

University of West London

Partner Report

2022-2023

This year, the Society&Change Saturday Club at the University of West London focused on food to explore the relationships between community, wellbeing and nature in West London. Their Saturday Club programme was split into three broad 'modules': 'Food Justice', 'Food as Art', and 'Food as Medicine'.

Club members took the theme of food as a starting point to explore relationships between community, wellbeing and nature in West London. The Club explored Food Justice, Food as Art and Food as Medicine. These boards represent their learning journey.



Tutors and staff
Bernadine Idowu
Gagandeep Chaggar
Janet Blake
Jaspal Bhatia
Jordan Campbell
Krishna Maroo
Robin Reilly
Scarlett Collins

Student assistants
Duvia Afzal
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Rebekah Eva Mins
Sehajdeep Singh
Sofia Orfanou
Samuel Chukuemeka
Weneru



The partnership between University of West London and the National Saturday Club has delivered an inspirational 12 years of the Saturday Club for young people in your local community.

Throughout the year-long programme, these young people have connected with dedicated and inspiring educators at your institution and have gained access to the valuable resources and facilities you have to offer. This opportunity has been further supported by the national programme of events including the London Visit to cultural institutions, Masterclasses with industry, Graduation Ceremonies and the Summer Show.

Across the country, this extracurricular education movement is embodied by a powerful network of partners from the education, industry and the cultural sectors. Collectively, the network is committed to engaging young people from underrepresented backgrounds at an early stage in their learning journey. The programme framework has proven impact. It enables institutions to develop their civic engagement by engaging young people within the local community, reducing barriers to access, developing young people's vital practical skills and creative capacities, and inspiring them with the breadth of pathways open to them both at your institution and in their future careers.

The following pages highlight the successes of the Society&Change Saturday Club at University of West London in 2022-23, which were also celebrated at the National Saturday Club Summer Show at London's prestigious Somerset House in July 2023. In this document, we have drawn together evidence from our evaluation findings to demonstrate the reach and impact of your Club.

University of West London

Society&Change

Saturday Club



Tutors and Staff

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Supported by Chatham House, Society&Change Saturday Clubs explore the issues that are shaping the world today from climate change and conflict, to new technologies and global interconnectivity. Each week, Club members reflect on how major global issues affect us, and how they have a voice to influence the future.

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“Young people have an increasingly narrowed perspective and idea about what’s possible as a job after school. It’s important they know people study all kinds of things for all kinds of roles and it opens up all kinds of doors. The Club provides opportunities for Club members to learn things, experience things, and for their horizons to expand.”

Jordan Campbell

“ It has been an excellent experience and we’ve been amazed that our son has been eager to attend Saturday Club each week, seeing it as totally different from school. He would love to come back again. ”

Parent/ Guardian

“ Thanks to the tutors, I don’t think I would have been able to engage as much in the class without your help. ”

Club member

Club member demographics

100%

from a Widening Participation background*

33%

speak English as an additional language

67%

are from an underrepresented ethnic background

14%

have a neurodivergence

44%

do not have a parent who has been to university

14%

are D/deaf or hard of hearing

44%

live in the 30% most deprived areas in England (IMD)

13%

have caring responsibilities (are a young carer)

33%

receive free school meals

11%

have special educational needs

* The National Saturday Club identifies young people to be from a Widening Participation (WP) background if they: receive free school meals; have experience of the care system; speak English as an additional language; experience disability; parents/ guardians haven't been to university; are refugees or asylum seekers; are young carers; are from a military family; are from an underrepresented ethnic background; have special educational needs; have a neurodiversity; are D/deaf or hard of hearing; are from a Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showman or Boating community; and/ or those who live in the 30% most deprived areas [Index of Multiple Deprivation].

“ I learnt about how gardening and nature could help improve my mental health, and I learnt about the impacts of food poverty. ”

Club member

“ My highlights include when we made a Jamaican bean soup, it was fun and I learnt something new, and when I visited Kew Gardens and got to experience a variety of nature. ”

Club member

“ There were so many standout moments; the visit to the laboratory, learning about the herbs and flowers used to make cosmetics, and making our own cream and soap!

The lady who is a professional storyteller and hearing stories from Africa and cooking together.

Also when we went to Kew Gardens.

And of course the certificate ceremony! ”

Club member



Kathija attending the Summer Show Private View with fellow Youth Board members and speaker Jay Blades MBE

Youth Board Interview

University of West London Saturday Club Alumni

The Youth Board is an important initiative, launched in 2022, that champions National Saturday Club young people's voices and insights, bringing together alumni from diverse backgrounds and communities across the country to influence the future of the programme.

During the first Youth Board discussion, members established an open and collaborative approach to working together, exploring each member's vision for the future of the National Saturday Club, and what they hoped to gain from their time on the Board. They identified three topics to focus their discussions, which were explored in their subsequent meetings: Club member recruitment; inclusive programming; and development of an alumni network.



Kathija, University of West London Writing&Talking Saturday Club

Kathija was a member of the Writing&Talking Saturday Club at University of West London for one year between 2021-22

What was your experience of the Saturday Club?
My experience with the Saturday Club improved me in many ways and I have taken many life changing skills from it. The National Saturday Club is incredible on many scales as you can create something amazing that you can be proud of. For example, I was given the opportunity to create my own short film. For me this is a major accomplishment I could never forget and I am extremely grateful to the Saturday Club team for this opportunity.

Why did you want to join the Youth Board?
I wanted to join the National Saturday Club Youth Board as I was able to explore different life stories and I was able to learn about these amazing stories which encouraged me to tell my own story, even if it was just the beginning. So I want future Saturday Club members to feel the same and find the confidence that I found, to tell their story and share their experiences. I would like to make the Saturday Club an even better experience for everyone that joins, as well as this I would like to encourage more young people to join.

Summer Show and Graduation Ceremonies

The culmination of the Saturday Club year is a public exhibition of Club members' work at London's prestigious Somerset House and end-of-year Graduation Ceremonies.

Summer Show

The Summer Show took place from 15–18 July and it was a joyous celebration of the year's achievements. Each Club had their own display, curated by expert exhibition designers, to showcase their Club members' work. Special events were hosted including Private Views for Club members and a VIP Private View for network guests, industry, the cultural sector, government and policy-makers.

Graduation Ceremonies

Graduation Ceremonies were hosted at Bush House, King's College London. These provided an important moment for Club members to recognise their achievements throughout the programme and to look ahead to future possibilities. During the ceremonies, tutors and inspiring guest speakers addressed the young people and each Club member received a Certificate of Achievement, in front of their family, friends, peers and tutors.

The Summer Show is also presented as an online exhibition with all Clubs represented: show.saturday-club.org



“ Everything was amazing! ”

Club member

“ I’ve improved my ability to communicate with other people and to share thoughts. ”

Club member

“ The Club gave me new ideas about my future and different perspectives. ”

Club member

“ The encouragement I got at the Club to try and create something new even if it might not work or might not be the best was really helpful. The faith that I would succeed helped inspire me to try new things. ”

Club member

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