

Leeds City Council

arts@leeds bulletin Issue 1

September 2008

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the **arts@leeds** bulletin!

The newsletter will be published quarterly to bring you news about us, our funded clients and other useful information from Leeds City Council and beyond.

In this first edition we will tell you about the Arts & Regeneration Unit, who we are and what we do.

Future issues will provide you with information, opportunities and key dates with the aim of supporting your organisations, opening up communication and sharing knowledge.

The Arts & Regeneration Unit creates opportunities for local people to take part in the cultural life of the city. The team is positioned within Leeds City Council's Arts and Events service and is based at Leeds Town Hall. The major functions of the Arts & Regeneration Unit fall into four main areas of work:

Arts Development: support for organisations working with the arts in communities including the **arts@leeds** grant scheme and the Black History Month grant scheme.

Arts Projects: regular projects and cultural events including Get Creative, Holocaust Memorial Day and Bright Young Things.

Breeze International Youth Festival: combining the work of schools, community groups and international guests, Breeze's programme of performances, workshops, sports and arts in June and July annually adds up to one of the biggest youth festivals in the UK.

New Cultural Initiatives: additional projects, often externally funded including Light Night, Gallery 37 and Crime & Punishment.

Further information about the arts teams is available at www.leeds.gov.uk/arts including a download of our team structure.

Deadline: The next **arts@leeds** bulletin will be published in December 08. To submit items for the Collaboration Section, email mags.mcleary@leeds.gov.uk by 31st November.

1. Arts & Regeneration update

1.1 **arts@leeds** interim **monitoring** is due on **Friday 24th October**. **Application forms and guidelines** for the new **arts@leeds** funding round will be distributed and available to download from www.leeds.gov.uk/arts in November. Deadline for submissions is **Friday 16th January 2009**. As usual we will be running a funding seminar for new applicants during November, plus one-to-ones for existing **arts@leeds** clients on request. We have made some changes to the application forms, most importantly that as from next year all applicants will be required to submit an Equality and Diversity policy to be eligible for **arts@leeds** funding and organisations working with children or vulnerable adults must submit their policy for the protection of these groups.

Further information from Mags McLeary mags.mcleary@leeds.gov.uk 0113 395 0678

1.2 Light Night – 10th October 2008

A one night annual event which celebrates all kinds of creative and artistic activity in the city. Light Night is run by the Arts & Regeneration Unit each year in October and involves late night opening venues across the city centre, with unusual and out of context arts events in the venues and on the streets. This year, **arts@leeds** organisations involved include Pyramid of Arts and Lumen, who support several of the light and audio-based projects. Imprint Theatre Company will be doing their roving piece PLayer part 1: *odd shoes*, and Leeds Visual Arts Forum will be commissioning an artist to create a new piece of work.

Further information from James Hill james.hill@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 8234 www.lightnightleeds.co.uk

1.3 **Black History Month** (BHM) is held every October in the UK with the aim of raising awareness of African and Caribbean history and cultural heritage. In Leeds, communities are encouraged to take part by organising projects or events with the aid of the BHM Small Grants scheme funded by Leeds City Council's Equality Team, and managed by the Arts & Regeneration Unit.

The brochure which lists events taking place around Leeds can be downloaded from www.leeds.gov.uk/arts

Further information from Jennifer Rhodes jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 6419

1.4 Portrait of a Nation

The Breeze International Youth Festival and Phoenix Dance Theatre are proud to announce Bennu Youth Dance will be representing Leeds in Liverpool in December to celebrate a year long programme with 17 cities

across the UK. The project Portrait of a Nation, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund is a programme for young people across the nation highlighting their views on heritage, culture and identity. Further information from Ann Wishart ann.wishart@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 8049 www.portraitofanation.net

2. Collaboration section

This section is for organisations to put out ideas for collaborative projects, calls for artists or to ask for help and advice from one or all of the 83 organisations currently funded by **arts@leeds!** But please don't ask us to list your events and performances in this section - we won't have room! The aim is to encourage Leeds organisations to talk to each other with a view to strengthening our sector by initiating new networks, partnerships and conversations.

Further information from Mags McLeary mags.mcleary@leeds.gov.uk 0113 395 0678

3. Leeds City Council update

3.1 Leeds has been selected as one of only ten authorities to take part in a national £25 million scheme giving children the opportunity to discover their musical, literary and artistic talents. The Government's **Find Your Talent** programme (previously called Five Hours of Culture) aims to develop infrastructure to give young people the chance to experience a range of high-quality arts and cultural activities both in and out of school. We are just waiting for approval of our delivery plan and then work will start. There will be a cultural reference group of all interested organisations which will meet termly and an e-bulletin also termly to keep you up to date.

To ensure you are on the list to be involved please email val.matthews@leeds.gov.uk and we will add you to the list. The first step is to appoint posts to run the project then activity will start. One of the first pieces of work will be the creation of an electronic culture network so watch out for more information soon. Information on the national programme at www.findyourtalent.org

3.2 22nd Leeds International Film Festival 4th - 16th November 2008

Leeds International Film Festival is your portal to the unseen world of cinema. Leeds is an immense and intense experience that reveals the incredible wonder of global filmmaking that you can't see on your local screen or at home. Over thirteen days Leeds presents more than 200 screenings and events in a dozen venues to thousands of filmgoers eager to discover what is really happening in contemporary cinema.

www.leedsfilm.com

4. Useful information

Arts & Regeneration team @ September 08:

Jon Price, Principal Arts Officer jon.price@leeds.gov.uk 0113 224 3624

Mags McLeary, Senior Arts Development Officer mags.mcleary@leeds.gov.uk 0113 395 0678

Jen Rhodes (formerly Hahn), Arts Development Officer jennifer.rhodes@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 6419

Tanja Geier Thomson, Senior Arts Project Officer tanja.thomson@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 5948

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Samantha Blackburn, Gallery 37 Plus Coordinator samantha.blackburn@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 8539

Jane Zanzottera (formerly Scroggie), Cultural Heritage Learning Officer (Crime & Punishment)

jane.zanzottera@leeds.gov.uk 0113 395 2309

Helen Robinson, Arts & Communications Officer helen.robinson@leeds.gov.uk 0113 395 2816

Ann Wishart, Senior Breeze Officer ann.wishart@leeds.gov.uk 0113 247 8049

Vicki Smith, Breeze Officer victoria.smith@leeds.gov.uk 0113 224 3523

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