

Paddington Arts

Annual Report | 2010 - 2011



It's a
BBOYZ
thing



Directors Report

These are tough times for young people. It's harder than ever to find a job; prices for food and travel are rising all the time; it's almost impossible to find a flat at an affordable rent, never mind buy a house. We've seen a financial crisis across Europe, and riots on our own streets.

This makes the work we do at Paddington Arts even more important. We can provide a sanctuary away from the troubles of the streets, and an opportunity to participate in fun and creative activities. This year has been a very successful year from Paddington Arts point of view. Not only have we survived the cuts (so far) but we have continued to develop all our groups and strive to improve. We have seen a new group of Bboyz take the annual show by storm, as well as the usual high energy from our dance groups, some beautiful a capella singing, a growing repertoire from our Steelband, and a brilliant comedy sketch set in an airport, called 'Nothing to Declare'.

The most important new development at Paddington Arts in the last twelve months is the operation of our Digital Newsroom. This has provided training and production opportunities for young people in digital media, and we have produced two issues of Reel Talk, an online magazine by and for young people. We hope to develop this as a social enterprise, offering training for unemployed young people, and getting income from selling advertising space.

It does seem likely that the times ahead will be even tougher. We are not immune from the cuts, and raising money to pay for our staff and activities, and to run the building, is getting harder and harder. It is important that the community comes together and works together to make sure our children and young people have the best possible future. This is what we at Paddington Arts are committed to, and we hope we can count on your support.

Steve Shaw

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Performing Arts Report

This year, I've been involved in everything from producing the annual and winter shows to running my own 6-10 year-old dance and drama sessions.

I worked hard to put Paddington Arts on the Notting Hill Carnival map – thanks to the efforts of our young dancers and our carnival touring group. I made sure that the milkshake disco continued, wrote the scripts for our two main shows and set up the new B-boyz Break Dancing Group, who took the annual show by storm. And while I was doing all this, I had a baby.

There has been so much going on this year that I didn't even have time sit down. But saying that, I wouldn't change my job for the world. My highlights for this year have been the annual show and my new job role and all its new and challenging tasks that have come with it. But having the baby has to be the top of the list.

Eldora Edward



Youth Media Report

This has been my second year at Paddington Arts and I'm finding it a welcoming and creative challenge as well as a great opportunity to work significantly with young people. I have worked with Steve to create a number of opportunities never experienced at Paddington Arts before, some of which I'll expand upon later, however the take up of the Muay Thai being taught



has been really good and instilling young people with confidence, spatial awareness and body coordination in a way dancing doesn't has been a great thing to teach.

I have enjoyed working in many settings from schools to theatre's delivering our bespoke debate programme Spit Game and working with some immensely talented performers, MC's and singers in

our Performance Poetry sessions within Westminster Schools.

Although my focus has been engaging the youth through media, I have worked with Eldora, Steve and our volunteers on many diverse projects such as our bi-annual showcases and developing our Arts Award programme. The camaraderie here is wonderful and I have a great network to support my work and development.

Bryan Anderson



Annual Show

"Before I came Paddington Arts I was just at home doing the usual stuff until my mum found Paddington Arts and decided to make us dance there. I started dancing there from when I was 7 years old and on wards and now I am 11 so it's been 4 years I've been in Paddington Arts and I am going to continue going until I am the age it stops at."

Tianna age 11

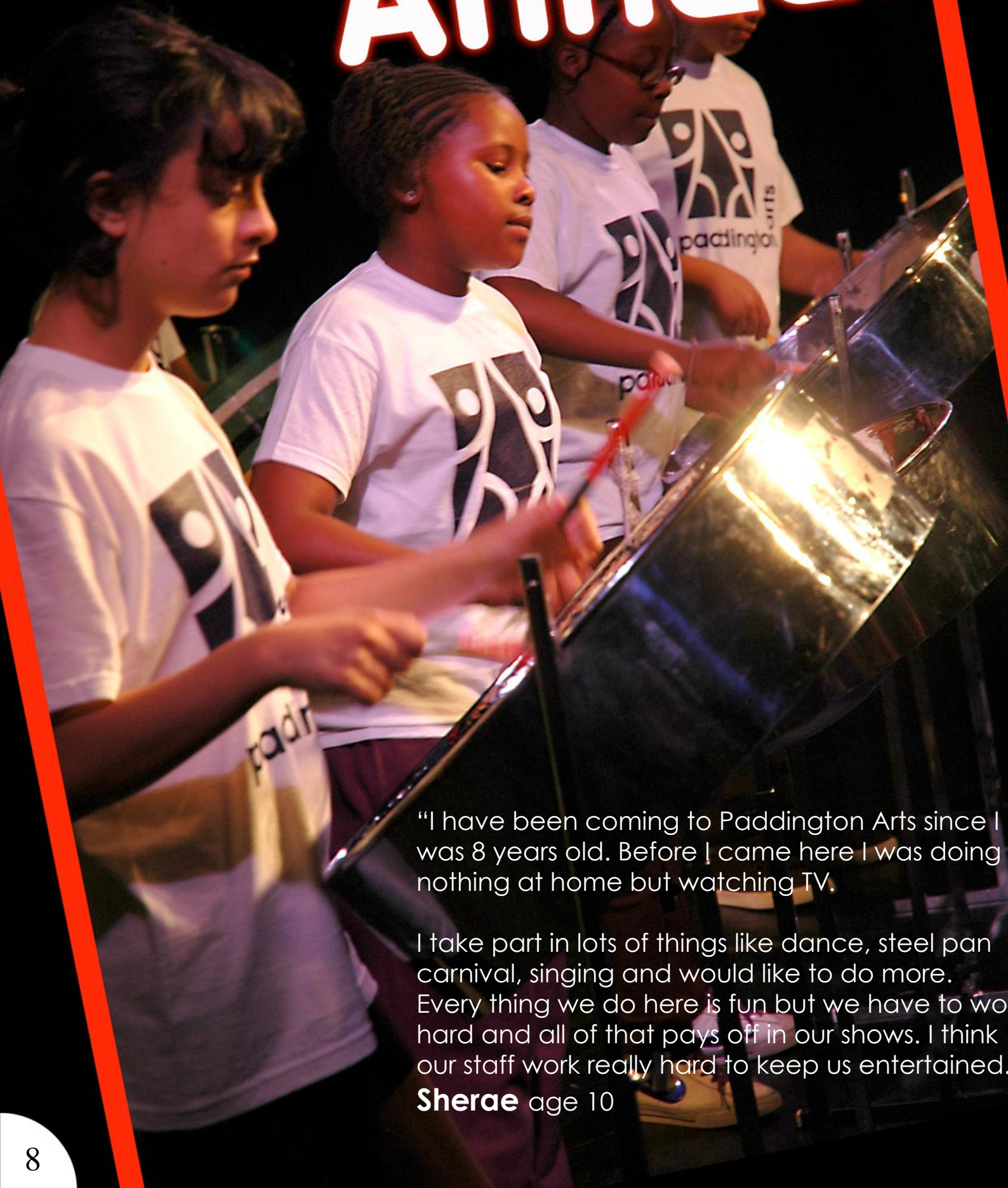
"When I didn't know about Paddington arts I used to just stay at home. But anyway my mum found out about this place and then she told her sister about it. I was at Wednesdays group first and seriously didn't know how to dance. Now I have improved I'm in the 11-15s performing group and doing carnival as well. I have been a member of PA for about 5 to 6 years and I have really enjoyed it. It don't only teach you how to dance it teaches you how to have respect. I really love Paddington Arts."

Destinee
age 13



Annual Show

"Nothing to Declare"



"I have been coming to Paddington Arts since I was 8 years old. Before I came here I was doing nothing at home but watching TV.

I take part in lots of things like dance, steel pan carnival, singing and would like to do more. Every thing we do here is fun but we have to work hard and all of that pays off in our shows. I think our staff work really hard to keep us entertained."

Sherae age 10



"I have been coming to Paddington Arts for six months and this is the first time I have been in a show. I was in a play called 'Nothing to Declare' and I played the Customs officer. I had to stop this lady and search her suitcase and ask her to explain why it contained a load of dead chickens.

I come to Paddington Arts because it's fun and I love drama. Also it gets me out of hanging on the streets, and it helps get you ready for the future.

Before the show everyone was getting really stressed, but I think it went really well and I have definitely learned how to be a better actress.

Paddington arts is like another family, and I would be good if we could take our play to big competitions and show what we've got."

Sophie age 13



BBoyz

In Their Own Words

"I have been coming to Paddington Arts since a very young age and I have made so many new friends and met so many new people. Before I joined Paddington Arts I wasn't really doing much but since then I have discovered my talent in dance. I started Paddington Arts when I was eight; I am now thirteen and still enjoy it to this day. Every year I take part in the annual and Christmas show and carnival and Paddington Arts is the best place to be."

Tyra age 13



"Hi my name is Sheraz and I'm ten years old and I hate mixing fizzy its disgusting and cold."

I love to dance
I love to prance
I learnt all of this
at PADDINGTON ARTS."
Sheraz 10

Building Blocks

It's been a busy year for the Building Blocks initiative at Paddington Arts that has seen our work here develop from a pilot project to a fully-fledged programme of workshops.

The Building Block scheme develops digital media work with young people with learning difficulties. It focuses on the issues that surround 'transitions' which aims to help young people make the move from school education to independent living and either paid employment or further education.

Through working with digital media the young people gain key technical skills that increase their IT vocabulary and confidence in working with digital equipment. Communication skills develop through group dialogue and video interviews. The themes aim to encourage confidence and a sense of identity to help equip the young people for independent life after school.



Word of Mouth

Word of Mouth was an exciting collaborative project in conjunction with Turtle Key Arts. Students from Hillingdon Manor School, all of whom are on the Autistic Spectrum, worked with Poet Cheryl Moskowitz over period of a week.

Writing all different styles of poetry, the students created an exciting body of written work that they then brought to Paddington Arts to translate into visual poetry.

The group used Photoshop to create frames that illustrated the content of their poems, incorporating photography, design elements, drawing and painting to make an exciting sequence of images. These were then overlayed over audio recordings of their poetry to make short films.



Its all about speed to chasedown their prey



Our work with College Park school has been a strong foundation for the Building Blocks initiative at Paddington Arts. We have run three 10-week projects throughout the 2010/11 year, which have seen 30 students attend on a regular basis.

Using the Digital News Room as our base, which is equipped with new Apple Mac computers, the students used Photoshop to design pages for a digital magazine. We also used digital cameras and professional video recording equipment. By incorporating drawing and creative artwork into the projects, the students have a wide range of tools to express themes around identity, community and future in a visually stimulating and meaningful way.



"I want to do it again!"

'I learned About how put to life and art, and how to use Photoshop'

'I learnt about my own imagination'

'I really enjoyed Paddington Arts and it was a real pleasure It was fun!'

Digital Media with College Park School



Autumn 2010: 'Our Future'

We thought about what we'd most like to do in the future, our ideal jobs and why we'd want to do them.

Spring 2011: 'Around Me'

We started out thinking about our favourite places and where we like to spend our time. Then we began exploring our local environment and went on a visit to Meanwhile Gardens, a community garden very close to Paddington Arts. We took pictures with digital cameras and explored the different elements of the gardens to find out the different ways the local community



This is me sitting in the Moroccan gardens under the bamboo tree. I liked it there because it was peaceful.

Khalid



Summer 2011: 'Our Perfect Day'

We imagined what our perfect day would be – where would it be? Who would be there? What would you see and hear and smell? By making models and recording stories about our perfect we compiled short photo-stories.

Word of Mouth

Word of Mouth is a project that combines the power of the Spoken Word and Performance Poetry with the power of new digital technologies. It allows young people to discuss issues and ideas, and to express their imagination and creativity.

We delivered the workshops in schools, youth centres and colleges as well as at Paddington Arts. We also worked with the Princes Trust using the Spit Game as ice-breaking sessions. The programme has been challenging and entertaining on many fronts, from teaching a group of 62 pupils how to listen, to working with a Muslim, Jewish MC collective in a predominantly Muslim school, teaching young people performance poetry.



Poem: What went wrong?

Here I am in the streets
Nothing is neat

Why, why kick me out
I feel angry
I feel frustrated
Why, why kick me out

Drunkards and drug addicts
My new neighbours.
They sniff and sneer they love to
stare.

Why, why kick me out
Trying to make me go down
Acting like clowns

Why, why kick me out

Wait I know why, why should I lie?
I do blame my self I trusted that
guy.

Lamyaa Eniad, age 13

Reel Talk

Reel Talk is an online magazine produced by young people for young people. It began as a partnership with the London Apprenticeship Company (LAC). We devised a joint programme which began with a media day, where the LAC invited all their potential apprentices to Paddington Arts to meet with media professionals, participate in topical debate and register their interest in developing a new online magazine that covers topical issues in a way not currently represented in mainstream media. The day was a huge success, and six trainees signed up to produce the first issue. The second issue has recently been finished.

"I have gained more skills and learnt how to work in a team. I have also got a lot of work to put in my portfolio"
GG age 19

You can see current editions of Reel Talk on the Paddington Arts website. We are setting up Reel Talk with its own website for the next issue, so watch this space to see what all the noise will be about.

"I have gained a great friendship and work environment. This project has given me an insight to how intense and demanding the media industry is. I have never been so under pressure at work but I am stepping up to the task"
Mo, age 18

"I have become a journalist – organised and constantly thinking about potential new stories. I have found my own journalist head. It has improved my organisational skills and increased my quality of work"
Antillia, age 18

SAVE THE CHILDREN



Inspiring Change: Youth Arts Leadership.

This year we continued our relationship with Save the Children. Two of our members became Youth Ambassadors.

"I took part in the Inspiring Change project at Paddington Arts not just to make a change for the poor kids around the world, but for the youths nowadays. The economy is in trouble and the government doesn't have enough money. So I would like to change that and to get more people like myself an education for the outside world because we are the younger generation.

I am a Save the Children Youth Ambassador and we meet with Government and Employers to talk and discuss about the future for London and for the world and we are trying to get a meeting with the prime minister to get our point of view across.

When I went to Manchester to a Youth Ambassador conference I met other young people from Scotland, Ireland and Wales. I made loads of friends, and I would like to continue this project for a brighter future."



Theo age 15

Social Networks

Social Networking used to be something 'other' companies used to do. Now Paddington Arts is well versed in the art. With 232 Twitter followers and 315 'Likes' on Facebook our online presence has grown immensely over the last year. What does this mean?

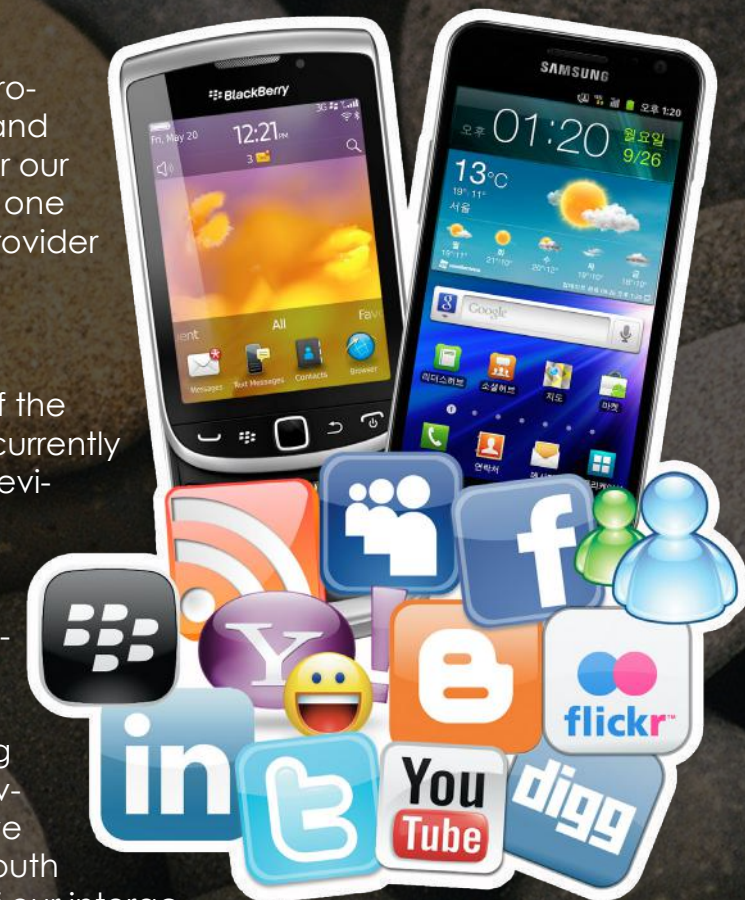
The ability to set the stage for building relationships with people who share the same interests, activities or even personal contacts, as opposed to primarily disseminating promotional related information. This also means social networks enable us to invite our audiences to get to know our brand in a way traditional forms of marketing and advertising can't.

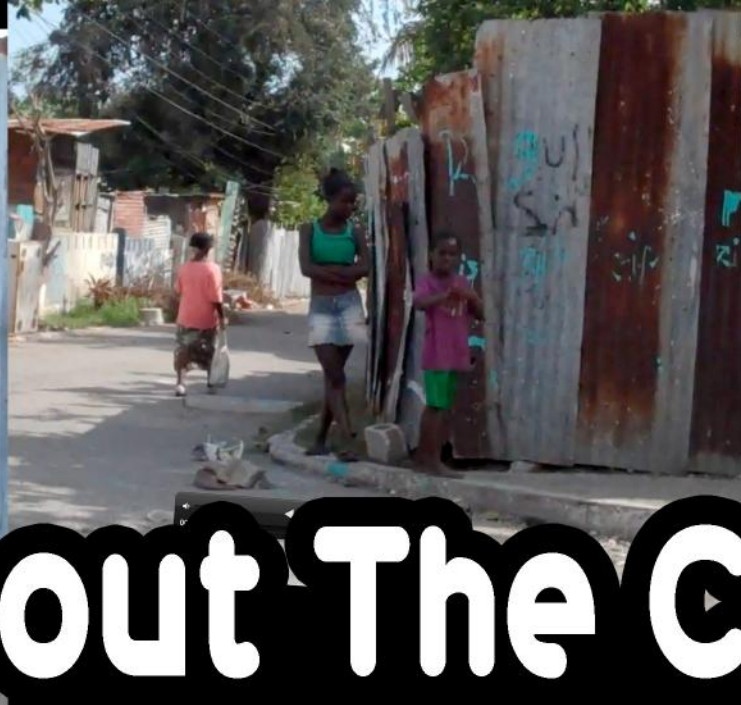
OK so some needs of the company, are now currently being met, where previously they weren't, but most importantly we're meeting (and sometimes pre-empting) our customers need for relevant, timely and interesting news. I post about everything from creative projects to topical youth related reports. All of our interactions with the public can be monitored on Facebook. Some of our best tweets are re-tweeted and our list of Twitter followers grows weekly.

A LinkedIn business profile is being created and that will further bolster our position as a number one creative youth arts provider in London.

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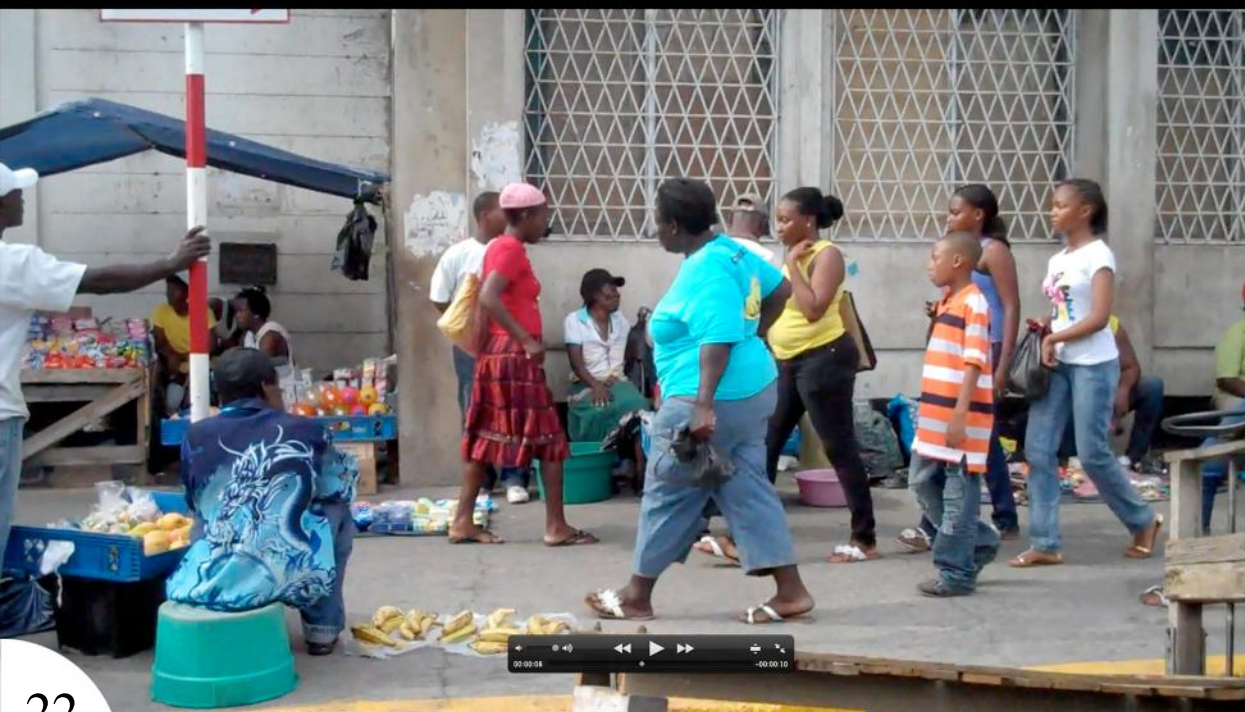
"What About The Children?"



JAMAICA

Paddington Arts loves to work with young people from all over the world. I went to Jamaica and ran a media workshop with young people from Palmer Cross All Age School; I also attended a youth arts event in downtown Kingston. Please watch the video clips to see the work produced.

Steve Shaw



Rajay Mullett

Age: 15

Where do you live?

Hamilton Drive, Palmers Cross

Favourite music?

Danny Mecler King

What are your hopes and fears for the future?

To be a lawyer or a singer. I don't have any fears.

What or where is your favourite place?

My favourite place is Kingston, because I was born and raised there

Maxann Edward

Age: 15

Where do you live?

Rum Lane, Palmers Cross

Favourite music?

'One More Night' by Busy Signal

What are your hopes and fears for the future?

My hope for the future is to become a teacher and help other children to achieve their goals; my fear is that there are many criminals in this world.

What or where is your favourite place?

My favourite place is my home because I can lock myself in my room all day and read and write songs



Carnival



"I woke up on Sunday 28th of August filled with excitement and anticipation. Having spent the summer helping out with the carnival preparations I knew what to expect from my band this year. I got dressed with my sister and set off to camp. When I arrived, the atmosphere was absolutely electric and everyone was just as hyped as me. I wore a T-Shirt on the Sunday this year so I went and got to know some of the new people that were joining us this year. I think that Elimu Paddington Arts attracts extremely positive and fun people that genuinely have a love for carnival..."



...Once we were on the road I had a wonderful time dancing and singing along to the music and taking photos with the spectators. Going to the Notting Hill Carnival with Elimu Paddington Arts has really opened my eyes to the true meaning of carnival and I've learnt a lot about my Caribbean background that I would never have learned if it wasn't for Elimu Paddington Arts."

Symone Hector, age 18

Staff & Tutors

Director
Steve Shaw.

General Manager
Sharon Marshall.

Admin Assistant
Josie Warshaw (to February 2011).

Youth Media Development Manager
Bryan Anderson.

Building Blocks Development Worker
Gemma Riggs (from March 2011).

Head of Performing Arts
Eldora Edward.

Dance Tutors
Isaac Baptiste, Tyrone Charles, PJ Dacas, Eldora Edward, Kyle McKitty.

Drama Tutors
Eldora Edward
Colin Vidal

Singing Tutor
Fae Simon.

Steel Pan Tutors
Marvin Barrie, Nicholas Weekes

Thai Boxing Instructor
Bryan Anderson

Summer Project Staff
Daniel Shaw, Nicholas Weekes, Symone Hector

Volunteers
Mandy Cobb, Melissa Desbonnes, Pam Douglas, Louis Folkes, Symone Hector, Leanna Jones, Sharon Joseph, Judith Peterson, Selina Richardson, Matthew Shaw, Lenny, Colin Vidal,

Interns/Trainees
Miguel Abreu, Ezarel Downes, JP Epstein, Hannah Khan, Meriem Khennouci, Mohammed Nahim, Gioni Walters, Ben Sewell.

Publicity
Wayne Louis

Cleaners
Debbie Boyce, Junior Browne

Maintenance Worker
Mark Mitchell

Caretakers
Randolph Bougouneau, Junior Browne, Kyle McKitty, Colin Vidal.

Management Committee

Alan Hayling (Chair)
Alison Stanley (Vice-Chair)
Simon George (Company Secretary & Treasurer)
Adele Braithwaite
Pat Buckley
Pam Douglas
Pam Glintenkamp (Resigned 20 November 2010)
Tanisha Jones-Watson
Lionel McCalman
Cllr. Guthrie McKie
Judith Peterson
Nancy VandenBergh
Jennifer Williams.

Funders

Arts Council England
Big Lottery Fund
Charities Aid Foundation
City Bridge Trust
City of Westminster
Community Development Foundation
Futurebuilders/Social Investment Business
Future Jobs Fund
John Lyon's Charity
London Development Agency
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Rose Foundation
Wates Foundation
WECH

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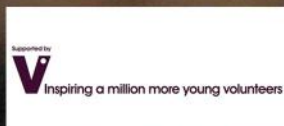
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