



Wac Arts

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Camille is skydiving for Wac Arts



ARCO Junior Graduation



Wonder Wac Arts Trip

empowering young
people to change
their world

June 2013 Newsletter

Welcome ...

... to the summer at Wac Arts!

Wac Arts is now firmly established in our community, the seamless transition from InterChange Trust and WAC Performing Arts and Media College almost complete. Throughout the year, we'll be continuing to develop our brand and expanding the Wac Arts family to be as inclusive as possible. So please read on and don't miss an opportunity to help spread the word!

We are also launching our Individual Giving Scheme in June. This will give all Wac Arts supporters a chance to help raise money for our programmes and projects. Keep an eye on our website, Facebook and Twitter for more information.

Super Summer Programme



Already confirmed for the summer is a fun packed, six-week programme of Wonder Wac Arts on-site activities for young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Starting on Monday 22nd July, there will be performing arts and creative opportunities throughout the holidays! We are also running a range of Oasis residential projects. We visit accessible outdoor activity centres to experience independent living and an amazing range of exciting activities in the countryside.

Wac Arts is currently fundraising hard to put on more fun summer projects for all our young people – please contact us on 020 7692 5800 or check our website and Facebook page for the latest updates.

For details on how to book your place or be referred to join our Wonder Wac Arts and Oasis programmes this summer, please contact our Disability Officer at Maggie.Mendy@WacArts.co.uk

Edinburgh Festival calls!

Excitement builds through the summer as Wac Arts students prepare for their residency at the prestigious Edinburgh Festival in August! The play they are performing, *A Concrete Jungle Full of Wild Cars* by Mariama Ives-Moiba, was selected as winner of the Trinity International Playwriting Competition and will be staged by Senior and Diploma Wac Arts students and graduates. The production will be directed by Wac Arts alumni and award-winning playwright in his own right; Che Walker.

Concrete Jungle is a gritty play about three teenagers who have fled civil war in Sierra Leone. The action switches back and forth between Sierra Leone and the experiences of the young refugees sent by their parents to contemporary London. A truly special occasion for all at Wac Arts, the opportunity to be part of this celebrated production is one that everyone involved will always remember. See **Important dates** for full details.

In the Long Run...

The ARCO Junior graduation took place on 23rd May in the grand Main Hall at Wac Arts. A brilliant show, *In the Long Run* celebrated the year's considerable achievements with a broad showcase of work including film, music and live performance. The students gave their all and wowed the audience of family and friends, there to be part of their success!

Camille's June Jump for Wac Arts!

This June, our very own Camille Curtis y Van Dyke is skydiving to raise funds for Wac Arts! Demonstrating considerable dedication to the cause (!) this is Camille's first ever parachute jump, skydiving the north London skies. For details and to sponsor Camille, please see the Info Box on page two. Good Luck Camille ... we hope you enjoy the view from up there as well as raise lots of money!

Hampstead Film Society

Film nights resume in September – please email us on hfs@WacArts.co.uk or check WacArts.co.uk/film for latest details.



European Meeting



Music and Production



35 Years of Wac Arts T-Shirts

Please support Wac Arts!

To support Camille's Skydive please visit her JustGiving page at www.justgiving.com/Camille-Curtis-y-Van-Dyke

Friends and supporters can also donate straight to Camille's fundraising page by texting the unique code: **SKYC73** and any of the following amounts to **70070**

Donations by text can be made for:
£1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10

Whatever amount you choose will be very much appreciated and put straight to work at Wac Arts. Thank you.

BBC Children in Need



To celebrate the conclusion of our fantastic BBC Children in Need, Fun and Friendship programme, Wac Arts Wonder Web organised a film screening of the best work from the three years. Current and ex students, parents and staff joined Wonder Wac Arts students and our over 18s, Win Win members in an interactive event with Skype links to former staff.

Representing the amazing 'reach' of this multi platform programme, the event demonstrated how young people were able to break boundaries and connect. They gave presentations reflecting on their time with the project and introduced a series of films, including the most recent production from their February road trip to Sussex, Cardiff and Manchester.

Snacks and drinks were provided and statistics celebrated! The website was ranked in the top 15% of websites worldwide! In total, 152 radio shows and 80 hours were broadcast live on air! Hits to the site more than doubled each year from 60,000 in 2010 to a massive 830,000 in 2013! Nearly 400 young people worked with us over three years and one film, *Punching Online*, went viral with 6 million views! The website remains live at WacWonderWeb.co.uk

Music and Production training

A brand new course in music and production has just begun at Wac Arts. Continuing throughout June, we have teamed up with Vital Regeneration to offer a fully funded, two day per week opportunity. Students will make their own music tracks, attend live music performances and gain a prestigious Arts Award. For more information contact Camille on 020 7692 5876 or Camille.Curtis@WacArts.co.uk

Hope for Children

Wac Arts met with its European partners in Nicosia, Cyprus recently to develop key internationally recognised competences for work with those Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). As well as the UK and Cyprus, countries represented include the Netherlands, Spain and Portugal.

The qualification will reflect the needs and demands of this group of young people and benefit from common understanding and experiences from all partner countries. It will be delivered as a training toolkit within the Life Learning Program – Transfer of Innovation. Wac Arts is lead partner for the group, and the ARCO project is primarily responsible for the education of young people facing difficulties in school and with social inclusion. It works with young people to develop transferable skills that will enable them to gain qualifications, establish a career and become fully engaged in society.

Important dates

Edinburgh Festival

Wac Arts ensemble of Senior and Diploma students and graduates:

Previews: Sat 3rd & Sun 4th August
Shows: Mon 5th-Sat 10th August

A Concrete Jungle Full of Wild Cars
at Radisson Space Two,
Raddison Hotel, The Royal Mile,
Edinburgh EH1 1TH

National Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre

Third year graduates perform with second year students for three great nights in July!

Thurs 11th, Fri 12th & Sat 13th July
at 7.30pm each night:

The Little Shop of Horrors
at Westminster Kingsway College Theatre,
Kings Cross Centre, Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8RA

First year students perform a new devised piece for their end-of-year show:

Tues 2nd July

at Wac Arts, the Old Town Hall,
213 Haverstock Hill, London NW3 4QP

Please contact the Diploma office for more on both productions on 020 7692 5838.