

Wac Arts thanks The University of the Third Age and welcomes them to The Old Town Hall for years to come.

Wac Arts has big ambitions and a vibrant vision for the future.

The organisation that's home is the Old Town Hall is pleased to announce that University of the Third Age (U3A) have secured a 20 year rental lease which secures their future within the Old Town Hall. U3A has funded the first phase of the capital development plans with a generous gift to Wac Arts this summer. U3A have invested in the refurbishment of welcome and classroom spaces within the Old Town Hall as well as operational infrastructure of the building.

"We would like to thank U3A for their generous donation to Wac Arts to develop its building, The Old Town Hall in Belsize Park. This support has a real impact for Wac Arts and the young people we serve and is a real testament to the relationship between these two fantastic organisations, which both have creative education and lifelong learning at their hearts" Elizabeth Cleaver, Wac Arts Chair.

U3A at Wac Arts is the only U3A to have its own secured, leased premises. All other U3A groups meet in a combination of temporary rented rooms and members' homes. By having their own premises within the Old Town Hall, U3A can offer around 180 classes weekly and gives their near 2000 members a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a range of creative activities, socialise and network. U3A has use of the Café which is a hive of activity every lunch time and is a blessing for many of those who live alone. The first aiders are available when needed and all Wac Arts staff are on hand to help. Wac Arts prides themselves on being fully inclusive and aim for arts access for all within the Old Town Hall. U3A and its members will benefit in the knowledge that the building will remain their second home and Wac Arts are delighted that U3A will be part of the home alongside the young people for a further 20 years when the current lease expires in 2020.

"The Old Town Hall is a very caring place and Wac Arts' work is inspirational. It provides hope for the future. It gives chances to those that have not found life easy so far. U3A fully endorses Wac Arts' view that learning is for life" Naomi Stuart, U3A

Wac Arts welcomes over 700 young people through the doors of the Old Town Hall each week and is also home to other creative and professional organisations such as Akademi Dance, AR Architecture, Starline Entertainment and University of the Third Age (U3A). U3A and Akademi Dance were the first to move into the Old Town Hall in 2000. These organisations have a long relationship and affection for Wac Arts' building and the young people that call it their "home from home"

Wac Arts is looking forward to building a future with U3A and its other building partners, Wac Arts and U3A believe that all generations can learn and play, creating a brighter future and an active community together.

To find out more about Wac Arts in The Old Town Hall go to www.wacarts.co.uk
To find out more about U3A please go to www.u3alondon.org.uk



Caption – Wac Arts Main Reception is fresh and fun! New colour changing sensory seating and a big *Hello*, welcomes to the guests to the Old Town Hall.



Caption - After 25 years the Old Town Hall has a delivery of new boilers – keeping everyone warm this winter. Wac Arts Building Services team member Shafiqul Islam is overjoyed to see them arrive.



Caption – Members of U3A enjoy a variety of performing and creative arts classes at Wac Arts.