

## THE ARTS – WHAT CAN WE DO IN THE COMMUNITY?

### What?

- A group of women who live in the same neighbourhood meet to embroider a large mural about a theme that matters to them – for example, a mural about the history of the community.
- A group of youths meets to engage in creative writing, sharing books, reading to each other, producing poems, which can later be read or published on social media.
- A group of drummers meets on the local football pitch to play the drums and to teach others how to upcycle materials to make instruments.

### Where?

These activities can happen in homes, schools, public squares and community centres.

### When?

It is advisable to develop a regular time and to be consistent so that people know that it is happening and even if they cannot attend once, they can catch up and come back. For example, every week or every fortnight and preferably at the same place.

### Why?

To encourage community members to reflect and discover what they can do to unlock their creative potential, the skills they have and can develop, and ultimately to bring people together to expand networks, have a good time and share experiences.

### To consider:

- Before starting, find out if anyone else is doing something similar in the community.
- Organise raw materials and think about potential sponsors.
- Think about professional artists or craftspeople who might be interested in offering a session or a master class to the group.
- Consider whether the group can develop into a training ground for professionalisation and income generation.