New Philanthropy for Arts & Culture

What motivates arts philanthropists – a summary of individual motivations based on interviews with NPAC members

FAMILY BACKGROUND /ROLE MODEL OFTEN INSTILLED PHILANTHROPIC MINDSET	PERSONAL CONNECTIONS/RECIPROCITY INSPIRE GIVING
 Family history of significant local community contributions; led to awareness of inequality Giving focused on causes linked to family history and former education establishments Contribution often of time rather than funds Influence of respected mentors and important clients acknowledged Exposure to the arts in childhood fuelled long-term interest Need identified to create habit of giving early in life; several cited the importance of inspiring the next generation to participate 	 Importance of peer-to-peer asks and an acknowledgement that cannot ask others to contribute if not doing oneself Direct ask from contact more likely to result in a gift being made; there is an expectation of a reciprocal ask (could be barrier to asking) Motivated by feeling 'part of the family' through long-term philanthropic relationships with arts organisations, including personal access to artists, special events etc Some commented on low levels of giving among some high net worth colleagues
CHARITY GOVERNANCE ROLES	MOTIVATIONS PARTICULAR TO RECIPIENT ORGANISATION
Governance roles, particularly chairmanships, related to active giving. Level of giving is also generally higher in these cases, particularly where transformational effect of the gift is clear Substantial involvement key to long-term association and significant giving Charities have expressed need to engage the next generation of trustees; creates opportunity to introduce younger people to philanthropy FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	 Love of particular art form generally key to initial engagement in a particular charity; some motivated by art itself, others by specific project Often a focus on giving to local organisations, linked to the area where philanthropists live The social impact of the arts (eg placemaking and regeneration, education benefits, health benefits, opportunities for all) cited, although impact thought not always to be well defined CONNECTION BETWEEN EMPLOYMENT AND GIVING
 Acknowledgement of being in a position of good fortune linked to first motivation to give Able to give more when other financial commitments lessen e.g. school fees, mortgage Initial association with an arts organisation often due to financial success such as sale of business Different sizes of gifts categorised as 'small' or 'significant' (first significant gifts mentioned ranged from £1,000 to £100,000) demonstrate that wealth is relative; few people generally consider themselves wealthy Use of tax benefits, Gift Aid and Charitable Foundations well understood by senior philanthropists; material benefits of traditional arts patronage not mentioned as being important. 	 Employee giving schemes can encourage initial engagement with an organisation Partnership rules sometimes require a philanthropic contribution Employee involvement in use of charitable funds thought to be motivating Suggestion to explore possibility of young professionals forming small-scale syndicates to give to arts projects via a giving portal through which they also receive information on the impact of their support Challenge that giving is 'counter-intuitive'; those in commercial roles are conditioned to make ever increasing financial returns Concerns expressed that new generation of high net-worth individuals will be less interested