

developing and future projects

Curriculum for Excellence Partnership Project

Funded by the Scottish Arts Council

In January 2007 the Arts Education team in Aberdeen secured funding for a Curriculum for Excellence Project in partnership with Aberdeenshire and Moray Cultural Co-ordinators. Using the principles of Arts Across the Curriculum, each authority will work with the Maths Departments in Harlaw Academy, Portlethen Academy in Aberdeenshire and an Academy in Moray. A dance artist, visual artist and musician will spend a term each in each of the 3 academies, helping to embed the underpinning principles of the Curriculum for Excellence. The project will begin in August 2007 for one year.

contact Linda on 346358

Scottish Teachers for a New Era

Funded by the Scottish Arts Council

A successful application resulted in a grant to pilot an exciting new teacher education project. The School of Education at the University of Aberdeen and the Arts Education Team will be working in partnership from June 2007 to develop the principles of Arts Across the Curriculum within teacher training education. The project will be a case study within Scottish Teachers for a New Era (STNE), the University's action research project, which is investigating and developing a new model for teacher education. This is a hugely exciting project and is an opportunity to influence the creativity of teaching and learning in Scottish Education.

contact Annette on 346029, Linda on 346358 or Louise on 346360

Arts And Kids

Funded by the Prince of Wales Arts and Kids Foundation

This partnership between the Arts Education Team and Aberdeen Arts Centre is one of only 2 new projects in Scotland to be funded by the Prince of Wales Foundation. The Arts Education Team and the Arts Centre will work with schools in the Northfield ASG. The idea is to give pupils and teachers access to professional theatre for children and young people and associated educational workshops. A key element of the project is that a small group of teachers and pupils will be accompanied by the Cultural Co-ordinator and the Arts Centre Venue Manager to Take Off, a showcase of professional theatre for children and young people held in the North of England every year. This small group will then work closely with the Arts Education Team and the Arts Centre to help programme professional work in the Arts Centre. It will form the core of an Enterprise project in schools where pupils will promote professional performing arts in Aberdeen schools and venues.

contact Linda on 346358

Scotstown School Commission 'Making Art Real'

Members of the Eco committee of Scotstown Primary School were keen to enhance their school grounds by having a piece of art specially made. After some serious fundraising and successful funding applications, the pupils, supported by the Arts Education Team, have advertised for a sculptor or environmental artist to 'make art real'. Pupils will be included in both short-letting and interviewing panels. The artist will be expected to offer workshops to all pupils to help them understand the processes that will be used by the chosen artist, to make a new piece of artwork for the school grounds.

contact Louise on 346360

other work of the arts education team

Brokerage Service for Schools

This is a service offered by the Arts Education Team to assist teachers in selecting and booking theatre companies to visit schools. We can help arrange discounted performance/workshop visits by companies producing high quality theatre and related education work for children and young people. As the Cultural Co-ordinator for Music Dance and Performance has seen a great deal of work produced for young audiences, she is able to advise on the quality and appropriateness of theatre offered directly to schools.

contact Linda on 346358

Arts Education Forum

The Arts Education Forum meets bi-monthly to enable arts education practitioners to make links and partnerships, share information and continue to develop and promote high quality work and good practice.

contact Annette on 346029



National Arts Education Network

The National Arts Education Network (NAEN) is a network of arts education professionals who meet every two months at various locations around Scotland to share experience, expertise and resources, and to discuss new initiatives.

contact Annette on 346029

Cultural Co-ordinators National Network

As Cultural Co-ordinators become more established as Arts Education professionals, it has become apparent that we need a national network to support and inform the work of cultural co-ordinators in schools and to share good practice and information. National sharing and business meetings have taken place in Aberdeen, West Lothian and Renfrewshire.

contact Linda on 346358

The Cultural Forum

The Cultural Forum is part of The Aberdeen City Alliance (TACA) and is made up of a range of individuals who represent various key arts and cultural organisations within the city. They meet with representatives from the City Council to promote and disseminate information about cultural activity in the city.

contact Annette on 346029

Funding for Arts in Schools

The Arts Education Team has an excellent track record of successfully applying for grants and funding to develop new arts activity for schools. The key to this success is wide ranging experience of putting together large funding bids in all artforms. In addition the team is best placed to make the strategic links to put in place effective partnerships. Although the team initiate the majority of project proposals, schools and other organisations are beginning to approach the team to form partnerships to maximise resources and have the best opportunity of attracting funding.

To date, the Arts Education Team has brought arts projects to schools with a value of just over £1,600,000. This has all been money specifically for arts education.

contact Annette or one of the Cultural Co-ordinators

new faces in arts education in aberdeeen

- Claire Needler joined the Arts Education Team and job shares with Louise Baxter on Visual Arts, Film and Literature
- Alison Parfitt has joined the Marischal Museum as NEMP Education and Access Officer
- Paula Wilson is the new Venue Manager at Aberdeen Arts Centre
- Janie Garvie is working with the Lemon Tree as Education and Development manager

arts education team contact details

Arts education projects are planned and funded in many different ways with a wide range of partners. They team is always keen to hear from anyone with an idea for schools and each member of the team is willing to discuss ideas and try to help bring them to fruition.

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Cultural Co-ordinator | Visual Art, Film & Literature | Louise Baxter

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Cultural Co-ordinator | Museums, Galleries & Heritage | Lorna Dey

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Cultural Co-ordinator | Music, Dance & Performance | Linda Lees Hislop

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Arts Education Projects Assistant | Heather Evans

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and working with the arts education team is:

Traditional Dance Artist | Claire Reid

t: 01224 346285
e: clreid@aberdeencity.gov.uk

project partners have included among others:

- Aberdeen City Council – various services
- Aberdeenshire Council
- Moray Council
- University of Aberdeen Music Department
- University of Aberdeen School of Education
- University of Aberdeen WORD Festival
- Aberdeen Performing Arts
- Aberdeen Arts Centre
- Individual schools
- Peacock Visual Arts
- Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust
- Grampian NHS
- Burnsong
- Edinburgh Youth Orchestra
- Shell
- Multi Ethnic Aberdeen Limited
- The Belmont Picturehouse
- Citymoves and Whitespace
- BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
- The Lemon Tree



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spring 2007



arts education team

within Strategic Leadership, Aberdeen City Council:
Planning and Policy for Children and Young People

The arts education team makes the links between arts, heritage and cultural education in schools throughout the city, co-ordinating the interface between policy and practice. The team makes strategic links between education and artists, venues, arts organisations and companies at both the local and national level. One of the arts education team's greatest strengths is its expertise and success in attracting significant sums of additional money to the city, to be spent on arts and cultural education within schools.

The arts education team is:

Arts Education Co-ordinator:

Annette Murray, who line manages the team and has overall responsibility for arts education in Aberdeen City.

Cultural Co-ordinators:

Louise Baxter / Claire Needler

Visual Arts, Film and Literature.

Lorna Dey

Galleries, Museums and Heritage.

Linda Lees Hislop

Music, Dance and Performance.

Projects Assistant:

Heather Evans, who provides support for all the arts education projects.



updates from spring | summer 2006

Cultural Co-ordinators in Scottish Schools

The Scottish Executive has recently announced an additional £5.8 million to be spent on the Cultural Co-ordinator scheme over the next 2 years. This is a huge increase of funding, and is a great boost for a national project which is now in its sixth year. This support shows that the Scottish Executive wants to put culture at the heart of all pupils' learning.

All the Cultural Co-ordinators' projects are focussed on developing education in and through the arts, culture and heritage in Aberdeen City Schools for pupils, teachers and the schools' communities. The team designs projects which support the curriculum either directly, or by encouraging cross curricular working. The team has no budget and attracts funding from predominately external sources to design and manage projects which place creativity at the heart of learning.

Kincorth Bridges of Light

Funded by Councillor David Clyne and Arts Across the Curriculum

Last November we worked with Kincorth ASG primary schools and developed a new celebratory multi-arts festival. The event transformed the banks of the River Dee with a piece of promenade theatre and a light installation. A film of the event will be shown in the Belmont Picturehouse.

If you'd like to have a multi-arts festival in your ASG, and have an idea you'd like to develop, get in touch.

contact Annette on 346029

Aberdeen Storytelling and Theatre Festival

Funded by Aberdeen City Council

A major highlight in schools' cultural diaries, this year's storytelling festival brought award winning theatre, authors and artists to Aberdeens schools and cultural venues. Next year is the 10th festival - give us your feedback and ideas so we can make it the best yet.

contact Annette on 346029 or Heather on 346361



Arts Across the Curriculum

Funded by Future Learning and Teaching (FLaT), Scottish Arts Council, Aberdeen City Council

Arts Across the Curriculum (the national pilot project which places professional artists in schools to team teach using the arts to help deliver the curriculum) is nearly complete.

Strathclyde University will publish their evaluation report in November 2007.

The project in Aberdeen has gone from strength to strength. Visual artists, Kirsty Aitken and Natalie Ryde, and drama educators Fiona Milligan and Martin Danziger have been working in the Kincorth ASG covering all aspects of the curriculum with class teachers and producing fabulous work. Teachers have reported very positively on the impact this way of teaching has on pupils' learning and school ethos. This has resulted in some highly creative lesson plans and a legacy of new approaches teachers are taking in their teaching practice.

To celebrate the Arts Across the Curriculum project and also to support the transition of pupils from primary schools to Kincorth Academy, the Arts Education Team has planned a series of samba workshops. Immediately following the workshops, all participants will come together to combine the individual elements of Brazilian percussion, drumming and dance into a massive Samba party.

contact Annette on 346029 or Linda on 346358



Oldmachar Writing Fellowship

Funded by Scottish Arts Council

In August 2006 Irish author Majella Cullinane was appointed Writing Fellow to the Oldmachar ASG. Majella has been working with pupils in all schools in the ASG concentrating on reluctant readers and writers and also on keen, able pupils. A new pupil editorial board is to be set up in Oldmachar Academy and Majella will assist them to select, edit and publish new work from pupils in the ASG. A volume of pupils' work will be published by the school later this year and marketed as an ASG enterprise activity.

contact Louise on 346360

pARTners – Beacons in the Community

Funded by the Scottish Arts Council

As part of Scotland's Artist in Residency programme, Glasgow artist Stuart Buchanan became our artist partner and began a 2 year programme of working with 6 City schools to produce new artwork. In the first year Stuart worked with Westerton and Tullos Primaries and with the Lowit Unit, RACH. Three very different pieces of art have been produced including exterior wall panels, a textile hanging and an oil painting. These artworks will help to establish the schools' unique identities so they can become Beacons in their own community.

Stuart has just commenced working in Danestone and Fernielea Primaries and also with Beechwood School. He works in schools half the week and develops his own work in a WASPS studio the rest of the time.

current and ongoing projects

What's the Story?

Funded by Aberdeen City Council, University of Aberdeen and The Times Educational Supplement Scotland (TESS)

Since 2005, as part of the Storytelling Festival, we have teamed up with Aberdeen University's Word festival to run a short story writing competition for secondary pupils. Winning stories are published by WordFirsts, an imprint dedicated to celebrating the talents of young writers.

The winners of this year's competition 'Oor Wey O' Spikin' were announced at the book launch for 'Home', the anthology of last year's winning stories during Word 07.

Look out for competition entry forms next spring.

contact Louise on 346360 or Claire on 346286

Getting to Grips with Heritage: interactive website and associated workshops

Funded by Energising Aberdeen and the Heritage Lottery Fund.



Have you ever wanted to take home some of the amazing items you see on visits to Aberdeen Art Gallery, the Maritime Museum, Tolbooth and Provost Skenes House? The Getting to Grips with Heritage project brings

you Aberdeen Quest which uses new technology to let you, virtually at least, do just that. This exciting and innovative educational website from Aberdeen City Council's Arts Education Team is a teaching tool and medium for creative play in the classroom and at home. You can include Aberdeen Quest in lessons on environmental studies, basic numeracy and literacy – in fact, right across the curriculum.

Discover lots of hidden gems among the objects held in the museum; Take a Tour of buildings, exhibitions and stored objects, zoom in on works of art, look at what happens behind the scenes, prepare a new exhibition, watch an archaeological dig; Timelines will help you explore art history, world events and put flesh on the bones of local history; Play a Game includes painting, drawing, drag and drop, colour mixing, 'reading' pictures; Learn pages will provide role play, factsheets, various resources to enhance learning.

contact Lorna on 346359 or take a look at the website www.aberdeenquest.com

Traditional Dance in Schools

Funded by SAC, Aberdeen City Council and NHS Grampian

The Arts Education Team in partnership with Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust successfully attracted funding to appoint a traditional dance artist for 2 years. Pat Ballantyne worked in city schools for a year but following her departure in August '06, Claire Reid took over the post half time for a further 2 years. Claire brings a fresh creative approach and is busy working in schools across the city developing traditional dance and supporting transition from nursery to primary school.

contact Claire on 346285 or Linda on 346358

YMI World Music, Technology and Composition Project

Funded by Youth Music Initiative (Scottish Arts Council) Strategic Fund

The second Youth Music Initiative project is currently working with all 12 of Aberdeens Academies and is focussing on World Music, Technology and Composition. This is a partnership project with the University of Aberdeen Music Department, and it has been hugely successful in linking these elements to the curriculum and giving both pupils and staff additional skills to use in their own compositions. Each school will select 2 new compositions each which will be recorded onto a CD which will be launched at an event at Elphinstone Hall on Tuesday June 26th.

contact Linda on 346358

Burns and Rivers – Dee Song

Funded by Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, SNH, Scottish Enterprise & Scottish Arts Council

This exciting project is a partnership between Burnsong in Dumfries and Galloway, Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils. Three schools in Aberdeen (Walker Road, Kirkhill and Ferryhill) and four schools in Aberdeenshire (in Banchory, Kincardine O Neill and Aboyne), all located close to the River Dee as the uniting factor, are participating in this song writing project.

The main focus of the workshops is song writing, with the stimulus and inspiration coming from the River Dee, its ecology and environment, flora and fauna. At the start of the project each school went on a field trip to the part of the River Dee most local to their school, facilitated by the Ranger Service and the Macaulay Institute. Next, professional songwriters visit the school once a week, working with the pupils and teachers to support and encourage the writing of new songs. Once the songs are written pupils from all 7 schools will come together to perform their work at a large concert which will be recorded live and each participating pupil will receive a copy of the CD.

contact Linda on 346358

Clarinet Masterclass and concert with Julian Bliss

Funded by Edinburgh Youth Orchestra and Scottish Arts Council

Harlaw Academy hosted a clarinet masterclass with Julian Bliss, a 17 year old clarinetist who plays with world class orchestras. City pupils also enjoyed free tickets to the EYO concert at the Music Hall.

contact Linda on 346358

University of Aberdeen Music Prize – A Voyage of Discovery

The second Music Prize at Aberdeen University offered city pupils workshops on Balinese Gamelan, Steel Pans, Electroacoustic Music and Kodaly singing. These were held over the weekend of the Music Prize and plans are already underway to integrate these workshops into school time for the next Music Prize in 2008.

contact Linda on 346358

Kingswells Ceramic Project

Funded by the school

Local ceramicist, Fran Fowkes has been working with the staff and pupils of the school to enhance the school entrance and to use a ceramic tile trail to guide visitors to the main entrance. The position of the entrance of the school was difficult to identify, so Fran was engaged to work with all pupils to make tiles that were later incorporated into the design of the work around the door and leading up to it.

contact Louise on 346360

Object Lesson

Funded by Scottish Museums Council and the Belmont Picturehouse.

We've still got copies of Object Lesson, a DVD featuring three local time-travelling children who discover what Aberdeen was like in the 20th century.

If you'd like some contact Lorna on 346359

