



# Newsletter

June 2014

## Welcome ...

... to our new look, summer newsletter! Our characteristic super-blend of arts, fundraising and inclusivity means hard work and fun for everyone. We've enjoyed end-of-year shows, graduation ceremonies and presentations - even holiday trips to the countryside!

## Summer Fun

A fun packed summer with something for everyone! If production is your thing, there is an all-new intensive, interactive course in TV production from 11th-22nd August. For young people with disabilities and learning difficulties this exciting project will create an online broadcast to the world. We have a six-week Wonder Wac Arts programme of creative arts at the Old Town Hall, and several five-day residential trips out to the country. Summer fun for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities begins on 21st July so you need to contact Maggie on 020 7692 5812 for a place asap!

Our summer schools kick off with the ever-popular Circus School for 6-11s from 28th July. And for 13-19s we have a Big Band School offering young people the chance to experience the wonder of Big Band sound! There is also a new Aerials School where 9-15s can explore the feelings of flying through space while suspended from the studio ceilings on ropes and swings! A truly unique opportunity to do something different with your summer holidays, starting on 11th August! More details on 020 7692 5800.

## Marathon fundraiser!

Another fantastic success as our very own drama tutor, Indra Ove, joined a sea of runners at the Brighton marathon! Crossing the finish line in only 4hrs 18mins she raised an amazing £2,000+ in the process! Thank you Indra - from all at Wac Arts.



## We Will Rock You!

The cast, including Brian May, pictured on the magnificent Wac Arts staircase! Rehearsing in our halls and studio spaces, it was great having the company with us recently.

## Show-time take overs!

This year's end-of-year shows had a distinctly different flavour. Senior Wac Arts became interactive taking their audience

on a discovery tour of the thrills of market theatre. They took over the entire Old Town Hall building, moving out of the hall and throughout the foyer and atrium spaces.

ARCO's graduating group also took their sword-fighting extravaganza out and about and onto Hampstead Heath. Giving a unique authenticity to their performance, it was brilliant to see theatre in such innovative settings. The excitement continued through the Diploma showcases where industry representatives were invited to specialised vocals, dance and drama performances at selected venues around Camden.

With the Junior Wac Arts performances in open classes, taking performances out of a static theatre environment challenges everyone in new ways. The perfect way to round the year's work off in style!

## Summer movies

Screenings in June include *I am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang* starring Paul Muni on 3rd June and on 17th June, the Polish *Blind Chance* directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski.

Film nights resume in September after the summer break. Please see the Belsize Park Film Society on Facebook, Twitter or email [filmsocietyhampstead@gmail.com](mailto:filmsocietyhampstead@gmail.com).

## Please support Wac Arts!

You can become a Wac Arts Backer through personal fundraising. Whether running a marathon, jumping out of a plane or baking a tasty cake, you can do this in support of us! We have created a handy fundraising toolkit with advice, suggestions and useful information available on our website at [www.WacArts.co.uk/Fundraiser](http://www.WacArts.co.uk/Fundraiser)

## Beautiful Backers

It's Wac Arts Backers 1st anniversary! Ever more crucial, the scheme has blossomed with a new fundraising target of £100,000 per year. Allowing us to plan with confidence, regular donations mean we can develop projects with more security for the future.

As celebrated *Eastenders* star and Wac Arts alumni Danny Dyer said recently, "I can't express enough that if it wasn't for the Interchange Studios [now Wac Arts] I wouldn't be where I am today. I owe it my whole career. Coming from my sort of background it's near on impossible to find any sort of avenue to pursue the art that we love so we need to fight to get the readies we need to keep the gaff where it needs to be." So please help us make our target and join the Wac Arts Backers family today!

## Tony award nomination



On her Broadway debut, Wac Arts alumni Sophie Okonedo has been nominated for a coveted Tony award. Starring with Denzil Washington as Walter Lee, Sophie plays wife, Ruth Lee, in *A Raisin in the Sun* – all fingers crossed for her at the award ceremony on 8th June!

## Wac Arts College admissions

The Wac Arts College free school opens for the first time in September. After years of planning and months of pre-opening preparation, everything is in place for the first intake of creative individuals.

One of only 16 alternative free schools in the UK, Wac Arts College offers a unique learning environment for 14-19s from Camden and neighbouring boroughs. It will provide alternative education through a creative arts and media curriculum. Starting with subjects that students connect with, including music, street dance and TV production, life skills, literacy and numeracy skills are embedded in the sessions. Equal status is given to non-western art forms for a varied and innovative educational experience. Admission applications can still be made - please contact the school on 020 7692 5860 or email [info@WacArtsCollege.co.uk](mailto:info@WacArtsCollege.co.uk) for more information.

## Support us while you shop

Do your online shopping through the EasyFundraising website at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/WacArts](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/WacArts)

## Text donate

You can also text a donation direct to Wac Arts. Just text **ARTS35 £10** (or your other amount) to **70070** and make a difference today!

## Edinburgh Festival 2014!

Following the runaway success of last year's show, Wac Arts is returning to the Edinburgh Festival in August with an all-new production. Taking their devised piece, *Journeys Beyond*, Senior, Diploma and ex-students begin a week-long residence. Reigniting a Wac Arts tradition, in the 1980s Wac Arts managed a venue as Edinburgh regulars. Fundraising to finance this exciting venture is now in full swing and you can donate by contacting [Steve.Medlin@WacArts.co.uk](mailto:Steve.Medlin@WacArts.co.uk).

Previews of this amazing tale of myth, legend and folklore take place in London in July. The show features stories from Britain, India, Greece, Japan and the Caribbean. With dazzling displays of dance, theatre and striking new songs, this is a vibrant, new musical with a young, dynamic and female-strong cast. To see them for yourself and an evening of new talent as it hits the professional arena, check 'Important dates' below!

## Wac Arts AIR!

Our new Artists in Residence scheme launches with two amazing talents. Visual artist Peter Andersen works in oil and acrylic to create movement based paintings and Che Walker is devising a new theatrical piece. Wac AIR will nurture artists from different disciplines exhibiting in various forms throughout the year. Viewings and works in progress can be seen every Thursday in June from 6-8pm. Find out more at [www.WacArts.co.uk/AIR](http://www.WacArts.co.uk/AIR).

## Important dates

### National Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre

**Fri 27th June** : at 2pm : *Modern American Repertoire*  
first and second years perform : everyone welcome  
at Wac Arts Main Theatre, Old Town Hall, NW3 4QP.

**Fri 4th & Sat 5th July** : at 7.45pm : *Journeys Beyond*  
third years perform : everyone welcome  
at Arcola Theatre Tent, Ashwin St, Dalston, E8 3DL.

Edinburgh Festival - Diploma students past and present  
**Mon 4th - Sat 9th August** : at 7.35pm : *Journeys Beyond*  
at theSpace @ Venue 45,  
63 Jeffrey St, Edinburgh, EH1 1DH.  
Please contact the Wac Arts Diploma office for details on  
020 7692 5838.



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