

Board Report 10CHILDREN 2024

With great dedication and motivation, 10CHILDREN took further steps in 2024 towards setting up upcoming editions of 10CHILDREN. The community is growing. The partners and art projects of 10CHILDREN are making their voices heard more and more strongly: child poverty in the world is a grave injustice that must be stopped.

In 2024, two new editions took place: in Düsseldorf (Germany) and in Pune (India). There was also a presentation of 10CHILDREN Cleveland during the Krokusfestival in Hasselt (Belgium), and preparations were made for an upcoming edition in Curaçao (Kingdom of the Netherlands).

During these activities, 10CHILDREN has been developing its own method for connecting a social issue with meaningful art. The term we use for this is **radical listening**. The children and their families – the *owners* of the subject – are always at the centre. Not *about* them, but *with* them. They are listened to without preconceived positions.

An important characteristic of the method is that cooperation between these children, their families, social institutions, subject-matter experts, cultural institutions, and artists takes place on an equal footing. Only in this way can the goal of 10CHILDREN be achieved: recognising the value of the lives of children living in poverty **and** issuing a wake-up call to policymakers and politicians – we must stop this injustice.

10CHILDREN is a small volunteer organisation that plays both a driving and connecting role for and between the different cities. The organisation is also active in creating the financial conditions for editions that cannot raise sufficient funds within their own region.

To make this role possible, specific funds are approached, and a donations campaign has been launched. Although these actions have met with some success, they are not enough to realise all the foundation's ambitions. It has become clear that the activities of 10CHILDREN fall 'between the cracks' for various public and private funds: they are not strictly social projects, nor strictly art projects, but rather social-art projects. The organisation is considering ways to change this.

The Board of 10CHILDREN

Valentijn Ouwens, Jaap Gerkes, Cobie de Vos

Overview 2024

Exchange – 10CHILDREN Cleveland

10 February – 17 February

(Actors and leadership from Cleveland Playhouse in the Netherlands and Belgium, financed by CPH, Krokusfestival Hasselt, and 10CHILDREN)

- **Mon 12 February:** Presentation at the Academy for Theatre & Dance
- **Tue 13 February:** Presentation at Krokusfestival Hasselt (including exhibition)
- **Thu 14 March:** Public meeting on poverty in Düsseldorf, inspired by 10CHILDREN

- **Sat 13 April:** 10CHILDREN Düsseldorf – Premiere of theatre production *Das Pommes Paradies* (including exhibition)
 - **Sat 31 August – Sun 8 September:** Visit to Pune (preparations)
 - **Mon 23 September:** Premiere of documentary *Stiller Hunger* and educational project *Starfood – Sushi in Space* (animated film)
 - **Thu 10 – Wed 16 October:** Visit to Curaçao (preparations)
 - **Sat 14 – Mon 23 December:** 10CHILDREN Pune
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2025–2028 (subject to funding)

- **10CHILDREN Curaçao** – 2025: Preparatory visit, grant applications, research; 2026: 10CHILDREN Curaçao
 - **10CHILDREN Cape Town**
 - **10CHILDREN São Paulo**
 - **10CHILDREN Asia** (Cambodia, Philippines, Indonesia) – yet to be established
 - **10CHILDREN Ghana** – yet to be established
 - **10CHILDREN Gaza** – yet to be established, if possible
 - **10CHILDREN Sittard–Geleen** – 2027 in collaboration with the structurally subsidised company Het Laagland
 - **10CHILDREN Festival** – 2028 in the Netherlands, in collaboration with partners
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Additional

- Presentation of three 10CHILDREN documentaries at *De Schuur*, Haarlem – May 2025
- Westwind Festival, Düsseldorf – June 2025
- Article on 10CHILDREN Pune in the June 2025 edition of *Theater Magazine*
- Presentation of 10CHILDREN in collaboration with Jeugdtheater De Krakeling – 2025
- Presentation of 10CHILDREN at Stichting NIVOZ (Rotterdam)
- Adapted edition of 10CHILDREN in Chemnitz (Germany) – in collaboration with the Netherlands Embassy in Germany
- ASSITEJ (World Organisation of Theatre for Children & Young People) presentation
- Krokusfestival Hasselt – presentation 2026