

ARTS DIARY



Thursday 2nd February at 2pm
Pied Piper Theatre Company

LAURA'S STAR

By Klaus Baumgart

stantonbury
campus

The original story written by internationally renowned picture book artist Klaus Baumgart became a series of books with multi-million sales worldwide, and has been broadcast on TV throughout Europe, including the UK.

Laura's Star is aimed at Foundation and Key Stage 1 students aged 3-7 years focussing on communication, language and literacy and creative development; the show is approximately 50 minutes without an interval. There is a Comprehensive Teachers Education Pack for follow up work in class.

SUITABLE FOR AGES: 3 - 7 years Tickets £4 - Group discounts available

Wednesday 22nd February
Quantum Theatre Company

MRS JESSOP & THE MATHS LESSON OF DOOM

Key Stage 1 Level at 10.30am
Key stage 2 level at 1.30pm

An interactive musical comedy which introduces a young audience to the importance of mathematics and problem solving in everyday life with the audience required to solve mathematical problems in order for the play to progress; based on the mathematics and numeracy targets on the National Curriculum for Primary Schools, it explores number patterns, mental calculations and deduction.

Tickets £5.50 - Group discounts available
CALL THE BOX OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS 01908 324422



February Half Term
Creative workshops for young people
at Great Linford Arts Workshop

This half term is packed full of exciting and creative workshops and activities for young people and families.

WORKSHOPS FOR FAMILIES

An opportunity for a parent and child to work together to create a joint artwork. (Prices are based on one adult and one child attending, £5.00 per additional child).

Wednesday 15 February 1- 3

CHINESE DRAGONS £10.00

Make a Chinese dragon out of brightly coloured papers, card and material. This can then be transformed into a puppet!

WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 8 - 11 YRS

Monday 13 February 10 - 4

POTTERY FUN £16.00

Using a mixture of techniques, learn how to make a model or tile.

Tuesday 14 February 10 - 4

WACKY RACES £15.00

Create a crazy vehicle using a range of materials including

carton, lids and wood, which can move. See who wins the race by going the furthest!

Friday 17 February 10 - 1

WIZARDS WANDS £10.00

Make a selection of Wizards tools such as wands, hats and spell books with invisible inks!

WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12 - 16 YRS

Monday 13 February 10 - 1

BEADED JEWELLERY £12.00

Learn how use a variety of beads to create earrings and bracelets and/or a necklace.

Please book your workshop in advance by calling us on 01908 608108 or email info@artworks-mk.co.uk



ACTIV8

Our Youth Theatre for young people aged between 6 and 19 works on a programme of exciting contemporary and classical works throughout the year. Come along and develop new theatre skills such as mask, physical theatre,

script-based and devising. Sessions are led by Suzanne Oliver and are split into four groups according to age. No previous experience is needed just enthusiasm and a zest for theatre! For more information please contact the Education Dept on 01908 547606

STREET DANCE

Come along and participate in our Street Dance classes with one of the most talented choreographers on the UK dance scene, Andy Instone of Urban Strides. Learn funky Hip-Hop techniques, get fit and have fun.

13 yrs+ Mondays • 5-6pm or 6-7pm • £6 per person

Shakespeare 4 Kidz

ROMEO AND JULIET

Take part in physical performance as well as a discussion and contribute ideas throughout. You will act out the story of the play meeting the characters and thinking through the twists and turns of the plot.

Sat 21 Jan • 2pm-4pm • Hennessy Room • 6-11 yrs

£12 per child for the workshop only or £16 to include best available ticket to see the show. Please bring a soft drink and wear comfortable clothing

PUPPET PLAY WORKSHOP

Have fun creating your own puppet play and get the chance to show off your performing skills.

Mon 13 Feb • 10.30am - 3.30pm • Hennessy Room • 8-12 yrs

£17 per person. Please bring a packed lunch and a soft drink and wear comfortable clothes

ROMEO AND JULIET - BALLET MASTER CLASS

A chance for those with previous experience to take part in an exclusive ballet class with the highly acclaimed Russian State Ballet of Siberia, getting to grips with techniques and ideas used in their current performance.

Fri 24 March • 1.30pm - 4.30pm • Theatre Stage

Experience Necessary 13 yrs+. Please bring a soft drink and wear comfortable clothes appropriate for an intensive workshop. £10 per person for the workshop only or £20 to include a best available ticket to see the show

IAN MCMILLAN - POETRY

If you're a poet and you just don't know it then come along and see how much fun word play can be by experiencing the poetic world of Ian McMillan.

Thu 26 Jan • 4pm-6pm • Hennessy Room 14+ yrs

£15 per person

Please a soft drink and a paper and a pen

Supported by



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KRAZY KAT THEATRE COMPANY



On Friday 17th June the 5th School Art Now exhibition opened. We were delighted that Boyd and Evans were there to mark the occasion and that so many schools came along too.

The Exhibition is showing in 9 venues around the city and we hope that people will visit every one. The postcards are exhibited in secret without the artists name on display.

These will be revealed on July 1st.

The work shows a great deal of enthusiasm and many of the postcards are very original in style. The fun part is guessing the age of the child or if you are an artist with work on display finding it!

Special thanks to John Lewis, MK Theatre, MK Gallery, MK Library, Xscape, Ottakars, Christ the Cornerstone, Midsummer Place Police Station and the Nationwide

OUR AIMS:

- To advocate and promote the importance of the arts in the lives and learning of young people.

- Provide access to high quality arts experiences for young people of school age in Milton Keynes.

- Ensure widest possible access across all the different cultural and socio-economic groups.

- Foster sustainable links with arts organisations and practitioners

- Work in partnership with Schools, the Local Education Authority, and the formal education sector, and engage with regional and national arts agencies.

- Provide a supportive infrastructure to enable schools to initiate their own arts activities.

FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to 2006!!

2005 was a very busy year for the Forum, with new personnel in post, establishing us as a Public Limited Company with independent financial status. This 'behind the scenes' work did not stop us from providing a wide range of Arts activities for children in schools in and around Milton Keynes.

Throughout the year we saw the following projects: Seaside postcards with MK Orchestra; Secret Postcards (School Art Now Exhibition); Dance workshops for teachers; Cornelius and Jones Puppet Theatre performing 'The Snow Queen';

Krazy Kat Theatre Company with 'Jack and the Beanstalk'; Dance Close Up, where schools exchange and celebrate good practice; the Great Linford Ceramic project with local artist Julia Norman; A full programme of Staff Development Workshops and a Physical Theatre Workshop and a performance of 'Romeo and Juliet' by Volcano Theatre Company. Further details of some of these more recent events are included in this newsletter.

Now we need to look forward to 2006!

Already on the horizon is our largest ever project. 'Dance Exchange' will take place in MK Theatre this month. 24 schools are taking part this year and final preparations are being undertaken by the hundreds of students, teachers and choreographers involved. Sue Upton and Lynne Goodwin are overseeing this work on behalf of the Forum and further details and can be obtained from them by contacting MKAEF on MK 324421.

This coming year will see us bidding for additional funding from Arts Council England; developing a new Staff Development Workshop programme (Any suggestions for workshop themes to Lynne Goodwin on MK324421); We are working with MK Orchestra and English Pocket Opera on a music theatre project entitled 'Magic'; We are negotiating with MK Theatre and Stantonbury Campus Theatre to develop a theatre event for the Primary and Secondary sector, as well as a Dance residency; a visual Arts project with MK Gallery and further music composition work with MK Orchestra. – further details of these new initiatives will be with you shortly.

I do hope you had a good holiday and you are back invigorated and eager to take up the new challenges and opportunities that will arise for us in 2006!!

Kind Regards

Trevor Harris (Chair MKAEF)

DANCE XCHANGE 2006

Over 400 children will be participating in the third DanceXchange in Milton Keynes Theatre on Wednesday 25th January 2006 at 7 p.m. As in previous years the children have worked with professional dance choreographers in the Autumn term to produce dances that they will perform on the stage.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience performing on a professional stage and to work with professional dance choreographers. Some of the dance styles this year are Street dance, Contemporary, Indian, Chinese, Salsa, Break dancing and traditional Molly dancing. The age ranges of the children performing are 5 – 18.

Local celebrity, Trevor Marshall, from Horizon Radio will present the show this year. We are sure that DanceXchange 2006 will be a great success.

Tickets are selling like hot cakes so if you don't want to miss out on a spectacular evening then book your tickets now!

Tickets are available at the Milton Keynes Theatre box office 0870 060 6652.

Adults £8.50, Children and concessions £4. Family tickets are also available at £22.50.

For further information please contact Lynne Goodwin or Sue Upton at Milton Keynes Arts Education Forum 01908 324421

Children rehearsing from Queen Eleanor Combined School.



RAISING CHILDREN'S CONFIDENCE USING LIGHT, COLOUR AND SOUND THE KALEIDOSCOPE PROJECT

Confident children who perform well share certain characteristics: empowerment, hope, autonomy, resiliency, security, accomplishment, recognition, perseverance and enjoyment.

Kaleidoscope provides the stage, the script, the lights and the music for such a performance!

Anne Lubbock, former Headteacher and registered Colour Therapist came up with a revolutionary idea which utilizes all her training, experiences and skills in Teaching, Special Needs, Drama in Education coupled with strong beliefs about breaking down barriers to learning and helping young people feel good about themselves.

5 years on Kaleidoscope is recognised by the Govt Basic Skills agency and Kaleidoscope training is in process all over the country.

'The Kaleidoscope Project' is basically a method by which we develop young people's 'emotional fitness for learning'

Kaleidoscope uses the principles of the effects of colour, light and sound on feelings and emotions. This, coupled with the use of colour as a simple yet effective vehicle for expression, reflection and communication has been proved to improve behaviour, relationships as well as confidence and self-esteem.

Initially this project was researched with children between the ages of 6 and 12 years of age in a combined school in Milton Keynes. The results were so highly significant that a grant was awarded to the school in order to develop the work further.

With this came an Education Psychologist to further monitor the results. The highly significant results were as follows:

Out of a cohort of 23 targeted children improvements in confidence and self-esteem were reported in:

- 83% of children by their teachers
- 92% of children by themselves
- 48% of children by their parents

And:

Non- authorised absence of targeted children dropped by 33% during the time of the project.

A full Kaleidoscope session consists of the following steps:

relaxation, visualization, expression, through colour, self - esteem building games, movement, therapeutic activities using natural materials, and affirmations.

Kaleidoscope can be carried out with individual children, small groups or whole classes. It can be timetabled as a proactive means of developing young people's spiritual and emotional wellbeing or used in reaction to an individual child's behaviour.

Young people today need the confidence to 'dare to fail' in order to succeed.!

For further details visit www.kaleidoscopetherapy.com

STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Staff Development Workshops

From a fist full of clay to a scary monster – in less than an hour! - just one of the Staff Development Workshops on offer this year.

Julia Norman, a local artist, guided teachers through the process of working with clay

giving them the opportunity to develop new skills and improving existing ones.

The Forum wants to make sure more teachers benefit from these free strictly "hands on" sessions where the emphasis is distinctly on enjoyment as well as learning.

So whether a complete novice or a seasoned master contact Lynne Goodwin on MK 324421 for details of the workshops on offer this term.

MIXED MEDIA

21ST JANUARY

AFRICAN DRUMMING

1ST & 8TH FEBRUARY

LEARN TO DRAW

4TH MARCH

DANCE

15TH MARCH