

inspired



Putting artistic and cultural experience at the heart of young people's lives and learning.



Detail of mural made by children from Seaton Primary School with artist Lucy Jackson, *Inspiration Aspiration Partnership*, April 2011

Daisi going from strength to strength

What a whirlwind of activity Daisi has been involved in over the last months! In January 2011 alone Daisi's portfolio included 11 live projects, which alone engaged with 5,200 young people and their communities. Through this practical work, Daisi's ambitious plans to drive artistic and cultural experience to the heart of young people's lives and learning continues to gather momentum.

"It looks really, really complicated, but it's quite easy. It makes me feel quite happy and quite important."

Beth, Year 5,
Withycombe Raleigh Primary School
working with artist Stefan Jennings

This summer term the lively activity continues, with over 106 Daisi arts days taking place in schools and other settings. It's a rich and diverse programme: from al fresco workshops to gallery exhibitions; from community and family sharing events to creative interventions in school grounds. I hope you enjoy reading about them all, and the new opportunities for you too!

On 30th March Arts Council England (ACE) informed Daisi that in recognition of Daisi's expertise, excellent position and track record in our locality a ring fenced sum for Daisi has been made available for 2012-15. We feel confident

that this will assist Daisi in our plans to further develop our programme of arts opportunities. This part of our funding portfolio will come through ACE's new regional contract with RiO, who are the South West's member of the new national network of ten, regional, Bridging Organisations. These ten will work with local partners, such as Daisi, to deliver ACE's ambitions for children and young people. Daisi are excited about the new collaborations that this will bring.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. It's packed with information about current projects and the many ways in which you and your school community can get involved with Daisi to help you achieve your ambitions in and through the arts. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Liz Hill, Director, Daisi

Touring theatre companies visit Devon schools Booking now!

Daisi is excited to be working with Exeter Northcott Theatre in 2011 to bring Devon schools a wonderful programme of workshops delivered by professional touring dance and theatre companies. The Autumn season will feature workshops by English Touring Theatre on Moliere's *Tartuffe*, by Scamp Theatre exploring Morpurgo's *Friend or Foe*, and on Michael Rosen's retelling of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

We are also planning an exciting primary school visual arts project based around *Bear Hunt*, which will see the Exeter Northcott turned into a very different place...!

Please contact Daisi for more details on how to book a workshop.



© Helen Oxenbury 1989

My Arts Experience

By Luke Ellis, age 14
Clyst Vale Community College

Over the last few weeks, I've been in Daisi's Devon Youth Theatre, working with some of the lighting and sound technicians at the Exeter Northcott.

It's been great to have the opportunity to work with so many different kinds of equipment, because at school we only have the one kind of lighting instrument.

I've been learning the basics and now I can build on that knowledge for my GCSEs. Dominic (Technical Director at Exeter Northcott Theatre) has been working with me to get to know the lighting design process. I've also been working with 2 other members of DYT who have been working as Stage Manager and Sound Technician for the show.

This is a whole new thing that I have never tried in my life before, so it's all been new to me! It has definitely been one of the most fun and interesting weeks in my life.

Autumn Term CPD

Would you like to learn some new creative skills with a professional artist and work with your colleagues?

If so, why not attend one or more of our Professional Development sessions, relevant for teachers and youth leaders, which will provide you with new skills and creative opportunities that you can take back into your classrooms or education settings.

Making Masks from Around the World
Suitable for all Key Stages
19 October, 4.30 – 6.30pm
Crediton Arts Centre

Creating Sculpture with Recycled Materials
Suitable for all Key Stages
9 November, 4.30 – 6.30pm
Mint Methodist Church, Exeter

Fee - £25 per attendee
To Book - Call 01392 385214 or email admin@daisi.org.uk

There will be limited availability for these sessions, so do contact Daisi as soon as possible to reserve your place.

We will also shortly be announcing the details of the following sessions for Spring Term 2012:

- Devising Drama for Key Stages 3 & 4
- Creating Drama for Primaries
- Creating Dance for Primaries
- Approaches to Teaching Dance for Key Stage 3

Please get in touch if you would like to be put on the waiting list for these sessions.

Artsmark round 12

Artsmark is back! You can apply online from September 1st 2011 or contact Daisi for more details on the scheme.

Arts inspired learning

We have been wonderfully busy over the last few months delivering inspiring and innovative workshops in both schools and other group settings.

Steve Newton, Kat Thomas and Matt Macklin have been leading visual arts and street dance workshops with SOCOPS, an Exeter based charity providing social opportunities for children 8-16 years of age with high functioning autistic spectrum disorders (autism/ aspergers) and their families.

We are working again with Torbay Council to deliver creative workshops exploring the social and emotional aspects of learning through the arts in 10 Torbay primaries. The schools have engaged with the programme with dedication and commitment, recognising the opportunities the approach offers for

developing skills which support successful learning, as well as its contribution to supporting the emotional health and well-being of the whole school community.

Workshops will include celebrating difference through print making, creating musical mobiles for sensory gardens and exploring perceptions of body image through figurative sculpture.

Other project highlights from the Summer term include a playground mural created by the children of All Saints (Marsh) Primary School with the help of Ruth Oakley. The school wanted to celebrate their 5 core values of love, compassion, peace, hope and friendship both through the process of working together and through the design of their final art work.

If you would like an artist to work with you and your young people, or if you need some help to devise a creative project in your school, please do get in touch with Daisy on 01392 385214



Puppet by student from Axe Valley Community College with artist Sarah Butterworth, April 2011

Take Your Partners: DYT and 3D A Chance to Dance

Devon Youth Theatre (DYT) reached out to many more people and into many new areas of Devon this year, working with more than 100 young people during 6 regional workshops.

“Devon Youth Theatre helped my daughter grow into a young independent adult overnight. This experience has opened up many doors for her and shown her life outside of the typical school environment.”

DYT Parent

The final DYT Company of 27 members then created *Borderline*, performed at the Exeter Northcott Theatre in April. Alongside Artistic Director Erin Walcon and Movement Director Pip Jones, DYT

members had the amazing experience of working with a team of drama students from Exeter University, and gained valuable skills working with the technical and marketing staff from the Exeter Northcott Theatre.

3D A Chance to Dance saw some exceptional dance performances by more than 800 young dancers from Devon schools. Devon Youth Dance Company (DYDC) also had an exciting chance to travel to Nottingham and work with Retina Youth Dance Company and Artistic Director Filip Van Huffel.

There are lots of opportunities for you to get involved with Devon Youth Theatre or 3D A Chance to Dance 2011-12. Call 01392 385214 or email peter@daisi.org.uk

Both 3D A Chance to Dance and Devon Youth Theatre are funded by Devon County Council.

Words that move us

I remembered the face of the Briton, muddy and crusted with dried blood.

I remembered his putrid breath on my face.

I remembered his axe stick in my arm and his club on my hand as my sword pierced his stomach.

I'd killed many today.

I didn't want to kill again.

Theo Casali, age 13,
Isca College of Media Arts

Extreme Imagination, the first Children's Literature Festival, took place in November 2010. The week was full of wonderful events, celebrating writing for and by children, which took place in venues across Exeter. It was a major joint venture for Exeter University and a wide range of Exeter's schools, arts and education organisations, as well as Devon writers and libraries.

Daisi and RAMM (Royal Albert Memorial Museum) organised creative writing workshops for Yr 7&8 students from four



© Cara Patterson, Daisi artist 2010.
Isca students go Roman at RAMM

Exeter secondary schools: St Luke's, West Exe, St James and Isca. The workshops were held in historic venues throughout the city and each group worked with a professional author and an illustrator who helped every student create an individual piece of poetry or prose inspired by the fabric, artefacts and traditions of the venues visited.

Daisi was inspired by the quality of the work produced. If you have an idea for a literacy project in your school or young person's group, please do get in touch with Daisi.

Copies of *'Imagine That!'*, a book containing written work and illustrations from the project, are available from Daisi.

Care Leavers: Creating our own project

**By Emma Hall,
Youth Participation Worker**

Young people from the Care Leavers' Forum applied to the Youth Opportunities Fund for a project to create their own music, in order to 'get their voices heard'.

Young people identified the types of music they wanted to have a go at and learn about and then Daisi found the appropriate artists for us. From April through to September 2010 we ran a range of music and art workshops, including music production, African drumming and singing and many more.

Every workshop was a building brick towards the final production of the CD, *Listen to Our Words*. By using arts and music based workshops it brought an element of fun to the Care Leavers' Forum meetings, which had previously been very much discussion based and group work.

Using the arts as the vehicle for the project enabled the young people to engage and be involved on their own terms and at their own level.

The music inspired young people to tell their stories and experiences. One young man who struggles to express himself during group discussions was able to write the song *Faces Changing* (in half an hour). Music enabled him to fluently and articulately tell his story.

The artists brought with them an expertise which we could not have done without and also provided positive role models for the young people. These were professionals who were responsible, but also interested in things that the young people could relate to.

By trying new things young people were taken out of their comfort zones and as a result their confidence grew. As the project went on they became more able and willing to try new things and not be scared of the unknown.

Daisi works with young people in many different settings and from a range of backgrounds. Please do get in touch with us if you would like to discuss a project for your group

Academies

Daisi at your service

Daisi is an independent arts education charity working across Devon and the South West to develop quality arts engagement opportunities. We have an excellent track record of creating partnerships between artists and schools spanning nearly 20 years.

What do our partners say about working with us...

“Daisi provided our students with a fantastic opportunity... and gave us an insight into the artistic capabilities of our students in a different environment.”

Zoe Woodman, school librarian,
Isca College of Media Arts

“Daisi are so positive and accommodating.”

Ian Pearce, teacher,
Cullampton Community College



© Stuart Dawson 2010. Making words matter through film at Queensway Primary School

We are able to:

- Provide your Academy with professional artists with a range of specialisms, from ceramics to dance to film making and more
- Advise you on how arts projects work most effectively in and out of the school environment
- Work in partnership with you and your students to create inspiring, effective and memorable arts experiences that support and promote learning

Full details of our offer and costs for Academies are available on our website.



Daisi holds the nationally recognised indicator of good quality educational provision.

NEW! Junior Arts Award is coming

Daisi is proud to have been one of only 59 national organisations chosen to deliver the Junior Arts Award pilot in 2011, selected from nearly 250 applications. The new Junior Award is for young people aged 7+ and provides a simple and engaging framework that encourages discovery and exploration of the arts.

The experiences gained in the pilot projects will support the development of the Junior Arts Award, which is due to be launched nationally in April 2012. Please do get in touch with Daisi if you would like to know more about how to run the Award in your school.



Brendon Hough, age 10,
Littleham Primary School,
Inspiration Aspiration Partnership, April 2011

Under starter's orders...

Looking forward to Spring term 2012, Daisi will be running a county wide visual arts project inspired by the Olympics, in which all Devon schools will be invited to participate. Look out for details which will be released shortly...!

The School Looks Around

Active young citizens
researching their communities

Students from The King's School, Ottery and South Dartmoor Community College have worked with visual and digital artists Moose Alain and Joe Stevens for over a year. The young people have had the freedom to explore what was of interest to them in their locality, and have produced a wide range of creative work in response to their investigations, including visual and sound pieces, written works, maps and photographs. The lead artists are creating a new archive of the work that will be housed in Devon Record Office.

The idea for *The School Looks Around* originated from the rediscovery of a publication of the same name written in 1948, which promoted the idea of the local survey as an adventurous and open-ended process, a 'voyage of discovery into the life, history and organization of the locality'. Daisi have worked in collaboration with London-based creative consultants Publica and the partner artists, schools and young people to develop the project.

"I particularly got something out of the openness of the school to collaborate. I felt that we had established a certain trust by the second year and this helped foster a spirit of experimenting with the year groups' curriculum timetable."

Joe Stevens, artist,
South Dartmoor Community College

"Once I had thought about it I realised that they had a lot more freedom to do things like going on trips to East Hill with guns and sling shots. Whereas if you did that now we would get arrested for carrying a gun in public and probably get told off for staying out."

Auguste, age 15, King's School

You are very welcome to view *The School Looks Around* archive which is a fascinating insight into how young people view and engage with their locality. It demonstrates how exploring locality alongside creative industry professionals can be a rich learning experience for all, cutting across curriculum areas. Contact admin@daisi.org.uk to see the archive.

The School Looks Around is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Devon County Council.

How to support Daisi

Daisi is a charity as it was set up for public benefit, particularly young people, through the advancement and enrichment of education through the arts. It is governed by a Board of 15 Trustees, who give their time free of charge to Daisi.

As a charity, we do not have shareholders or take any profits. Every penny we receive helps us to continue to operate, to fund our innovative creative learning programme and to contribute to the improvement of lifelong outcomes for young people.

Daisi receives support from Devon County Council and ACE, but is equally

dependant on a mix of other income to cover the costs of operation and to support our charitable work. We apply for grants and sponsorship funds wherever possible to support specific projects.

You can help secure Daisi's continued work and be part of our future. We invite you to give us a call to be first on the list for our new Friends and Patrons scheme, launching soon, or visit www.daisi.org.uk and click on our donate button.

Your support will make a difference: putting artistic and cultural experience at the heart of young people's lives and learning.

Daisi is one of a network of ten arts education partnerships across the south west who work to support the creation of an exciting and sustainable cultural offer across the region for all children and young people. For more information on the network and its partners, please visit www.artsedsw.org.uk

Daisi working together with:

