

## The path is curvy

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Which factors influence a disabled person's involvement in the arts during her or his lifetime? In a Nordic country equal chances for everyone is a core value. But what does it take to become an active agent, doer or artist if one happens to have a disability? To communicate and conceptualize our findings we have created a path-of-the-artist-model that shows the journey from childhood heading towards ageing. In my presentation I will focus on the path and discuss the contributing factors. This approach looks at the elements in a rather practical way emerging from real life experiences of disabled artists in Finland. For the advocacy work within Culture for All Service we draw our viewpoints from relevant studies, cultural policies, and on the countless encounters and development work done together with various partakers and actors in the culture field.

### Bio:

Sari Salovaara, MA, Senior Specialist at Culture For All Service. My studies include Art education, Cultural administration, and Expressive art therapy. Much of the interest I have lies within the rights of disabled people in the arts. Culture for All, [www.cultureforall.fi](http://www.cultureforall.fi), is a service provided by The Association Yhdenvertaisen kulttuurin puolesta ry. The association members are the parent organizations of the culture field in Finland.