

*Spotlight on Cultural Policy Series Twelve:  
Roundtable on*

# *A Year of Living Precariously: Artists on Surviving the Pandemic*

Wednesday, 3 March 2021  
10.00 am - 12.30 pm

IPS-NGS-SAM Spotlight on Cultural Policy Series Twelve:  
*A Year of Living Precariously: Artists on Surviving the Pandemic*

**Respondent**

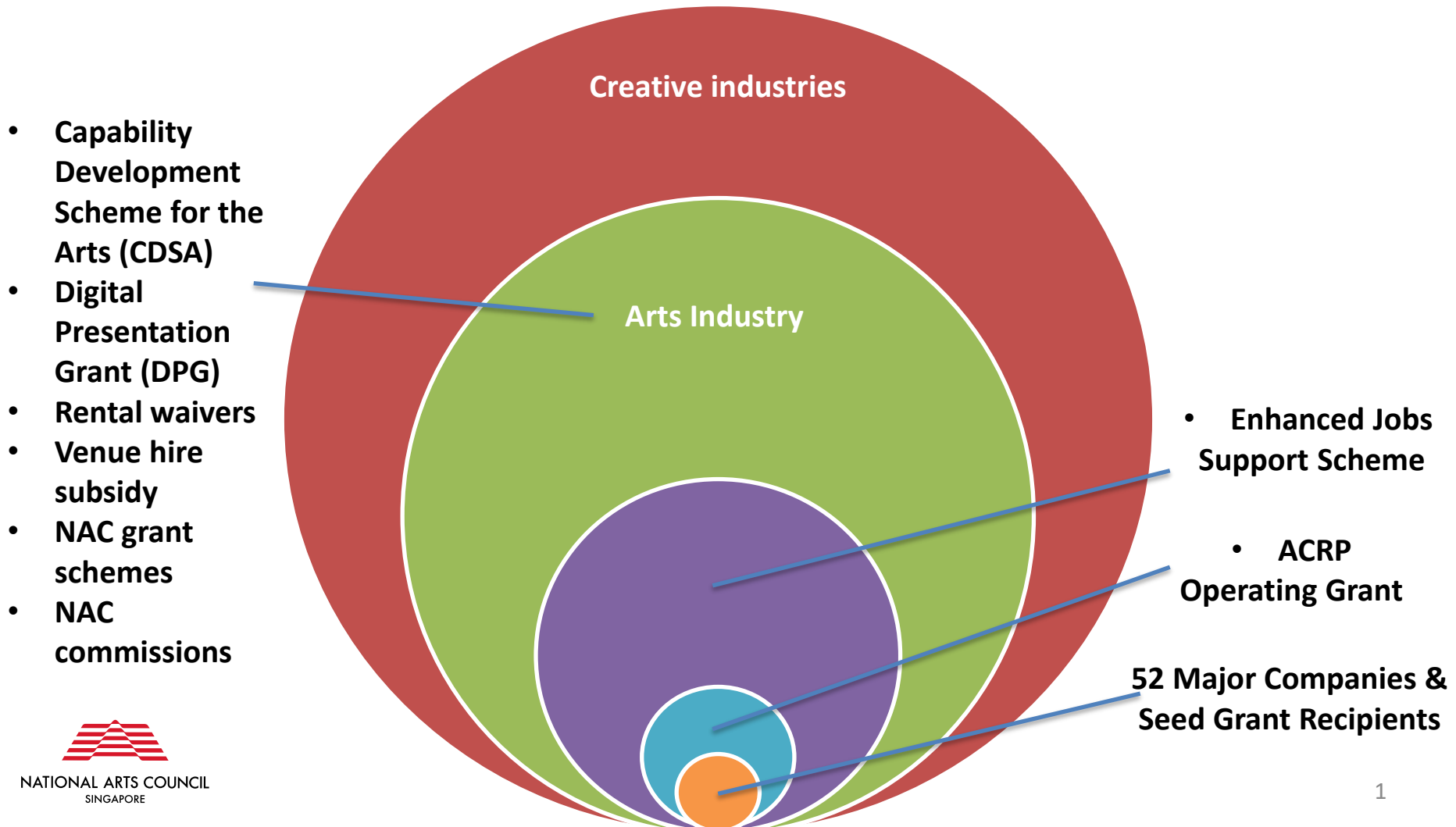
**Dr Alvin Tan**

**Director**

**Engagement and Participation  
National Arts Council**

# Two Segments of Arts Industry

## A. Support for Companies comprising Organisations with Charities Status and Registered Commercial Businesses



# Two Segments of Arts Industry

## B. Over 2000 Self-Employed Persons

- Arts Resource Hub (ARH) stepped up the aggregation of job opportunities for freelancers, including jobs in adjacent sectors, re-opening co-working spaces
- Clinics for freelancers to talk through application processes for grants and support measures.
- Aggregate relevant training opportunities especially in areas such as digitalisation.



# \$75m of Support Measures over 5 Budgets

## Arts & Culture Resilience Package (ACRP)

Over

- 13,000** Job / training opportunities supported
- 690** Digitalisation projects supported under DPG
- 1,100** Training opportunities supported under CDSA
- 14** Key partners commissioned and hosted content as part of #SGCultureAnywhere
- 29M** Total website unique page views + total social media reach on A-List and NAC's socials
- 600** Artists and arts groups engaged

## Other highlights

- NAC has continued to offer and enhanced support through our regular grants schemes through COVID-19 period (i.e. Creation / Production / Presentation & Participation (P&P) / Capability Development (CD) / Market & Audience Devt (MAD) / Research grants)
- Review of funding performance indicators and outcomes under Organisation development grants (i.e. Major Company schemes)
- Support for digital / blended programmes integrated into NAC's existing grants (P&P, MAD and CD) after time-limited schemes for DPG and CDSA closed in Sept 2020
- Raised the % funding cap of P&P, MAD grants to 70% for individuals and non-profit organisations and 50% for for-profit orgs

# NAC Scheme – AHS and FFAS

In 2010, the Framework for Arts Spaces (FFAS) was introduced to replace the then Arts Housing Scheme (AHS) with the following aims:



INCUBATION  
SCHEME



SCHEME FOR  
DEVELOPING ARTISTS  
AND ARTS GROUPS



ARTS CENTRE  
SCHEME

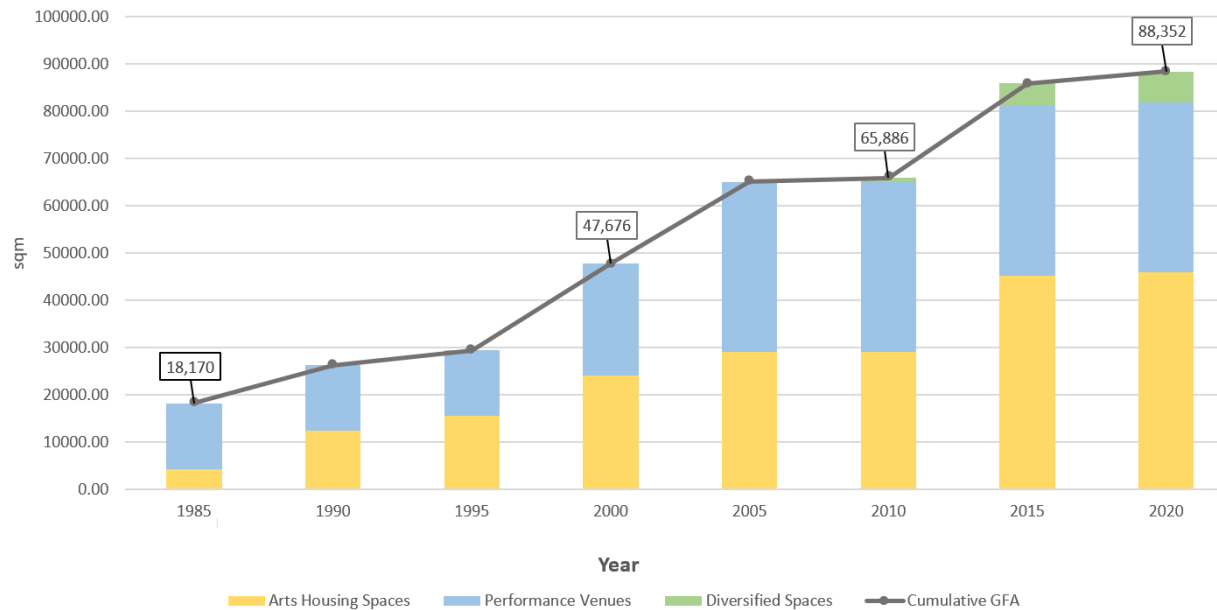


COMMUNITY/SPORTS  
FACILITIES SCHEME

- Covid-19 pandemic has severely impacted the ability of arts organisations to generate revenues and raise funds, in turn adversely affecting the ability to maintain large spaces.
- Co-location and co-sharing of spaces would mitigate rising cost pressures.
- Opportunity for new configurations and economies of scale – for financial sustainability and resource optimisation



# More supported arts spaces over the years



- Increased and optimised GFA over the years – almost 5 times since 1985
- Maintained affordability of spaces
- Greater inclusivity and access to subvented space
- Developed pipeline of diversified spaces through cross sector collaborations and private-public partnerships

# Transformation & sustainability

- Consumption patterns have changed and, like for many other sectors, relatively protected markets are potentially now less protected.
- Some may leave the sector, for various reasons
- But there are indeed opportunities for Singapore arts to adopt a growth mindset, and also go beyond our small domestic market.
- In tandem with business transformation and sustainability in a period of poor economic outlook, we should also consider:
  - What role can the arts play in rebuilding our economy?
- With the changing textures of Singapore society, we should consider the role of the arts in shaping Singapore's national identity and ask:
  - How can the arts be a conduit to facilitate constructive dialogue and connect communities?

