

Announcements & Information

Prize draw

A huge 'thank you' to all those schools that sent their feedback to us over the last term. Feedback from teachers, artists and students is very important in shaping the development of future DAISI projects.

We are happy to announce that of the schools who submitted feedback to us the lucky winner from the prize draw is Oldway Primary School in Paignton. Well done to Mrs Smythe and her class!

This school will be invited to choose an item from the DAISI contemporary art collection to display in their school. The winner will also benefit from the collection's education pack, complete with information about the artworks and an array of ideas for lesson plans for further pupil exploration.

Keep your feedback coming in as the next prize draw will take place at the end of the autumn term. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Schools who have yet to hand their feedback in for this term will be entered into next term's draw.

Naomi Ziewe Administrator

My Experience

Rosa Beauchamp spent four days behind the scenes at DAISI on her work experience placement. Here's what she thought...

This summer, I undertook four days of work experience with the DAISI crew. On the first day I wasn't sure about how well I was going to do and how I was going to feel working in an office. I was also nervous about what Clare, Liz, Ruth and Naomi were going to be like and how they were going to feel about me being there. However, I went to the reception desk and said that I was doing work experience with DAISI and they sent Naomi down to take me to the office. I got going on my work as soon as I got there and got into the swing of things quite quickly.

As the week progressed I looked forward to going in more and more. I found the whole team really kind and willing to take me on-board for the time that I was there.

A note from the Chair...

The significant event of 2006 was the celebration of DAISI's 10th Anniversary. This is no mean achievement in the life of any arts organisation. And in the life of an enterprise solely focussed on developing the creativity of young people, by enriching their experience of all the arts, it seems to deserve a very loud fanfare. We were extremely delighted by the attendance at the Birthday Celebration which included trustees, artists, teachers and young people along with the Chair of Devon County Council and the new Chief Executive, Philip Norrey, who has been both a champion of the arts and a very good friend to DAISI over the years.

As Chairman I would like to recognise the part played by one of our trustees, Keith Wainwright, who retires this year as Finance Manager, for the significant contribution he has made to keeping the whole show successfully on the right road. DAISI has a lot to be proud of in its trail blazing history and we look forward to celebrating some exciting years ahead.

Leon Winston Chair

P.S. Leslie Pattison has since taken over from Leon Winston as DAISI chair following the AGM on 5th July 2006.

I enjoyed going to the schools to see what DAISI are organising, and I took part in some organisation of Devon Youth Theatre. At the end of the week I told my mum that I had enjoyed it so much that I didn't want to leave! I can't believe the week went so quickly.

I found out lots about DAISI that I didn't know and wasn't likely to find out unless I actually 'lived the DAISI experience'. In the future I would like to do something involving dance, drama or music. But after this experience I have found that you're still involved in the arts even if you're not physically performing. I have to do work experience again in October and, because I liked it so much, I would like to go back to DAISI (that's if they'll take me).

Rosa Beauchamp, year 10
St Peter's High School, Exeter

DAISI
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton Industrial Estate
EXETER
EX2 7NL
Telephone 01392 385214 / 385215
Fax 01392 382 181
Website www.daisi.org.uk
Email admin@daisi.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1071762
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 3562299

The DAISI Staff are:
Director: Liz Hill
School Project Manager: Clare Saunders
Project Manager: Ruth Cohen
Administrator: Naomi Ziewe

The DAISI Trustees are:
Lesley Pattison Chair
Leon Winston
David Gravell
Oriana Hosford
Philip Creek
James Hennessy
Sarah Hennessy
Don Newton
Maura O'Donoghue
Linda Rolfe
Lucy Gambia
Simon Milner Treasurer
Rowena Brown

The DAISI Advisors are:
Pippa Warin
Keith Wainwright
Nick Jones
David Whitfield

DAISI would like to thank the following for their support:



This DAISI newsletter was designed by John Roberts
© DAISI 2006. Photographs © individual photographers

NEWS LETTER

AUTUMN TERM
2 0 0 6



Contents

DEVON ARTS IN SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

DAISI aims to develop the creativity of young people by enriching their experience of the arts and works closely with teachers, governors and artists to strengthen the relationship between the arts and education sectors.

Devon Youth Theatre

The Devon Children's Trust Project

Art to Start (early years)

Animated Exeter

DigitEX Exhibition

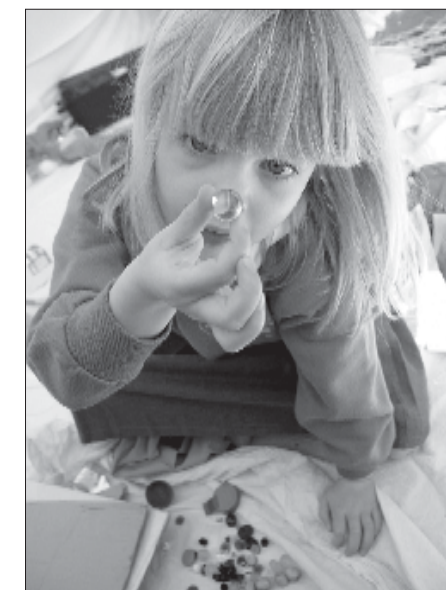
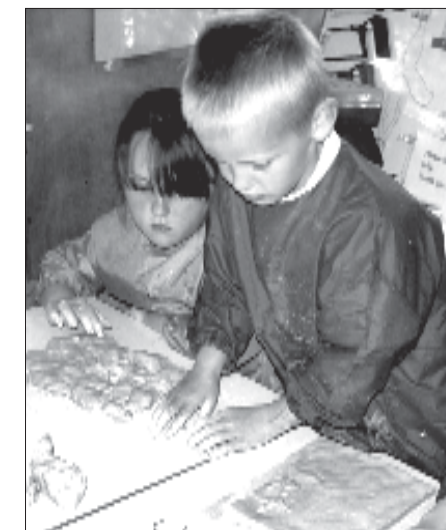
DAISI 10 Year Celebration

3D A Chance to Dance

Artsmark Awards

Advertisements

Announcements



Clockwise from top left:

- Children's Trust project participants from Bolham Primary at Knightshayes Court with writer Linda Newbery.
- A ceramics workshop at Brixham C of E Infant School and Nursery, run by Taja.
- Art to Start participant at Stoke Hill Infant School, reception class. Photo by Kate Green.
- "Bigeyes" montage from DigitEX workshops at Newton Primary and Bowhill School.
- Children from The Castle Primary find inspiration listening to writer Tim Bowler at Tiverton Castle.

Summer School 2006

In July 2006 DAISI asked one of DYT's current young performers, just about to embark on the DYT Summer School 2006, about their experience so far...

What happens when some of the best young theatrical minds in the county come together in one place for a weekend of creative workshops? Try adding into the mix the opportunity to gain a place in a highly respected youth theatre company, Devon Youth Theatre, and then to top it off put in the creative geniuses that are Tiffany Strawson and John Croose and you get one heck of a weekend!

This year's Devon Youth Theatre auditions were brilliant to take part in. Never before have I seen such creativity and ingenuity in the one room. Saturday was when the group workshops took place. All the auditionees participated in both dance and physical theatre workshops run by Tiff and John, which challenged our established perceptions of how we can use our bodies to convey a message, story or emotion. We were then set a script work task where we were given a short extract and asked to work in pairs to create a performance to show the rest of the group.

DYT members during research and development for *Snakes and Ladders* at DYT Summer School, KEVICCS, July 2006.



Everyone enjoyed the task and although we all had the same script, all the performances were varied and of a high quality.

The Sunday saw the individual auditions take place. Each Auditionee was asked to prepare a Shakespearean monologue and a self-devised piece to perform to Tiff, John and DAISI Trustee James Hennessy. It was a nerve-racking experience but everyone tried their best to put you at ease and to get the best performance from you.

I can only imagine the difficulty faced by the 'judges' in trying to whittle down the applicants to a final cast. All in all the audition weekend was great fun and very informative, and everyone, whether successful or not, gained a lot from the experience be it new friends, new skills or even a new outlook on performing.

By Jacob Diggle
Age 15, Knowles Hill School

At the time of going to print the performance of Snakes and Ladders at the Ariel Centre in Totnes had not yet taken place. Find out more in the next newsletter...

DYT Summer School 2006, warming up with Artistic Director Tiffany Strason.



Heathcoat Primary get inspired by author Bridget Crowley

As part of a project to raise aspirations in Tiverton, our Year 5 children set off up the hill to visit Tiverton Museum. This was not only to make children aware of the wonderful place they live in and its history in the world arena, but also to meet and work with the children's author Bridget Crowley.

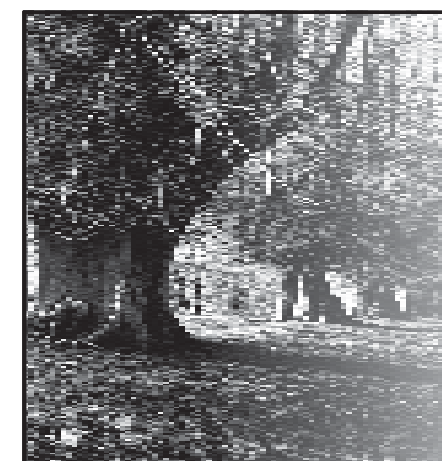
One aim of the DAISI project is to improve writing amongst Upper Key Stage 2 children. By meeting a published author we were immediately inspired and ready to write! When we arrived Bridget got straight to work by looking in detail at different artefacts within the Museum. The children were encouraged to imagine what it would have been like to be around, touch, smell and see these items in their original and everyday surroundings. These ideas were developed, with the children thinking of imaginative words and phrases to describe the different environments where these objects would have been found. They also thought about how different people would have reacted to the objects, according to their backgrounds and social experiences.

When the feelings and senses were in place, Bridget helped the children to develop their picture and story ideas to be more specific and personal. We looked at a diary written by a young Victorian girl 'Annie Forrester', read sections about her daily life and began to build up and imagine a picture of her friends, clothing and character. The 'real and personal' link to the past really captured the children's imagination.

Not content with this, we also delved into the life of the John Heathcoat Factory and how its existence had and still has a real impact on national and world events. For example it has made parachutes for NASA and the bridal veils for Queen Victoria and Princess Diana!

By the end of the day the children went away with so many different story ideas and their feelings towards Tiverton had completely changed. Although many of these concepts can be taught in class, by going to the museum with its collections of actual artefacts and by working with published authors such as Bridget, children can be inspired so much more.

Mark Ferdinando Year 5 Class Teacher, Heathcoat Primary School, Tiverton.



Exploring Photography with Paul Cartwright

Workshops available:

- Photography without a camera, such as photograms, etc.
- DIY pin-hole photography using old cardboard boxes, dustbins, etc.
- Basic B&W photography and printing
- High quality B&W printing using archival techniques
- Polaroid photography using a large format camera
- plus many more tailored to specific needs

For further information contact: Paul Cartwright
Yeo Vale, Four Mills Lane, Crediton, Devon EX17 3BT
Tel: 01363 774115 Email: pfc_art@lineone.net



www.frogandrosbeef.org.uk
Theatre in Education

Plays, storytelling and activities in French for KS1, KS2 and KS3

Bonjour!

For a complementary approach to French learning which ...

- engages your pupils and students
- gives them a chance to participate and have fun
- renews their enthusiasm for learning French..

visit our website or call Cyrille on 01626 369600

E-mail info@frogandrosbeef.org.uk

A bientôt...!

Do you sing with students of any age, or just love to sing yourself? Improve your skills, learn new techniques and expand your repertoire - whatever your level of singing experience.

BARING-GOULD STUDY BREAK 23rd - 27th October (half term)



Large group sessions, small group sessions and one-to-one tuition. Opportunities include:
Developing Techniques: learning to find your own voice, breathing, pitch, phrasing, control and creating your own melodies and improvisation.
Developing Performance Skills: building confidence, understanding accompaniment, using the microphone effectively, arranging, collaboration and business. The Baring-Gould Archive.
Developing Performance Skills: building confidence, understanding accompaniment, using the microphone effectively, arranging, collaboration and business. The Baring-Gould Archive.
Free £250 (2003) concert. For more details, booking and accreditation, contact: 01208 706100 and community arts education, organ school, West Museum on 01208 706100 or email admin@baring-gould.co.uk. More info at www.baring-gould.co.uk

DON NEWTON - MASTER STORYTELLER

Trading as - ROUGH MAGIC.

I am a teller of TRADITIONAL TALES from ALL CULTURES and to ALL AGES, with 15 years of experience working in West Country schools. I am now just as comfortable holding a class of FOUNDATION children spellbound for an hour, as a group of YEAR 9s.

I hold fast to the belief that the basis for all LEARNING is CREATIVE PLAY. What better way to engage this than STORYTELLING and STORY CREATING, which I teach in my STORY CREATING WORKSHOPS.

Working with objects and chance-picked words (CHARACTERS, ANIMALS, TASKS, POWERS etc.) the children create their own tales, which can be written or, better still, spoken.

In this way the twin keys to good communicating, i.e. SPEAKING AND LISTENING are found and integrated.

Ring 01837 810198

I'm always happy to visit to discuss your expectations. I am a member of Equity and have full Police Disclosure Approval.



Artsmark Awards 2006 at the Eden Project

On Wednesday 5th July, schools from across Devon, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall celebrated achieving their Artsmark awards at the Eden Project in Cornwall. The ceremony began with performance poet Paul Marshall capturing the attention of the crowd, many of whom fought traffic and vast distances to be there, with his lively and amusing performance. Langley Junior choir charmed those assembled with some beautiful African inspired songs before the ceremony was formally introduced by Hilary Garnham, Director of Arts and Development at Arts Council England, South West. The Boys' dance group from Pilton Community College in Devon contributed *The Wreckers*, a dynamic and beautifully performed dance piece set to a dramatic video backdrop of their movement explorations at the north Devon coastline.

Jacqueline Wilson, the Children's Laureate. Jacqueline captivated her audience, adults and children alike, with an insight into the path that brought her to where she is now and a sneak reading from her forthcoming Tracy Beaker book. Jacqueline awarded each of the 15 schools from Devon and Torbay, 7 schools from Plymouth and 15 schools from Cornwall their certificates for 2006 before being beset by an autograph queue which stretched around the room.

A wonderful ceremony was concluded with a showing of the short film by young writers who worked with KEAP on the Coathooks & Corridors project during the summer term 2006.

Congratulations to all those schools who were successful this year. For those of you are thinking about an Artsmark application, DAISI can provide seminars and 1:1 sessions to support you. Just give us a call on 01392 385214.

1,226 schools were awarded Artsmark nationwide in 2006 - in the southwest region as a whole 124 schools were awarded Artsmark.

These statistics show the percentage of Artsmark schools per Local Authority across the region in 2006.

Primary Schs.	No.schools.	Artsmark %
Bournemouth	27	22%
Torbay	32	22%
Poole	30	20%
Gloucestershire	250	16%
Plymouth	76	14%
Devon	318	13%
BANES	64	11%
SGlos	96	11%
Dorset	151	10%
Wiltshire	212	9%
Swindon	67	9%
Cornwall	239	8%
Somerset	233	8%
N Som	65	0%
Isles of Scilly	1	0%
Secondary Schools		
Gloucestershire	42	50%
BANES	13	46%
Cornwall	31	45%
Dorset	20	45%
Devon	37	43%
Plymouth	17	41%
Bournemouth	10	40%
Wiltshire	29	31%
Swindon	10	30%
Somerset	30	27%
SGlos	16	25%
Poole	8	25%
Torbay	8	25%

Source: Arts Council England South West office

Then, the highlight of the event to many of the younger attendees at least, it was time to meet

Pilot Project

Activity underway in Tiverton and Barnstaple

This pilot project, initiated by Arts Council England, South West and joint funded by ACE SW and MLA (Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, South West), with support from Devon County Council, is being co-ordinated by DAISI. The project is now up and running in the two test locations – Tiverton and Barnstaple. The project aims to test how partnership between arts, cultural organisations & schools can engage with the Every Child Matters agenda. The project activity is designed to increase children's creativity and creative literacy through interaction with inspirational artists and writers and stimulation from local cultural amenities.

The detailed aims of the project have been negotiated by the project partners – teachers and professionals from local museum, library and archive services. These negotiations have proved invaluable for forming personal contacts and building sustainable long-term partnerships between schools and cultural organisations.

The first raft of project activity took place in Tiverton in the summer term, with Year 6 children from 5 Tiverton primary schools taking part in writing workshops with renowned children's authors at a range of local cultural locations. Inspiration locations for the project have included Tiverton Museum, Tiverton Castle and the National Trust property and gardens of Knightshayes Court. Some have produced gripping mysteries inspired by the history and ghost stories of Tiverton Castle, while others have written lyrical and precise descriptions of the wildlife and horse-drawn barges on Tiverton Canal.

The second phase of project activities will take place in Tiverton this term, when the children involved have become year 7 at Tiverton High School. The second test location, Pilton, also commence their project activity this term, with environmental sculptors, poets, and a theatre company working with children from the 4 Pilton Association schools, using inspiration material from Barnstaple Museum and Archives and Barnstaple Library.

The writers and artists involved in the project to date are: Roselle Angwin, Linda Newbery, Tim Bowler, Peter Margerum, Jane Jobling, Nicola Davies and Bridget Crowley.

Ruth Cohen DAISI Project Manager



Above: Bolham Primary children write and act out their stories in the walled garden with Linda Newbery at Knightshayes Court.
Below: The Castle Primary children at Tiverton Castle work on stories inspired by the setting.





ANDIGWA DANCE ARTS

Pupils will:

- Transform an African story into dance and make their own costume/mask for performance.
- Learn a traditional African dance, then create their own.
- Learn fun, uplifting dances to the beautiful music of Africa.
- Make their own African wrap and bandana, using tie and dye/block printing/flour resist, indigo dye, flour or mud.

For further information contact: Rebecca Jeffery
ANDIGWA AFRICAN ARTS & DANCE
Cooper's Cottage, Hartland, Bideford, Devon, EX39 6BQ
Tel: 01237 441 385 Email: andigwa@btinternet.com



The last chance to catch
Perseus and the Gorgon's Head
Scripted by renowned poet Adrian Mitchell.

The Greek myth retold with puppets, live music and song.
PuppetCraft on tour to schools until February 2007.
For anyone 7 years old and over.

"Superb. Simply wonderful. Brilliant! Amazing!"

Telephone: 01803 867778 Email: show@puppetcraft.co.uk
www.puppetcraft.co.uk

Art to Start (early years)

Art to Start dissemination event

Following a successful dissemination event in June, project Artist Teresa Grimaldi reflects on her experience of the DAISI Art to Start project.

My PART or "take me back to the start" (Coldplay).

It is all about reflection.

The project was to actively use the reflective cycle as explored in our initial training sessions with Project Consultants Sandra Barefoot and Mike Akers. This was to become a crucial element of the whole experience.

We (the artist and the setting staff) set aside ½ a day directly after the practical session each week to discuss the children's journey, through looking at digital photos, video and writing. From there we would plan the next week's session.

During the training session Louise Carter, Nursery Teacher at Honiton Primary School, and I discussed our starting point or 'provocation'—an investigation of lace as material. A huge pile of lace in the space of the mobile classroom would be the initial 'provocation' offered to the children. The space was transformed by covering it from ceiling to floor in white sheeting. This would become the artists' studio. We had the luxury of being able to keep the installation up between sessions. The first week's activities could still be referenced by week six.

Our journey crossed shadow worlds, giant elastic bands, a tour of children's front doors, and opening the charcoal drawn doors and windows by cutting, tearing and punching holes. And that was all by week two. We paused (as we had the luxury to do so) to consider the position of adults as scaffolding, to frame child initiated learning. Questions began to emerge about when to intervene, when to stand back.

By week three the children painted houses, animated puppets and found them homes and were still using the white sheets. We decided to take a detour into printmaking by week 5. This was our problematic week. Louise and I both felt that the free investigation had gone too far, becoming chaotic and very very messy, which worried parent helpers. We pulled back for the last week's session, which would involve the whole class illustrating my puppet "Mr Printer's" secret journey through the school. Previously the children were given free choice to enter the 'studio' or not. It was frustrating that some chose not to.

Was this the end?

"Take me back to the start."

Dissemination

The artists and teachers began to arrive to prepare and set out installation/displays to accompany our 15 minute presentations. An air of nervous excitement prevailed – a feeling of a game show as we waited to be let into the space where the event was to happen.

Louise and I spread out traces and documentation (photographs and words) of the journey and feverishly put up our display. Double-sided tape down - the invitees are arriving.

Learning was being made visible.

The children's learning, the practitioners' learning, the artists' learning.

Journeys were shared and it was comforting to hear about everyone's problem week. It has not been an easy trek.

We all raised questions – reflected - took them forward then raised more questions.

The thing I would never question though was why I took part - it was a privilege.

Teresa Grimaldi
Art to Start project artist

Art to Start is an action research project exploring approaches to creative exploration in early years settings. Artists and setting staff worked in partnership, with built in time for documenting, evaluating and planning together. Art to Start was funded by zero14plus. DAISI is currently looking at how to develop and extend the project.

An Art to Start written summary report will shortly be available from DAISI. We will send a copy to all participating settings and artists and all training day and dissemination attendees. Please do contact the DAISI office if you are not one of the above and would like to receive a copy.

Arts to Start at Stoke Hill Infant School, Exeter. Photo by Kate Green.



Sally Jaekle, South West Regional Early Years Adviser, Creativity, chats to visitors to the Art to Start dissemination event.



3D A Chance to Dance

3D 2006/07 takes off...

3D A Chance to Dance 2006/7 leaps into action again in September, kicking off with the Devon Youth Dance Company open auditions on Saturday 23rd September 2006.

3D is funded by Devon County Council and over the years has given hundreds of young people in Devon an opportunity to get involved in high quality youth dance workshops and performances. 3D is committed to creating a dynamic, challenging, innovative, supportive and accessible dance opportunity for our young dancers. It involves three strands of activity:

Devon Youth Dance Company
Devon Youth Dance Company aims to provide company experience for talented dancers across the county and the opportunity to work intensively with like minded peers. Workshops and rehearsals are led by the Artistic Director and by visiting professional dance artists and choreographers. This is an auditioned Company that performs across the county and possibly in other national venues.

Open auditions are being held on Saturday 23rd September 2006 at Exeter University from 10am to 3pm for young people age 14 -18 who would like to be part of this Company. Your school has already been sent application forms but if you have not seen one and your dancers would be interested in auditioning please contact us on 01392 385214.

Secondary and Primary Area Groups

The Area Groups are the unauditioned strand of 3D. They meet at venues around the county during the autumn 2006 and spring 2007 terms leading to performances alongside Devon Youth Dance Company and school dance groups.

3D's Area Groups aim to provide excellent dance workshop and performance experience for young dancers across the county through an opportunity to work intensively with like minded peers and a specialist dancer / teacher. Workshops and rehearsals are led by the Area Group Dance Leader.

In 2006/07 there will be 10 Area Groups. They will run regularly in local school venues, either as an after school club or a Saturday or Sunday club, according to the needs of the group members and the Dance Leader.

DAISI will send information about venues, age groups, dates and times to all schools shortly.

Dance contributions from local schools

Several performance events are held during the spring term to give DYDC and the Area Groups performance opportunities and the chance to meet each other and see each other's work. School groups are invited to contribute their own dance work to these events so that a wide range of young people can become involved and be inspired to develop their dance. We will send full information to all Devon schools shortly.

DAISI will be in touch with all schools with further details about 3D by post and email (let your Administration office know that you want to receive emails from DAISI – or let us have your own email address). If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact us at the DAISI office.

If you took part in 3D A Chance to Dance last year we look forward to working with you again. If not, we look forward to meeting you.

More Pictures...

We couldn't leave out these Art to Start pictures by Kate Green. **Left to right:** Honiton Primary pupils dance with shapes and explore creative journeys. **Far right:** Stoke Hill infants: 'We document too!' See earlier page for more about the project.



Animated Exeter

DAISI and Animated Exeter working together again

Workshop opportunities

Animated Exeter continues its successful partnership with DAISI, providing subsidised animation workshops in Devon schools. This year there's an opportunity to develop or link these workshops with Peter and the Wolf. We hope that schools will be inspired to make animation and music on this theme. Contact DAISI on 01392 385214.

September Meeting

We would like to invite any teachers who may be interested in the competitions or the workshops to come to a meeting on 26th September 2006, 4.30pm - 6.30pm, at Isca College of Media Arts. To register your interest please contact DAISI.

ANIMATED EXETER 2007

Start planning now!

Exeter's annual animation festival bursts back onto the scene in February. The Schools Week from Monday 12 to Friday 16 February is a great way to introduce schools to the world of animation.

Animation Exploration 12-16 February

Bring a group of up to 30 children for a day to see some of the world's finest animation at Exeter Picturehouse, to visit the exhibitions at Spacex Gallery and Exeter Phoenix and experience a two hour workshop led by professional animators for only £7.50 per pupil. Each group will be given a free CD education pack. Pupils must be accompanied at all times by member of staff or LSA. Must book in advance.



Animation Day 16 February

Animated Exeter comes to Exeter College to promote animation as a great way of learning and a possible career and invites Devon's pupils and teachers to this day of screenings, demonstrations and information about animation software, college courses and advice from professionals.

Peter and the Wolf

The Schools Week culminates on Friday 16th February at 6pm with a special screening at Exeter Cathedral for pupils, parents and participants, of *Peter and the Wolf*, by Bafta winning animation director Suzie Templeton, with a live musical performance by Devon Concert Orchestra. Sets and models from the production will be on display to the public during January and February and then for schools only until April.

Competitions

Schools are invited to submit a storyboard for a 30 second trailer that will run before all our Exeter Picture house and Phoenix screenings – it was won last year by Asha Peters from Isca. This can be a storyboard on paper, roughing out some ideas for a great Animated Exeter trailer, - or it could be an animatic – a digital rough. For more information please call Liz Harkman on 01392 265208.

Win your school a Mac computer

Enter your animation films into ExAnimation, a competition for the best animation created by under 18's in the South West, sponsored by AT Computers, with public screenings during the festival. Find entry forms on www.animatedexeter.co.uk, Deadline 27 October 2006.

Schools interested in any of the above can contact DAISI for a full information sheet by emailing admin@daisi.org.uk



Photos by Mike Alford. Local school students visit the Animated Isca day at Isca College of Media Arts in June 2006.



DigitEX Project

DigitEX Exhibition

Digital artist and DigitEX exhibition curator, Tim Burton, reflects on his experiences of the DigitEX project...

The DAISI DigitEX photography exhibition opened on the 22nd June at Isca College of Media Arts, Exeter. The photos taken the previous autumn by young people in 22 Exeter schools documented some of the changes that have occurred and their perception of those changes. There were innumerable examples of imaginative use of the camera - of borders being tested and compositional experiment. At its best digital photography allows chances to be taken and the wide range of styles and subjects tackled in the photos on display points to a successful exploration and experience on the part of those involved.

Each participating school had photos professionally printed and framed and additional material displayed on a DVD show reel. Personal highlights included the series of St Lukes' old school buildings in sharp sunlight, St David's series of blue pictures and the abstract treatment of West Exe's new covered outside areas.

Thanks to all at DAISI for their support throughout the project and Ian and Jeanette for their invaluable workshop assistance. Also thanks to Isca College of Media Arts for hosting the exhibition and assisting so generously with its installation.

The DigitEX exhibition moved on to County Hall at the end of the Summer term.

Tim Burton DigitEX digital artist



Teachers, families and friends enjoy the DAISI DigitEX exhibition.

As the guests from the DAISI 10 Year Celebration left the auditorium at Isca College of Media Arts on 22nd June 2006 they began to mingle with teachers, families and friends arriving for the DigitEX exhibition. Children propelled their parents to their photos, professionally framed and hung on the fresh, clean walls of Isca's entrance foyer, glass roofed atrium and wide, light corridors, which fan off towards further architecturally appealing surprises.

Intermittently it became apparent that some of the audience were not just audience. They were inhabiting the everyday spaces – the foyer's sofas and coffee tables, the corridor around the lockers, but they weren't speaking, they were dressed alike and they were moving quietly and in relationship to each other. These were the site specific dancers, a group of Isca College boys and girls who had been exploring their space with Sally Robbins of attik dance Company.

The quizzical audience were led through the building, the movement of the dancers highlighting its architecture and suggesting the patterns of its everyday usage. As the final clutch of dancers leapt up and hung from the top of the lockers a nearby plasma screen went live via a video conference link to St Peter's High School, Exeter, where a group of 15 boys approached and receded from the camera as they performed in their own, long corridor.



Artwork by DigitEX students.

"I think that the workshops with attik dance were a really good experience. They gave people - who may not normally have the opportunity - the chance to dance and perform in front of others. It also gave people who had danced before the chance to do something creative and different based around the structure of our new building." Participant DigitEX dance, summer 2006

DigitEX was funded by DCC, Mowlem and The Hele's Trust with support from Snappy Snaps.



"Fragment Face 1" from workshops at Newton Primary and Bowhill School.

The ISCA's site-specific dancers at the DigitEX Exhibition. Photo by Sasha Dobrota.



DAISI 10 Year Celebration

DAISI Hits 10 Years!

DAISI celebrated its 10th birthday in 2006 and the occasion was duly marked with a special celebration on June 22nd. The event took place at Isca College of Media Arts, Exeter, where it coincided with the DAISI DigitEX exhibition.

Guests were treated to, in some cases rousing, speeches and contributions by Phil Norrey, Chief Executive of Devon County Council, Mandi Street, Head teacher of Isca College, Liz Hill, Director of DAISI, Zannah Doan, former Director of DAISI and Leon Winston, outgoing DAISI Chair. Former Chair James Hennessy, also a theatre practitioner and lecturer, 'pounced' on unsuspecting audience members with interview style questions on their DAISI experiences. One of his candidates, a Devon Youth Theatre Company member, gave a wonderful example of what it is that is so important about working with young people and the arts. Her enthusiasm, articulation and ability to analyse what she had been part of said it all. Pippa Warin, the Executive Director of Culture South West and a founder of DAISI was also interviewed by James, as was Devon Curriculum Services Adviser for Art and Design Phil Creek, Puppeteer John Roberts and the Atkinson Unit's Dave Myers.

After the cutting of the DAISI logoed cake, beautifully accompanied by the Wren Trust musicians rendition of Happy Birthday on accordion, mandolin and bagpipes, past and present Trustees, teachers, County Councillors, Local Authority staff, artists, students, DAISI staff and many key movers and shakers in Devon's arts education field mingled, caught up and made new connections in a most convivial atmosphere, amongst the stunning photographic exhibition by students from 22 Exeter schools involved in the DigitEX project.

It was clear from all the presentations and the turn out on the day that DAISI is highly valued and highly supported in Devon and that it is this value and support, manifest through partnerships, increasing interaction and ever present goodwill that DAISI is here 10 years on. DAISI belongs to Devon – Devon's professional artists, Devon's young artists, Devon's teachers, Devon's strategic planners, Devon's cultural organisations, Devon's communities. It is through these myriad unique and living partnerships that new work is achieved, foundations are laid for future sustained work, learning is disseminated and doors to new skills, confidence and awareness are opened, not only among the young people in our schools but their teachers and the wider school community.

A heartfelt 10 year thank you to all who have been part of the embedding of DAISI in Devon and Torbay and we look forward to another 10 years of enriching young people's experience of the arts through the continued strengthening of the relationship between the arts and education sectors.

Liz Hill Director, DAISI



DAISI Trustee and DCS Arts & Design Advisor, Phil Creek, chats to former DAISI Director, Zannah Doan, and Wendy Collin. David Kemp's "Hound of Geever" joins in!

Below: DigitEX photo from Stoke Hill Junior School.



DAISI 10 Year Celebration

And what do the young people say?...



An African dance workshop at Oldway Primary School, led by Becky Jeffery.



A ceramics workshop at Brixham C of E Infant School and Nursery, with Taja.



An Art to Start participant explores clay at Ilfracombe Infant School and artist Claire Murray starts a session..



"I enjoyed the project because it is an important and interesting privilege to work with people who know about filming."

Student, age 15, Paignton Community College
Animated Exeter schools' workshops, Autumn 2005

"I felt so excited all night because I knew I was going to take my shoes off in the clay."

Reception class child, Ilfracombe Infant School
Art to Start, March 2006

"I learnt millions. It was absolutely brilliant."

Pupil, Lydford Primary School
Multi cultural arts week Summer 2004

"I feel good about showing the scenes I've created, it's embarrassing if it's not good but you can make it good by making it funny and interesting, you make it good by working at it; everyone else liked what I've created..... it makes me feel proud of what I've done."

Pupil, The Tutorial Unit PRU
Treadz project, Summer 2004

"I would love to do it again. After I had done this my new wish is to be an artist when I grow up."

Pupil, Tavistock Community Primary School
Mosaic workshop, November 2005

"Following the years [my son] has attended your project he has grown as a young person, he is more confident around other kids, and has been able to enjoy participating in music, which in turn has led him to have a renewed self belief in terms of work at school, and his recent achievements at school."

Quote from a parent's letter to the Wren Trust
Transitions project, December 2006

"Their verdict? The children loved everything about it—the gory story, the participation, the activities and quizzing actors about their work on stage and in television. Bloody Ambition? Bloody good. Encore!"

Head teacher, Bovey Tracey Primary School
Bloody Ambition project Autumn 2004

"Thank you. You've inspired me to continue dancing. My time at DYDC has been exhausting, exhilarating and well worth it. Won't forget it!"

Devon Youth Dance Company member, age 15. 2005/06

Isca's site-specific dancers at the DigitEX Exhibition. Photo by Sasha Dobrota.

