

Major arts organisations – education and community work

OPERA NORTH

Work in Leeds 2010/11 Financial Year

OPUS3 (age group 14-18) and OPUS2 (age group 11-14)

A unique out of school project which gives young people the opportunity to work with professional artists in weekly sessions, see professional performances across the city and create their own work. Sessions at Grand Theatre and visits to other arts venue such as West Yorkshire Playhouse, Henry Moore Institute etc. Participants recruited from across Leeds.

OPUS1 age group 8-11

Week long half term project introducing young people to the artforms that make up opera by working creatively with a range of artists. Sessions at Grand Theatre. Participants recruited from across Leeds.

Opera 1 : The Turn of the Screw

One day workshops in secondary schools with a director, singer and repetiteur, introducing pupils to Opera North's production of *The Turn of the Screw* and then providing them with tickets to a performance. Specially written programme provided. Taking place at Cockburn High School, Guiseley School, City of Leeds. Age group 12-18.

Operation: Pinocchio

One day workshops in primary schools with a director and singer, introducing pupils to our main stage production of and then providing them with tickets to a performance. Teachers pack provided. Taking place at Raynville Primary, Addingham Primary, Little London Primary School, Hawksworth Wood Primary School, Bramhope Primary School, Shakespeare Primary School. Age group 10-11.

Asperger's Project

Ten week out of school creative musical theatre project with young people with Asperger's Syndrome. Due to the continuing success of the project there will be two groups this year, one for participants who have taken part in the project before and one for new participants. Participants recruited from across Leeds. Age group 10-14.

Music Ambassadors

A training project for primary school teachers and early career artists who want to develop confidence and skills for using music in the classroom. Part 2 of the course introduces participants to creating their own piece of musical theatre in the classroom. Participants recruited from across West Yorkshire.

Little London Voices

A family choir project involving children, parents, teachers and other adults from Little London and Shakespeare Primary schools. The choir performed three new pieces written especially for them at the Howard Assembly Room in June 2010. The group will be continuing to meet under local leadership with support from Opera North. Age group 4-11 and wider community.

Opera Direct

One day workshop with university students exploring a main stage opera in depth before they attend a performance Leeds Met or Leeds University.

Opera North Children's Chorus

Subject to funding. Participants recruited from across Leeds. Age group 7 – 10.

Play ON Leeds

A residency project which sees the Orchestra of Opera North building a relationship with a high school in Leeds that will bring live music into the school and help to give music a more positive profile. Corpus Christi High School Bruntcliffe School. Age group 11-18.

Howard Assembly Room Programme

- A series of family workshops linked to main stage productions and the Howard Assembly Room programme, for example the Autumn programme includes clowning, mask making and gamelan workshops
- A new opera based on *Cautionary Tales*, composed by Errolyn Wallen for children aged 6-9 and their families

Get Creative

A partnership with Phoenix Dance theatre which will involve working with young people with disabilities in Leeds. Age group to be decided.

Limelight

A partnership with the West Yorkshire probation board to explore how a creative process can be used in the rehabilitation of past offenders. Participants recruited from across West Yorkshire.

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE

Overview of Arts Development at West Yorkshire Playhouse

July 2010

West Yorkshire Playhouse is a major producing theatre and a registered charity, whose dual aims are social and artistic with an ethos of opening the Playhouse up as a resource for the community. The Arts Development team works with thousands of people each year of all ages and abilities. All of its activities encourage community cohesion and use the arts as a tool for social inclusion. The department is split into 4 areas of work, Creative Communities, Creative Education, First Floor and Schools Touring.

Creative Communities:

Heydays – weekly workshop programme for people over the age of 55

Beautiful Octopus Club - adults with learning disabilities take part in workshops preparing for fantastic nights out for clubbers with and without learning disabilities.

Dandy Lion Club – annual event for 14 – 25 year olds with learning disabilities and their families.

Community Network – A scheme that allows around 150 community and voluntary groups to experience the Playhouse at a reduced price.

Creative Education:

Creative Education Weeks – every month a week of imaginative, educational workshops offered to primary schools.

Just The Job – An annual project run in partnership with Education Leeds. A group of year 6 pupils come to the Playhouse to experience the world of work for a day.

Work Experience – pupils from years 10 and 11 experience a week of work at the Playhouse. Longer, more intensive placements are available for university students.

Insights – Self-contained, tailor made sessions giving students a practical insight into the creative process led by WYP professionals.

Industry Days – An introduction to working in the theatre, day includes a backstage tour and a speed-date session with WYP staff

Turning Points – These sessions develop student' play making skills through in-role workshops.

Encounters – Creative Education offers pre-performance question and answer sessions with the company of a production.

Go Critical – Creative Education works with a small group of young people each season on Go Critical. The participants attend sessions at the Playhouse focused on how to write reviews, attend the press night for a production and submit their reviews for publication on our website and in First Floor.

West Yorkshire Playhouse Touring Company:

Our Touring Company is committed to delivering challenging and engaging professional theatre and education projects directly to Leeds' schools and community settings. Each production is accompanied by an appropriate workshop. This autumn the company will be touring to year 6 pupils with The Worm Collector which tells the story of one boy's journey towards independence and reveals the consequences of aggressive behaviour and the impact on his family.

First Floor

First Floor is a city centre resource designated for young people. Opened in January 2009 following a 3-year, £600,000 capital fundraising campaign, it seeks to engage young people - particularly vulnerable young people - through the arts and help them find positive pathways forward in life. The First Floor premises, are in the heart of the Cultural Quarter, opposite Leeds City Bus Station and adjacent to WYP. Facilities comprise Visual and Performing Arts Studios, large reception/meeting area, Green Room, office, Consultation Room, kitchenette and accessible changing/WC facilities. First Floor offers some accredited daytime projects to NEET young people referred by partner agencies and open access activities during evenings, weekends and holidays. For more information about what's on, come along to the Open Day at First Floor on Saturday 18 September, 11 – 3pm.

Saturday Sessions – A full programme of creative activities are available at First Floor. These include specialist Music, Drama and Visual Arts workshops, run by professionals each week and it is only £1 per session to take part!

Arts Award Welcome

We are pleased to announce that West Yorkshire Playhouse is now an official Arts Award Welcome Centre which means we recognise and understand the Arts Award and offer special experiences and incentives Bronze, Silver and Gold participants. Arts Awards is currently being delivered

at First Floor where young people aged 11 (at Secondary School) to 19 can take part in creative activities. If you are involved in the Arts Award either as a school, individual or arts organisation we can offer you all sorts of varied and exciting opportunities.

Coming Soon

Saturday Surgeries – whether you are doing Arts Award or thinking about it, you can come along and talk to our Arts Award Advisors at First Floor. They can support you in getting started, finding activities, planning your award or just have a chat to find out more.

Free Tickets on Monday to Thursday performances for all young people under 26 as part of A Night Less Ordinary, until March 2011. A limited number of free tickets are available. Post show discussions – West Yorkshire Playhouse has free Outloud post show discussions for most shows. Just attend the performance and stay on at the end to hear from the directors, cast and company members and put your questions to them.

RELAXED PERFORMANCES AT WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE

In January 2010 the West Yorkshire Playhouse held its first relaxed performance of the show Cinderella, for young people with learning disabilities. A relaxed performance includes:

- Extra dedicated staff on hand to assist with seating and access around the theatre
- Extra lighting during the performance
- A relaxed attitude to noise from audience members
- Freedom to leave the auditorium at any point if necessary
- Extra wheelchair spaces

SAVE THE DATE

The next relaxed performance will be on Friday 7 January 2011 at 10.30am for Aladdin a magical show for children, directed by Gail McIntyre and adapted by Mike Kenny, the team who brought you Cinderella!

NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE

Current Activity Summer 2010

Wheelchair Dance Project in partnership with YAMSEN and the Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts we worked with disabled young people to create a dance performance that was performed at the Kings Hall in Ilkley.

Great Yorkshire Show (GYS) as part of the Cultural Olympiad programme “**Don’t Just Sit There**” we had a stage at the GYS where we have invited arts groups from across Yorkshire to perform and engage with audiences.

Summer School through extended services and working in partnership with Phoenix Dance Theatre we will be delivering a summer school at Cockburn High School from 26th – 30th July where 60 young people will be creating a new dance piece that will be performed at the opening of the new dance house in January 2011.

Hong Kong the learning team have just completed delivering a training course for dancers and carers in Hong Kong where they explored working with adults with learning difficulties.

The **International summer school** will take place at West Park, Leeds from 26th July -14th August and is open nationally to young dancers aged between 12 – 19 years.

New Beginnings youth group, young people from across Yorkshire will be rehearsing work they created at the Easter Course to be performed at the opening of the new dance house.

Ballet on Briggate will take place on Briggate on Saturday 4th September, performances by NBT, The Academy and Phoenix Youth Academy. Promoting classes and workshops that will be delivered in the new dancehouse. Taking Ballet onto the streets of Leeds.

Autumn 2010

Open Classes and Courses will be delivered encouraging everyone, children, young people and adults to get involved with dance. Typical classes included Beginners Ballet, mini movers and mature movers.

Dangerous Liaisons will be performed at the West Yorkshire Playhouse from 7th – 11th September.

Heritage Day will be working with Leeds Grand Theatre and Opera House to deliver this day which gives people the opportunity to find out more about the theatre and the Leeds based companies that use it.

Northern Ballet Theatres Academy will continue to deliver training courses for young people with the potential for vocational training. The Associate programme and the Centre for Advanced Training are available to young people aged between 10 and 16 years who wish to pursue a career in dance. Access to the training is through audition and open days are delivered to enable young people and their families to find out more about the courses. During the spring term to find raw talent for these courses we will be delivering talent identification workshops in primary schools across Leeds.

Light Night in Leeds Town Hall and in partnership with Phoenix Dance Theatre we will be delivering an event called “Dungeons and Dancers” encouraging dance and interaction in the cells of the Town Hall.

START Project we will be working with 500 children from across Leeds to introduce them to theatre and Ballet by taking them to two NBT performances and delivering workshops in school.

We will be delivering work in Leeds as part of the national tour programme, in the West Yorkshire Playhouse *Dangerous Liaisons* (September 2010) and the Grand Theatre *Nutcracker* (December 2010) and *Cleopatra* (February 2011). Activity will take place in the theatres, local schools and community settings and will be created through collaboration with these venues.

We are hoping to continue working with the The Princes Foundation for Children and the Arts delivering the START programme which works with inner city schools in Leeds to allow young people to develop a relationship with the Grand theatre by taking part in workshops and visiting the theatre to see performances of the Nutcracker and Cleopatra.

Our annual **Easter Course** will take place in April allowing young people aged between 11 – 16 years to create a dance piece in collaboration with an NBT Dance artist to music composed by Phillip Feeney which will be performed at the opening of our new building in January 2011. The course will facilitate a group of young people becoming a company of dancers who will meet throughout the year to take class and rehearse. This course will be supported by “Change for Life”.

As part of our Cultural Olympiad Programme “Don’t Just Sit There” we will be working with Leeds City College to deliver a mentoring programme with their students. From September 2010 we will be creating performance work and an educational resource in collaboration with other arts organisations in the region, Leeds City College and a Leeds Champion School. This work will promote Olympic themes and healthy activity and will be disseminated to further Leeds schools through the mentoring programme.

Throughout the Spring Term in conjunction with Education Leeds, Artforms we will be delivering a **teacher training** programme developing teachers skills at identifying the gifted and talented in dance and delivering good practise dance education in the classroom. Also in the Spring we will be delivering a Touch of Dance programme in St Peters School, this programme is delivered after school and allows young people to engage for the first time with dance.

In June 2010 we will deliver **Dancing by Numbers** in three primary schools across Leeds, this project will explore maths through dance at Key Stage 2. We are currently working with Cape UK to develop a programme of work that will be delivered in schools in September a part of the Creative Partnerships programme the work will be centred around reflective practise and the use of “Dance on Briggate” in September 2010 and we will in partnership be creating work for Light Night, October 2010.

Northern Ballet Theatres Academy will continue to deliver training courses for young people with the potential for vocational training. The **Associate programme** and the **Centre for Advanced Training** are available to young people aged between 10 and 16 years who wish to pursue a career in dance. Access to the training is through audition and open days are delivered to enable young people and their families to find out more about the courses. During the spring term to find raw talent for these courses we will be delivering talent identification workshops in primary schools across Leeds.

The **open access** programme of Ballet classes for Adults and Children will continue throughout the year and will develop in January 2011 once we are established in our new building. Current classes include; Adult Beginners and Intermediate Ballet and children ballet classes (6 – 12 years) and Jazz (12 years+). From January 2011 we will be delivering classes for parents and children (Mini movers), the over 55’s (Mature movers) and classes for young people with disabilities.

PHOENIX DANCE

Phoenix Youth Academy

Our youth group, aged 15-19 continue to meet twice a week to train in Graham and contemporary technique. Funding dependent we will be extending the age range down to 11, though we are yet to hear if we have been successful. Many of our members will be continuing their training at leading conservatoires, and we will be auditioning for new members around September.

In preparation for Phoenix Dance Theatre's 30th birthday next year, the youth academy have been working on a special piece to celebrate the company's long running establishment. The youth group have been working amongst some students from Parklands Girls High School and choreographer Gary Clarke to create an exciting piece that is being performed at London's Southbank centre on the 22nd July. This piece was also taken to The Great Yorkshire show in Harrogate on the 15th July, with the Youth Academy, alongside another piece by Tanya Richam-Odoi.

Summer School

In conjunction with Northern Ballet Theatre, Phoenix is running a summer school for young people, funded by Extended Services. It will be held at Cockburn College of Arts from the 26th – 30th July. Our artistic director Sharon Watson will be working with the students from Beeston to create an exciting piece that will be performed at the launch of the new building next year.

Phoenix Dance Theatre has been working with some local primary schools throughout this summer term – in Alwoodley and Morley clusters.

Summer work:

We will be running an early years summer school for KS1 to target primary school children in Morley. The project will run on the 23rd – 27th August. Alongside ArtForms, Phoenix will be delivering a two day intensive at Ralph Thoresby High School, targeting Y5 and Y6 children on 26th and 27th July. The students will receive one music and one dance workshop per day, with a sharing on the final day

In partnership with Space2 Phoenix Dance theatre we will be running 3 weeks activity in Inner East with young people from the Seacroft / Gitpon/ Harehills areas. Young people aged 8-13 to engage young people. The overall theme will be world cultures, capitalising on the hype and atmosphere created by the recent World Cup and offering opportunities for children to enable a positive, creative and celebratory look at different cultures, leading to a final spectacle at the end of each week for parents/carers and community members to share the final work created by the children and dance performances.

Other:

We have also had a strong focus on the Alwoodley cluster, delivering contemporary dance workshops for Alwoodley Primary School, St. Paul's Primary School and with a boys only group Allerton C of E Primary School.

Also in the Alwoodley cluster we have been working with a Year 10 boys only group with behaviour and engagement issues at Allerton High School. In the Autumn the company will be running workshops at Lawnswood School working with a group of persistent non attendees, on a weekly basis for a six week block.

We will continue to work in our partner schools – Ralph Thoresby High school, Rodillian School, Cockburn College of Arts and Garforth Community College.

After a successful project for young people with disabilities in the Spring, we are keen that a similar project will run in the Autumn (although this is still TBC)

YORKSHIRE DANCE

Community and Learning Activity

Classes and courses

We offer 70 hours a week of open classes and courses held at Yorkshire Dance, which provides an opportunity for people to experience dance, or a new dance style, for the first time. This programme also offers information, advice and guidance on routes to other Yorkshire Dance participative opportunities and link with work on audience development. We also programme series of one off workshops that offer intensive participative activity to enrich and complement the main programme. This area of work covers a range of dance styles and provides opportunities for those who cannot travel to central Leeds for regular weekly classes.

Outreach work

We deliver outreach work in community locations, primarily in Richmond Hill, Burmantofts, Gipton, Seacroft and Rothwell. There is a special development focus on delivering work for learning disabled participants through 'Leaps and Bounds' and young people through 'Hip Hop Roots', 'Friday Night Project' and summer holiday activities in the Inner East Cluster of Leeds. Links made through these activities are used to identify people who cannot bridge the gap from their own setting to Yorkshire Dance for various reasons. The work improves the physical, mental and emotional health of individuals and groups that we engage with and offers another opportunity for participants to make dance a part of their lives. We are also delivering the final phase of a three-year project on integrated dance practice with Candoco Dance Company, encompassing development work with schools and artists.

Youth Dance

As the host for the Youth Dance England Strategy Manager for Yorkshire, we are delivering the second year of a two-year strategic development programme, which focuses on widening access, raising standards and improving progression routes regionally. As part of this, Yorkshire Dance will deliver a number of national projects as well as CPD and other project work in throughout the region, whilst building a cross sector infrastructure for supporting Youth Dance.

Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning (Children and Young People)

A new national qualification – The Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning focusing on working with children and young people – has successfully gained accreditation from the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and is now available to the dance sector through the international examinations board Trinity College London. Yorkshire Dance is one of 4 organisations nationally who will be delivering DDTAL over the next 2 years. From 2010 – 2012 Yorkshire Dance will be testing course content, delivery patterns, training personnel and creating resource materials. We will be refining practice and create a business model to provide long term sustainability for the delivery of the qualification.

Artist Led Community Dance Development Projects

A pro active programme of artist lead community outreach activity, in Leeds and the region, that offer unique ways for participants, their families and communities to make, perform, watch and debate contemporary dance. Previous examples include Dansopolis and we are working towards a new 'Get Creative' 2011 and Leeds Canvas in 2012.