she would wait for her nephews so she could practice reciting & writing the Khmer alphabet with them. ”

- Channy's Mother



\* name changed for privacy

# 49 HAPPY STAFF MEMBERS

only 16% of sick leave taken, proving our staff are happy and healthy.



## I like working at Epic Arts because...

“ I like to work with the children in the Special Education Project because the children are like my daughter. I believe that they deserve an education. ”

Channy  
Special Education Teacher

“ I like to encourage our Special Education students to show them they can do things! ”

Se Dy  
Inclusive Education Administrator

“ Epic Arts encourages and helps me to learn in my job. ”

Cheng  
Receptionist & Office Administrator

“ the management team are so easy to talk with. All staff and students are equal. ”

Srey Mom  
HR & Finance Assistant

# A BRAND NEW TEAM PROJECTS TEAM

As we grow and collaborate with more partners, we felt it an important step to give our partners a focused team to work to make sure we're delivering our projects to the highest quality.

**Hayley Holden**  
Projects Manager

Hayley has been with us two years as our Communications Officer.

**Bou Sokun**  
Projects Officer

Sokun has been with us for six years in admin & performance roles.

“**Everyday I see Epic Arts staff and students win small victories. Everyday they challenge people's opinions of people with disabilities & they grow in self-confidence.**

**I'm excited to help Epic Arts deliver more projects to communities showing Cambodia (and the world) that every person counts.**”

Hayley Holden  
Projects Manager



“ My Unlimited placement strengthened my passion that the arts are for everyone. Disabled or non-disabled. We are all human. We deserve love, life, happiness and to live in our society with respect. ”

Onn Sokny,  
Co-Director



*'Photo by Rachel Cherry for Unlimited'*  
[weareunlimited.org.uk](http://weareunlimited.org.uk)

## 10 WEEKS OF LEARNING & NETWORKING

Co-Director, Onn Sokny, spent ten weeks working with Unlimited in London. Whilst on her placement she was immersed in the UK Inclusive Arts sector and gained plenty of experience to bring back to strengthen our work in Cambodia.



# 75% ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ EXCELLENT REVIEWS on Tripadvisor

“ I really love Epic Arts Cafe, I first came here 4 years ago and it's got bigger and better since then!

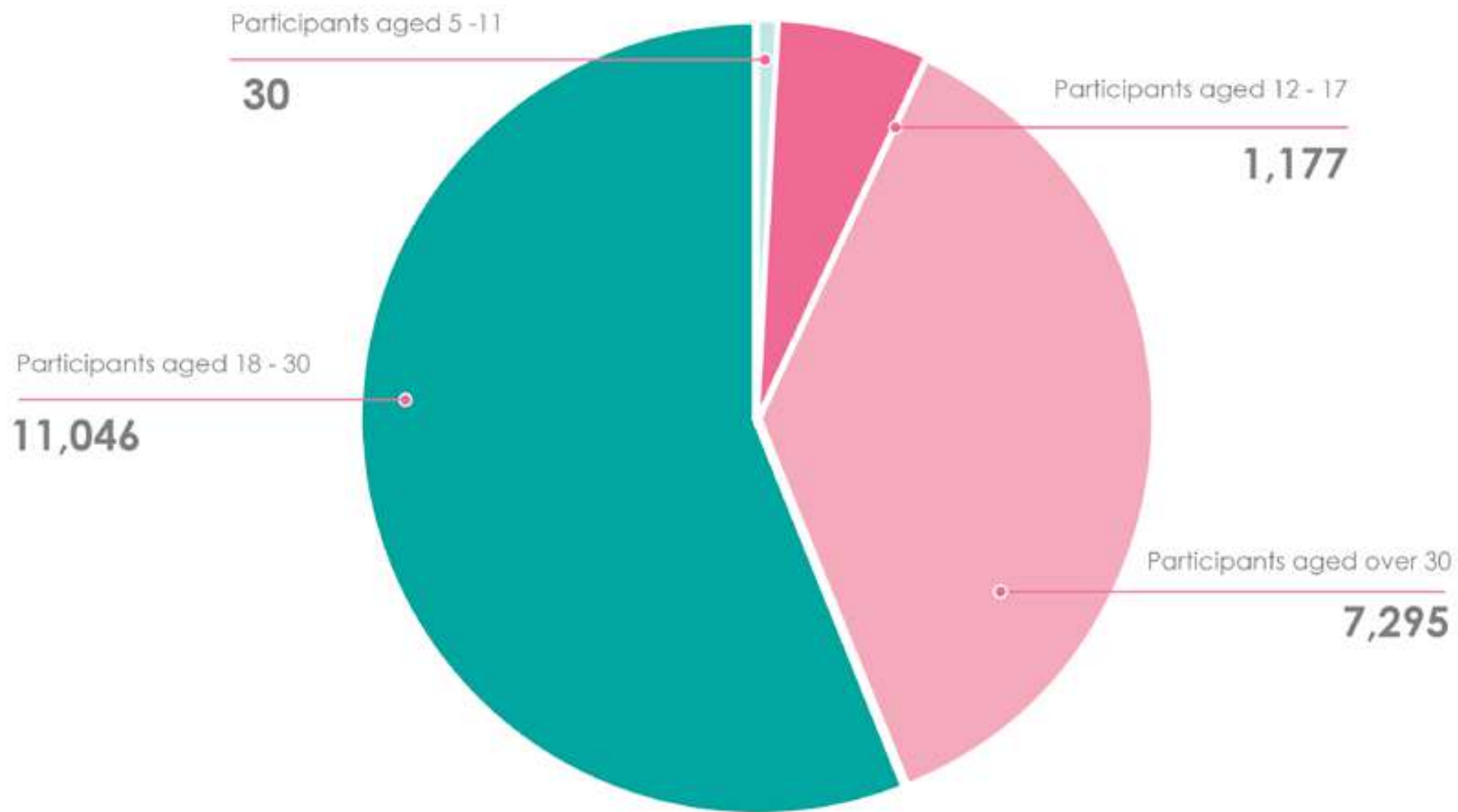
I love the way you order and the Khmer sign language tips in the menu are great.

The food is delicious, The salad was huge & tasty, the bagels were awesome. The cakes and pastries are perfect.

Everyone should stop by for lunch or a snack here in Kampot! ”

Trip advisor review  
November 2016

Charts and  
**FIGURES**



## 19,548 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED WITH EPIC ARTS IN 2016

19, 548 people attended workshops, performances and classes run by Epic Arts.

These were held in Kampot, elsewhere in Cambodia and overseas.

# SOURCES OF INCOME 2013 – 2016

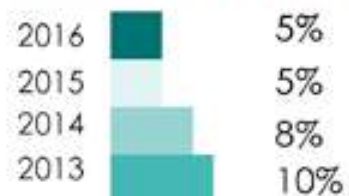
## Epic Arts Social Enterprise Programme



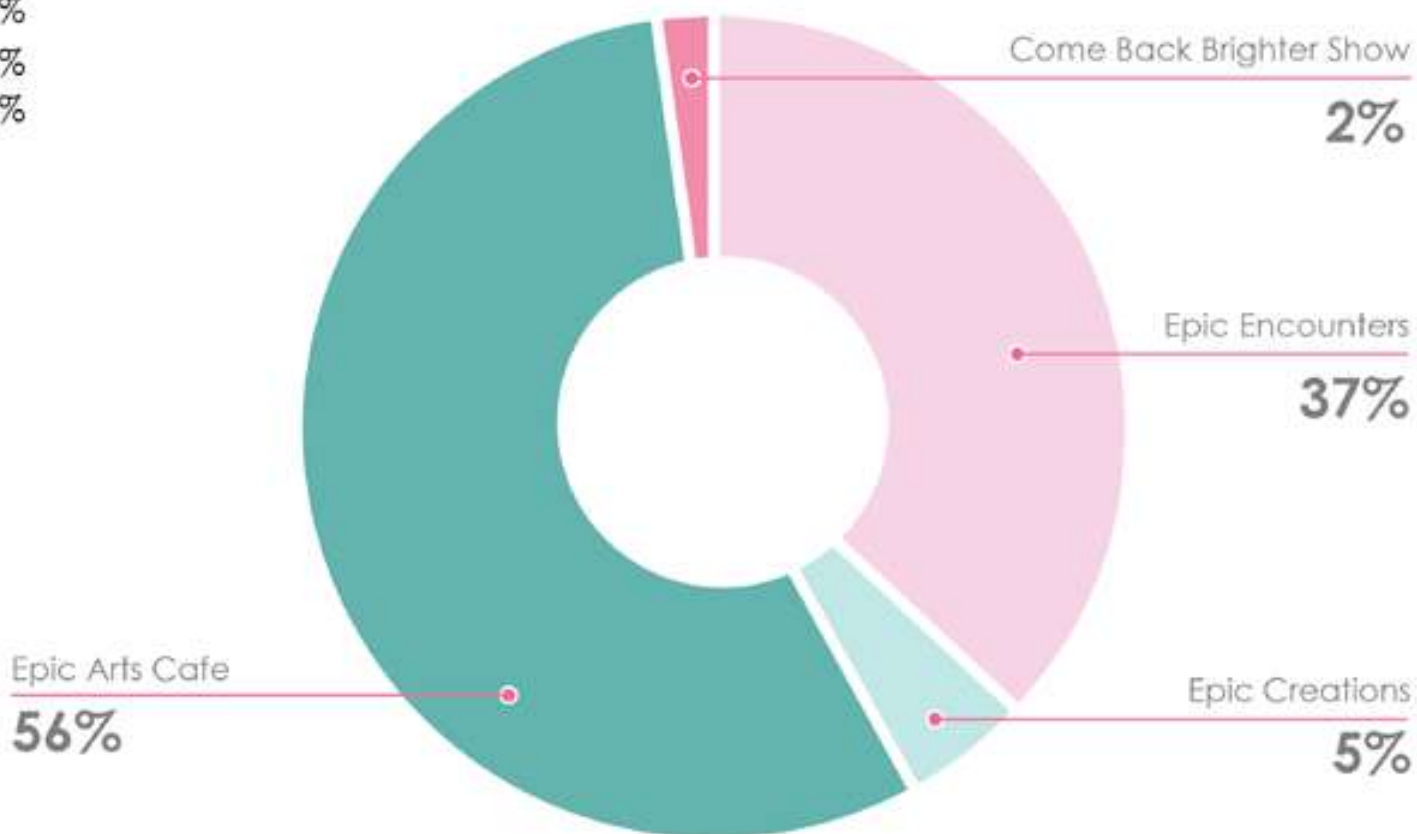
## Partner Funding and Student Sponsorship



## Donations and Fundraising



# SOCIAL ENTERPRISE INCOME BREAKDOWN 2016





## SOURCES OF INCOME 2015

Donations & Fundraising

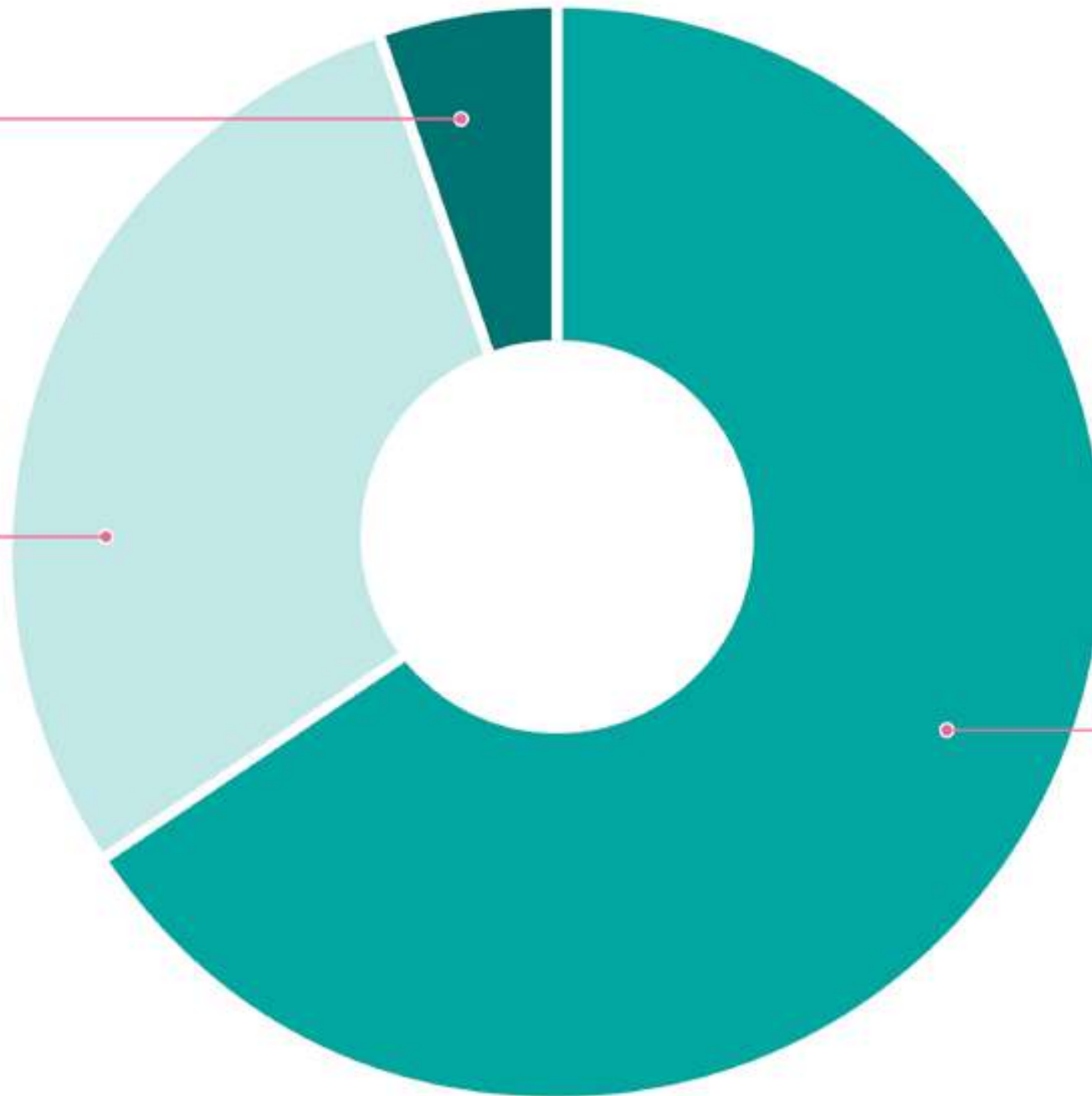
5%

Partner Funding &  
Student Sponsorship

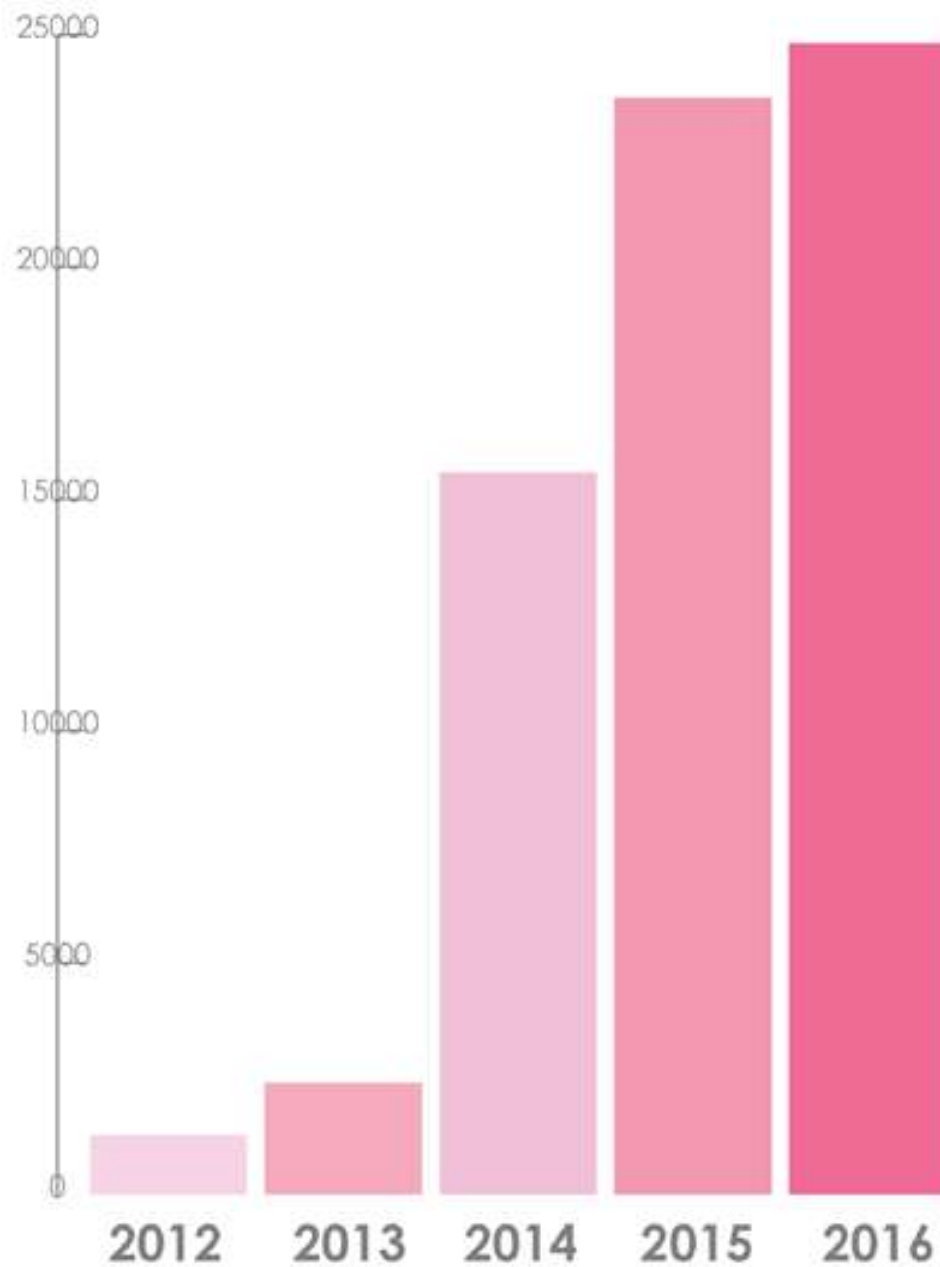
29%

Social Enterprise  
Programme

65%

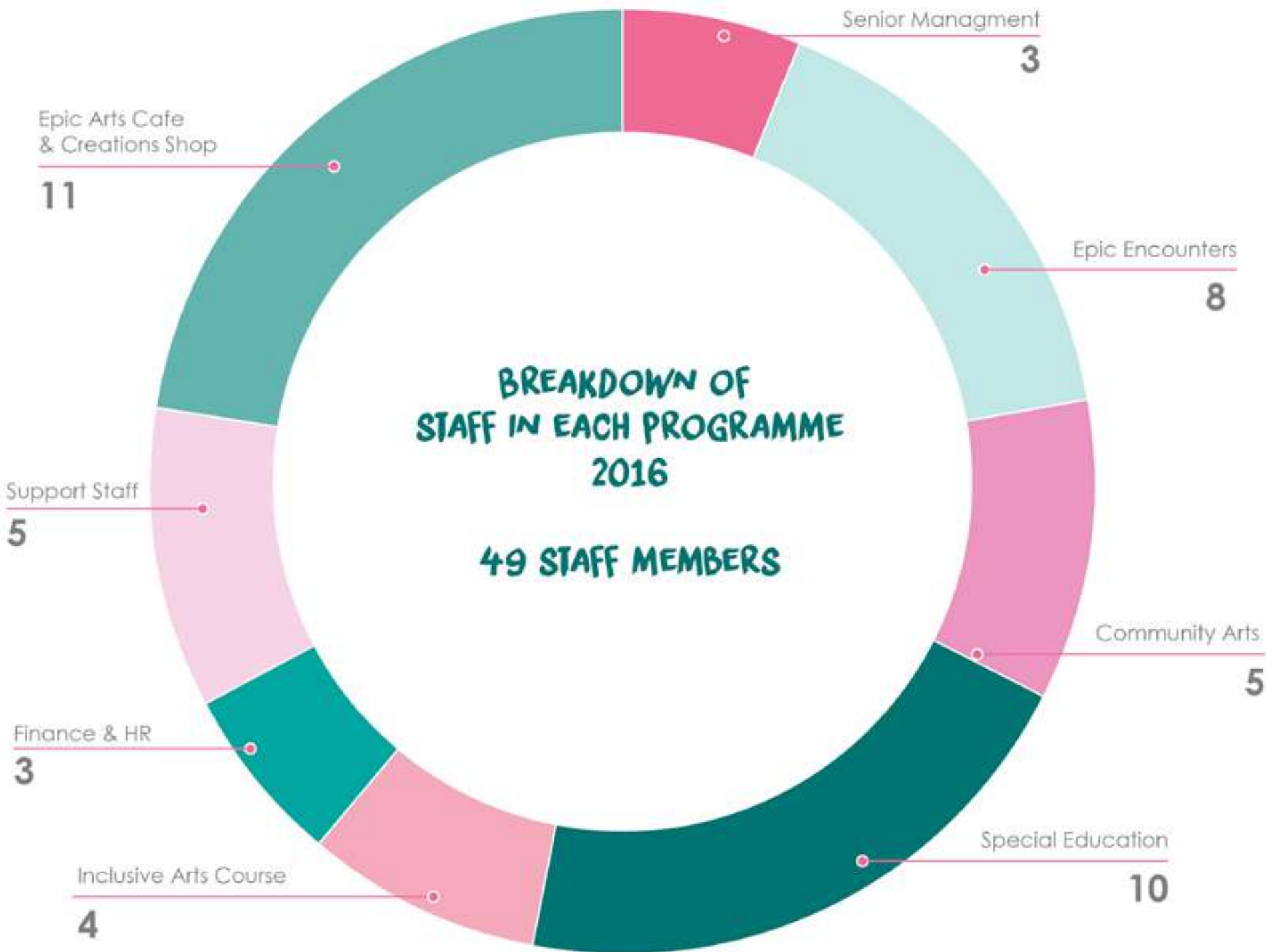


# THE SUCCESS OF EPIC ARTS CAFE, KAMPOT PROFIT TREND 2012-2016



**BREAKDOWN OF  
STAFF IN EACH PROGRAMME  
2016**

**49 STAFF MEMBERS**





## INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH US? TALK TO US...

**Anthony Evans**  
Executive Director

**Talk to me about...**  
New projects  
& opportunities

[Anthony@epicarts.org.uk](mailto:Anthony@epicarts.org.uk)

**Onn Sokny**  
Country Director

**Talk to me about...**  
Epic programmes

[Sokny@epicarts.org.uk](mailto:Sokny@epicarts.org.uk)

**Kim Coogan**  
Office Advisor

**Talk to me about...**  
General Epic Arts  
queries

[Kim@epicarts.org.uk](mailto:Kim@epicarts.org.uk)

**Ou Buntheng**  
Operations Manager

**Talk to me about...**  
Performance &  
workshop bookings

[Buntheng@epicarts.org.uk](mailto:Buntheng@epicarts.org.uk)

**Sok Rachny**  
Finance Manager

**Talk to me about...**  
Finance & social  
enterprise

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