

creative  
minds

I'm Gus Garside, the national coordinator of Creative Minds



“The Creative Case is a re-imagining of the Arts Council's approach to diversity and equality, setting out how these areas can and should enrich the arts for artists, audiences and our wider society”.

“Don’t deny others the  
opportunity to help you”

Hello I'm Sarah Watson. I'm the  
chair of Trustees for Carousel



I'm also a visual artist.



## Carousel is

- an award-winning arts organisation
- that puts learning disabled people in control of their art
- and challenges what great art is and who can create it.



# What does being the chair of trustees involve

- Chairing meetings
- Signing account and funding applications
- Working on the annual report
- Going to Arts Council and other funders meetings
- Doing presentations about Carousel, for example at the House of Lords



## I'm also a member of the Oska Brighton international film festival committee which means

- Planning the festival
- Selecting films
- Compering and being a spokesperson

## I'm also one of the original founders of Creative Minds

- which is leading a discussion with the wider arts world about quality, leadership, inclusion and working together
- We run conferences and do presentations and training

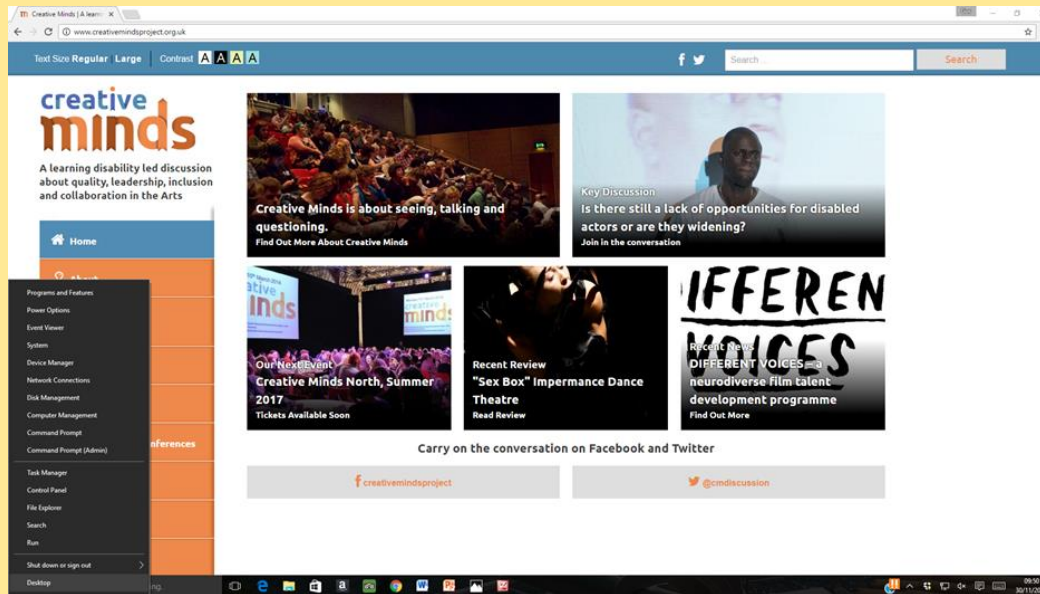




- Learning disability led conferences (Brighton, Bristol, Ipswich)
- Themes: Quality, leadership, inclusion and working together
- Research
- Reviewers
- Training
- Future conferences (Manchester at HOME on June 15<sup>th</sup> and Birmingham at macBirmingham on October 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Sweden
- Partners
- website

# creative minds

[www.creativemindsproject.org.uk](http://www.creativemindsproject.org.uk)



# People who came to our last conference were

- learning disabled artists, performers and film makers
- people from UK arts organisations
- people from overseas arts organisations
- venue programmers
- university academics
- theatre students
- dance students
- art critics
- arts funders
- people from local authorities



# Being a leader

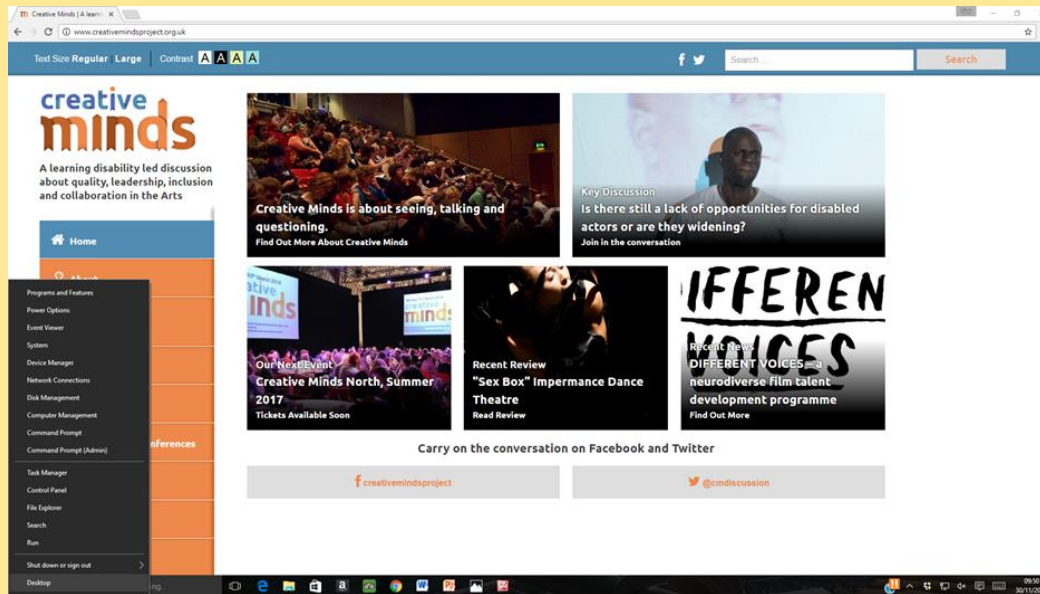
- People with learning disabilities are not usually asked to be leaders
- But we can help to ensure that people with learning disabilities are treated well
- and included
- We are experts

- It must be accessible and it must be honest
- Everyone needs to say what the opportunities and the barriers to inclusion are
- It should be chaired by someone with learning disabilities
- It needs to be thoroughly planned in advance
- The people from the wider arts world need to be briefed about how to be accessible
- To use simple words and no jargon
- The learning disabled members of the panel need to be free to say if they don't understand something
- Everyone needs to be selected on the basis that they are comfortable speaking up in front of an audience

- Both sides need to have an opportunity to prepare IN ADVANCE what the questions should be
- There shouldn't be too many questions or topics
- At our last conference the questions were about how the work of learning disabled artists and performers was programmed; talked about and funded
- So we asked a theatre director, an art critic and a funder to join the panel

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Does anyone have any questions?

