



## Welcome ...

... to our Summer Newsletter 2016. We're all enjoying the warmer weather here in Belsize Park (in between the torrential downpours) and far from winding down for the summer we're busier than ever!

## Diploma End of Year Performance

After gaining a 'good' result from Ofsted in April, the Diploma team have been extremely busy. Our end of year performance of *Bernarda Alba* at The Cockpit Theatre was a success, with fantastic feedback from the audience which included casting agents and industry pros. We were so proud of all our students and to showcase the culmination of three years of training and hard work.



Our open day saw potential students from across the country come in to see what daily life is like on the Wac Arts Diploma, they met our exceptional students and staff and watch snippets from rehearsals of *Bernarda Alba* Musical.

Our final audition for the Diploma's September 2016 intake is on the 24th July. There are limited places left. For those wishing to apply go to our website to download an application form.

## Ultimate Artists Scholarships for Wac Arts Diploma Students

The managers at Ultimate Artists had heard that Wac Arts had some exceptionally gifted singers and paid us a visit! Our students were given the opportunity to audition for scholarship places on their residential professional music development programme this summer. We're delighted to announce that six students were awarded places and for nine days this summer they'll be off to Hertfordshire University to hone their singing, song-writing, music production and performance skills. It's a great opportunity for them to meet other singers and performers, all whilst under the tuition of current industry professionals who have worked with names like Jessie J, David Guetta and Little Mix to name but a few.

## Marathon Men and Wac Arts Ramblers

He did it! Our brilliant runner Stephen Davy astonished us when he completed the London Marathon in an incredible 3 hours and 43 minutes! He left us all feeling rather humbled when he crossed the finish line – he set a fantastic time and raised over £4000 for Wac Arts in the process.



Additionally, ten parents and Wac Arts staff including CEO Celia Greenwood walked 23 miles from Windsor Castle to Buckingham Palace, raising over £2,500! With real team spirit the ladies stayed together throughout the 23 miles, motivating and supporting each other through blisters and tough terrain. The same weekend saw Wac Arts' Media Man, Nathan take on the Hackney Half Marathon (his second half marathon in a month!) in 27 degree heat, beating his personal best and smashing his fundraising goal of £500.



## Revolution at Wac Arts

Ché Walker and friends paid us a visit on Father's Day for a superb evening of entertainment. Joining Ché were some massive names from music, poetry, theatre and the television. UK soul legend Omar performed, along with award winning physical theatre company Unclassified Arts, Eastenders, Star Wars and Layer Cake star Steve John Sheperd, Doctor Who's Arthur Darvill; as well as a host of other stars! £1500 was raised for Wac Arts and there's already talk about putting on another in September, so watch this space!

## Wac Arts Young People Work With Anna Freud

Our young people recently got together with The Anna Freud Centre for Children and Families to take part in a four day photography workshop led by award-winning photographer Sandro Sodano from Poached Creative. It was a fantastic experience for our young people and we hope to work with Anna Freud centre again in the future. Chris, a member of Wonder Wac Arts and participant in the workshop said: "As a disabled person I hope I can be an example to other people who would want to build up their creativity and feel better about themselves, each other, the project and their community."

## Happy Healthy Independent Living

Spring saw us win the People's Projects, a National Lottery funded prize that offered funding to organisations like Wac Arts to run a project of their choosing. Our project, 'Happy Healthy Independent Living', aims to support 18+ young people with moderate disabilities during their transition into adulthood. We've certainly been busy since we won! Young people have taken part in workshops such as 3D printing, photography, fencing, performing arts sessions and mentoring sessions with buddies and there's lots more to follow over the summer including a camping residential to Stubbers Adventure Centre.

## Seana Brennan Breathes Fresh Air Into The Atrium

Seana Brennan's abstract, mesmerising pieces have taken over the Atrium at Wac Arts until the end of July. A combination of photography and acrylic paint, the work has been the talk of the Old Town Hall. Seana explains her choice to exhibit with us: "I am delighted to be showing my work in collaboration with Wac Arts this year as Artist in Residence for June and July. I am a local artist and have long been aware of the work that the organisation does for young people. When I discovered the full breadth of its offer, I felt I must do something, however small, to support its aspirations."

## FOG

Wac Arts College students impressed with their drama skills yet again when they staged a Spring performance of 'Fog', by Tash Fairbanks and Toby Wharton. A modern piece that follows the relationship between a teenage boy and his father after World War II. Students were given this piece to highlight the maturity required in professional acting, and they did us all proud with their interpretation.

## Dates for your diary

### Football Fundraiser

Organised by Wac Arts student and ambassador Zak Osman, the fundraiser will see teams of staff and students getting together to play off in a friendly tournament. Talacre Community Sports Centre  
July 17th from 2-4pm - All welcome!

### InFlight From Home

Striking aerial spectacles and up close interactive performance combine in a one off site specific work across the Old Town Hall. Exploring home, migration and rituals of belonging, this unique performance invites you to journey through a collage of voices, experiences and images.

July 23rd: 2pm/ 5pm/ 8pm

£5 a ticket

[inflight.eventbrite.co.uk](http://inflight.eventbrite.co.uk)

### Summer Schools

There's still time to sign up to our summer schools programmes! Whilst our Circus School is now waiting list only, there are still a couple of places left on our Beat Academy, WActive and our Professional Approaches for Performance programmes. More information can be found on our website.

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## News from our friends

### Nrg-Xtra Summer School 2016 at Greenwich Dance

26-29 July, 1-5pm  
Join Greenwich Dance for the NrgXtra Summer School, a series of intensive dance sessions for 13-18 year olds. Create your own choreography whilst learning about Hip Hop and Contemporary dance with our experienced teachers. Visit [greenwichdance.org.uk](http://greenwichdance.org.uk) or call 020 8293 9741 to book your place. NrgXtra Summer School is supported by Charlton Athletic Community Trust.

### Camden People's Theatre, Autumn 2016 programme

at Camden People's Theatre  
9th of September-16th of December  
CPT's autumn 2016 programme has landed, featuring a jam-packed line up designed to satiate all your innovative theatrical desires. With theatre/gig mash ups, MP rap battles, valiant attempts to smash the patriarchy, solve the housing crisis & sort out Europe, plus kids taking over the stage to lay down how it really is, this Autumn you won't want to be anywhere else. Early bird tickets available across the whole programme until Fri 19th August. [www.cpttheatre.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.cpttheatre.co.uk/whats-on)

Support us at **[www.WacArts.co.uk/Support](http://www.WacArts.co.uk/Support)**



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