



Newsletter Summer 2017

A Note from the Chief Executive

Another three months have flown by and I'm pleased to welcome you to our Spring newsletter. The Wac Arts Weekender, which took place in March, was a great success – I am incredibly proud of all our inspiring students and young people, who demonstrated what this organisation is all about. I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome to Raidene Carter and Roberto Salvatori, who join us as Director of Artistic Programmes and Director of Finance and Commercial Operations respectively. We also wish a fond thank you and goodbye to Diploma Co-ordinator Martha Stylianou, who is stepping down this April, though I am delighted it's not really goodbye, as she will be back in May working with us on dance assessments, auditions and our Diploma end of year production.

Karen

Diploma students' Fable performance



Our Diploma students' end of year performance is always a highly anticipated event, and this year was no different. Our students had the unique opportunity to work with professional actors, dancers and singers, playing a part in devising a unique production exploring stories from across the globe. Over the space of an hour and a half we were taken on a mysterious, evocative journey, using performance techniques that ranged from shadow puppetry to contemporary dance. The production was the result of months of hard work from students and staff alike – we wish our third years the best of luck as they graduate and move into the industry.

Graduation

... And speaking of graduation, this year's was a wonderful afternoon. Guest singer Charlotte Vaughan from Phantom of the Opera wowed us with a moving piece, preceding Patron Danny Sapani's address to students. Patron Simon Callow followed this with a stirring reading from a text by Agnes de Mille. It was a really special way to end the academic year – we're already looking forward to new academic year, where we'll be welcoming another cohort of students through the door to start the adventure all over again. If you're still undecided on what to do in September, we're holding a final audition on 10 September. All are welcome to attend – you can find more information here: www.WacArts.co.uk/Diploma

Kandaka Moore closes Emma Rice's summer season



Recent Diploma graduate, Kandaka Moore, is playing Ensemble in Emma Rice's final production at the Globe, a musical version of Twelfth Night. The production has received warm reviews across the board. Earlier this summer Kandaka met Sylvestra Le Touzel, actor and wife of Wac Arts Patron Owen Teale. Sylvestra had played Viola in the same play in 1999 for the Royal Shakespeare Company, so the two had plenty to discuss!

"Fable was a terrifically exciting thing, hugely stretching, utterly committed. Brilliant." Simon Callow, Wac Arts Patron

The Wonder Pod lands at Wac Arts

After months of anticipation we were delighted to celebrate the launch of Wonder Pod earlier this July. Made in collaboration with young people in our disabilities groups and funded by BBC Children in Need, the Wonder Pod is a free to download publication for anyone who uses inclusive technology and wants to learn more about getting the most from it. The publication is free to download and the workshops guide users to create their own. We celebrated the launch with a dance filled musical showcase! If you'd like to learn more about Pod you can do so by visiting www.WacArts.co.uk/Pod

Liberty Festival and Parallel

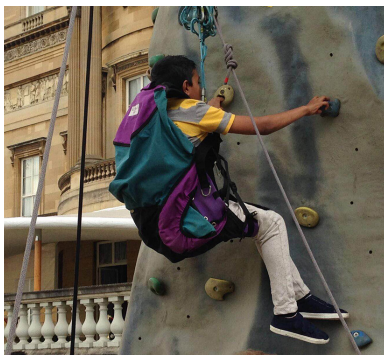
It's been a busy summer for our disabilities and inclusions crew. Their dance group, Urban Motivation, has been making appearances all over London. Most recently they performed at Liberty Festival in Stratford, pulling in an excited crowd even with the iffy weather!



Our young people will also be taking part in Parallel again for the second year. Together with staff they'll be undertaking a sponsored run in order to raise money for Wac Arts. We'll also be hosting a fun filled interactive workshop space in the family festival area. Expect to journey to the bottom of the ocean or the surface of the moon courtesy of our immersive green screen technology, create your own movie epic in miniature using our stop motion software, or even groove to some funky beats with our Digital Orchestra ft. musical bananas (yes, really). All of our activities are inclusive and accessible so don't forget to visit us for what's sure to be a brilliant day! Sponsor our young people here: <http://bit.ly/WacArtsatParallel>

Buckingham Palace trip

We were thrilled when our pals London Youth invited us to their 70th birthday bash... Held in none other than Buckingham Palace! Three young people from our buddying and advocacy service put on their glad rags and spent the day hanging out with the Duke of Edinburgh in the garden, which London Youth had transformed into a giant youth club for the day. Our young people had a really fantastic time – the climbing wall was a particular hit, and everyone enjoyed meeting Prince Philip!



Wac Arts Reach

It's been a busy first 9 months for Wac Arts Reach. It's a three year Children in Need funded project, providing cutting edge technology projects to schools and youth organisations. At the charity WECIL in Bristol they recently held a 'Wac Arts Day' which was generously funded by Boots and included a whole host of tech workshops, including trialling 360 degree video production and digital orchestra live scoring, and recently we were a bit closer to home at Great Ormond Street hospital, working with young people and staff in order to deliver an exciting creative technology project.

Taster Day

The summer holidays are already over halfway gone, which can only mean one thing's getting closer... Taster day! Did you know our Senior Wac Arts programme has been running in one form or another for over 35 years? September marks the month we throw open our doors for one very special Sunday, and offer all of our classes completely free. We'll be releasing more details and a date very soon, so watch this space. In the meanwhile, you can sign up to our newsletter here to be the first to hear about our events: www.WacArts.co.uk/Newsletters

Save the Date

Auditions and shows

Our Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre students are putting on another end of year show, based on fables from around the world. More details will be released soon but it'll take place on July 6/7/8 at the Cockpit Theatre. If you think it could be you on that stage next year, why not come to one of our Diploma auditions? Audition dates: May 28 | July 23
More info: www.WacArts.co.uk/Diploma

News from friends

Theatre Royal Stratford East - Room

Until 3 Jun

Emma Donoghue's international bestseller adapted for the stage. Ma has been held captive for seven years - her 5 year old son, Jack, has no concept of the world outside and happily exists inside Room. But for Ma it is time to escape and face their biggest challenge yet: the world outside Room. Tickets: <http://bit.ly/2jrhOWC>

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