



Welcome ...

... to our Winter Newsletter 2015. The autumn brought us the beautiful carpet of red and orange leaves as well as an excuse for that extra cup of hot chocolate. The past few months have been extremely busy and exciting at Wac Arts, and all of the happenings will be shared with you in this newsletter.

Awards and Recognitions

Wac Arts received the h. Club Foundation Philanthropic award for charities who support youth employment in the creative industries. Celia Greenwood was described as an inspiration by host Margarita Taylor. The Philanthropic Award gives Wac Arts the privilege of using the Hospital Club for events thrice a year. The list of h. club 2015 award winners included the names of some of the most talented people in the creative industries, such as designers Henry Holland and Victoria Beckham, actors Idris Elba, Kirsten Scott Thomas, Tom Hardy and Andy Serkis. DJ's Lauren Lavern and Rob Da Bank were also winners!



Wac Arts also announced a new partnership with the Swarovski Foundation, the first fruits of which are the Swarovski Foundation Scholarships which will support two young performers through their first year of training on the flagship diploma programme. The Swarovski Audition Day was held at Wac Arts on 29th October 2015, for selection of the two Swarovski Foundation Scholarships. We are pleased to announce that Adebimpe Adeyemo & Elzbieta Kalicka were successful on the day from a very talented field of nine of our current first years. We are immensely grateful to The Swarovski Foundation for funding these talented young performers and setting them on the path to their future career in arts.

Wac Arts Programmes

October witnessed an amazing response to our most recent Creative Interaction for Inclusion (Cifi Think Tank) event. It was a massive hit amongst the participants, with experts in assistive technology and learning disabilities collaborating and communicating in helping to progress the Interactive project, providing vital insight in strategies to promote fun and friendship through the use of interactive technology.

A huge milestone was reached with the Interactive group's first public performance, premiering as an iPad Orchestra at the Hampstead Festival. The young people hit the stage to deliver a unique performance of 'Louie Louie' to a marveling crowd, consolidating 6 weeks of hard work. Their excellent work has also been recognised at the Camden Youth Awards where several of the Interactive Group were selected for awards. Typical of the energy of the group, the young people took to the stage to perform an impromptu dance routine, getting all the other young people in the audience to join in and participate.

Wac Arts Inflight returned with Term 2 this October. This term they have been training in static harness and bungee. A new Artistic Director has been appointed to start working on the final performance in June 2016.

The Diploma 1st and 2nd year students shared their terms work on the 4th December. Showing off their newly developed skills in song writing and devising as well as sharing a drama piece that they have been working on under the tuition of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time star, Indra Ove.

The 3rd years will be performing two abridged plays; Mules and Yard Girls on Saturday 12th December at Etc Theatre in Camden. This event is now sold out but we will let everyone know as soon as the tickets for their big musical production in June become available!

Please support Wac Arts!

You can become a Wac Arts Backer through personal fundraising and signing up to our membership scheme! A fundraising toolkit and all information to sign up is on our website at www.WacArts.co.uk/SupportUs. Become a Wac Arts Backer today and help us keep running integral and exciting programmes for young people.

Wac Arts Patrons

Wac Arts is extremely proud to introduce its four new famous supporters who have accepted the honour of being a Wac Arts Patron. Our four new Patrons are - **Simon Callow**, **Ms. Dynamite**, **Ann Mitchell** and **Danny Sapani**. They all have been kind enough to be on board to officially advocate for the organisation and support Wac Arts in its future activities.

"Wac Arts is a place where young people - often facing real hardship and difficult circumstances - can come and be supported in their yearning to be part of the arts. To make something of themselves against all the odds"

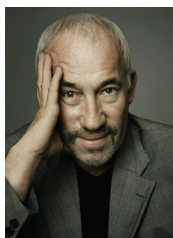
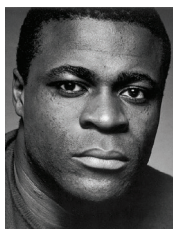
Ann Mitchell

"This is art at the heart of the community, unforgettable, life changing stuff"

Simon Callow

Please visit our website to have a look on the diverse experience of our talented patrons.

www.WacArts.co.uk



Bloomberg Tradebook Charity Day

Tony Award winner and Game of Thrones star took time out of his busy filming schedule for BBC drama River to support Wac Arts at the Bloomberg Tradebook Charity Day on Wednesday 4th November. Owen got on the trade floor and hit the phones to raise funds for our programmes.

Wac Arts was selected for this fantastic opportunity alongside other charities, including Great Ormond Street Children's Charity, The Princes Trust, Prostate Cancer UK, and the Young Vic theatre. Apart from Owen, a long list of Celebrity Ambassadors came forward to show their support, including Sir Ian McKellen, Barbara Windsor, Hayley McQueen, Harry Redknapp, Gillian Anderson, Jim Carter, Sarah Harding.



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Hampstead Christmas Fair

Wac Arts had the privilege of not only opening the fair's main stage but also having their own stage (sponsored by Dominique Levy Property Consultants) at the Hampstead Christmas Fair on 29th November. The students performed like true professionals, bursting with enthusiasm and talent, they presented an enthralling mix of performances throughout the day. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to the Hampstead Fair for inviting Wac Arts to perform!

An Evening with 'Michael Nyman and Julian Joseph'

Memorable classical tunes and sizzling jazz were brought together in 'An evening with Michael Nyman and Julian Joseph' at the Old Town Hall on 6th December. Ahead of his sell out concert at the Barbican, Nyman donated his time and his piano for this exceptional evening, raising money for Wac Arts. Michael and Julian's accomplished performances were central to the evening, with glittering support from our very own Junior Wac Band, Senior Wac Band and Senior Wac choir, all of whom performed some fresh re-workings of pieces by our supportive stars. The response to the event has been overwhelming and helped us to raise funds to sustain our weekend programmes.

Dates for your diary

Diploma Audition Dates: **Sunday 13th December**, with a few places at the auditions remaining, grab this opportunity to join our flagship course and kickstart your performing career.

Email Diploma@WacArts.co.uk for more information or visit www.WacArts.co.uk/Diploma

