



PADDINGTON
ARTS

ANNUAL REPORT
2016 - 2017





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DIRECTORS REPORT

Paddington Arts exists to help young people express themselves and find their place in the world. We put on shows, go on residential trips to the country, and use media, particularly photography and video, to tell stories and capture images that say something about our lives.

As we approach our 30th anniversary, we can look back and see lots of things that have changed, particularly fashion and technology. But our core values haven't changed. They are Education, Inclusion, Excellence and Fun.

In addition, especially in this digital and gadget filled society, children need to mix with other children in the real world, and have contact with nature.

All of this you will see in this report; and please read the words of our members and their parents, explaining why they feel Paddington Arts has helped them.

STEVE SHAW

PERFORMING ARTS

Dance, drama, steel pan and more,
Many young people coming through our door
Most with smiles one or two with sighs,
By the time they all leave they're all on a high
Open workshops, performing groups we are now all one,
We'll learn from each other and get the job done
Gigs, festivals, shows and spots,
We've done a lot this year they're all forget-me-nots
I can't really say which one was the best,
Each one unique and different from the rest
And then you have Notting Hill Carnival in a class of it's own,
That's one place you don't want to be alone
The young people who have come through our doors,
Have come back and forth because the doors never close
Our classes, festivals, Milkshake Discos and shows
All have only one qualification for you to attend
And that's one large smile from beginning to end!

ELDORA EDWARD



ANNUAL SHOW



#STREETLIFE

#Streetlife was an exciting and creative project that explored what it means to be a teenager today, using Spoken Word, Dance and Photography. We brought together professional artists to work with our members and do outreach in the community; and then worked with a writer to bring together a variety of ideas and stories into a coherent narrative to be performed by a young cast. We looked at issues such as living on the streets; drugs; families living under stress; and the need to fit in and feel part of something. The text was delivered in spoken word, with multi-screen photographs as a backdrop, and interspersed with high energy dance routines.



*Cold nights
Hard days
Dark soul
Scared face
Drug deals
Police chase
It's just da way I was raise
Gun shots firing
Loud police sirens
Mothers left cryin
Ma hoods full of violence
I look for betta days
But I'm blinded by struggle
I was a hard headed yute
So I was always in trouble*

SHAKEEM, AGE 15





*"The thought of you Tara feels like warm summer rain,
I want to show off my achievements as
the moon does amongst the stars at night
and let it be known that it is all because of you that we are here
And now I feel like Michael Jackson in this alleyway lighting
up the pavements
I didn't think I could run like this again,
And I should be taking it easy
and playing it cool
But dancing on these broken bottles makes me feel alive."*



*"My floor is this concrete and my ceiling these stars
well star,
I can only see one tonight
the city smog strangles the sky like my former home strangled me
but this priceless freedom nurtures me
I exist on the kindness of others and any pity is unnecessary
I live by my choices and find hunger sharpens my mind
I see myself in agile foxes and soaring seagulls
I am an alchemist turning others waste and excess into valued survival
every day an adventure
a challenge to overcome
I find peace in the present and the gift that it truly is"*

YOUTH MEDIA

I teach photography and video. For photography I give the young people cameras, ask them to choose a colour and a shape, and then go and look for the colour and shape they have chosen and take photos. Then we talk about the local area, which places they like or don't like. Then we plan a photo walk, and go out and take pictures. Finally they choose their favourite six photos, and we print them.

When I run a video workshop, I divide them in groups of four and ask them to choose which role they want from camera; sound; interviewer and interviewee. They can choose to be interviewed as themselves, or as a celebrity. It used to be David Beckham or one of the Spice girls. Now it can be Lionel Messi or a celebrity I haven't even heard of. They take turns, so everyone can try out each role. Some instantly take to directing, and enjoy ordering everyone around, and coming up with ideas.

Even though the technology has changed over the years, the basic principles of photography and video remain the same. The most important tool for photography is the eye, and the most important tool for documentary filmmaking is a curious mind, and the ability to ask the right questions.

STEVE SHAW





CARNIVAL





FARM TRIP

Monday

Today we have arrived at the farm, which took us 4 hours to get to. We got settled down in our rooms, then we got shown around by a lady called Tanya. She showed us where all of the animals were including sheep, horses, pigs and chickens. She told us about the history of the farm and she showed us the playground. We had quite a bit of free time, then we had dinner which was spag bol and salad. After dinner we went up to our rooms and got ready for bed which took forever.

Tuesday

Today the girls were up at 6 in the morning, then we went on a walk for about half an hour, then came back to have breakfast. After breakfast we done some work on the farm. One of the chickens seemed to have laid an egg. Then we groomed the horses and rode the pigs. We then went to the woods and made a fire. It was so fun. And then we went to the forest. We made a fire and had cooked bananas with chocolate centers. We came back and picked some plums and made a plum crumble. We then went on a walk up the hill to a castle/tower. By the time we got back we were too tired to do anything and just got ready for bed, then went straight to sleep.





Wednesday

Today was a fun day. We woke up really early, got dressed and went down to breakfast, where we found that the boys weren't even dressed. After breakfast we went out to feed the animals, and met one of the horses owners. We then came back to the house, changed our shoes and got in the minibus to go to the beach. It took us an hour to get there but I enjoyed the ride. As soon as we got to the beach, I went straight to the water. I got bored so I started collecting shells, and by the time I was done picking them up I had 240 shells. Because the tide was in there ended up being loads of jellyfish on the shore.

It took only half an hour to drive to get back to the house, and when we got back we had free time. We finished dinner and made a fire outside. We had roasted marshmallows and melted chocolate which was YUMMY! We ate our marshmallows and then raced upstairs to have a shower. We then got dressed in our PJs and went to bed.

Thursday

This morning we did some weeding and vegetable picking. After lunch we went into town to buy some souvenirs. The town was full of shops, many of them magic shops. I ended up buying only a mood ring and a statue for my mum and dad and spent the rest of my money on vimto, ice-lolly and coca-cola bubble gum.



Friday

Today I feel quite happy as I get to see my family but I am sad because I will miss Paddington Farm Trust, and all the animals, especially the sheep Cleopatra, Precious and Nefertiti and the lambs; and the horses Hallow, Barry and Muffin.

Goodbye Paddington Farm Trust! I will miss you!

RESIDENTIAL TO THE NEW FOREST

On Friday we arrived at Paddington Arts and got on the minibus. I thought that the minibus would get us there quick, but it actually took like 100 hours. When we got there (Avon Tyrell in the New Forest) we came out of the bus, and the first thing I done was stand up and take a big huge stretch. I took a look at the mansion; I was thinking to myself this looks more like a hotel than a camp site.

Then we met this lady called Nicola and she told us how to be safe and showed us to our rooms and we had our own code which was 0985. I shared a room with Roel, Faith and Rosie.

On Saturday we woke up and went down the long stairs. We met a guy called Ben and he took us to the woods for our activity. We had to build a shelter because Daniel broke his leg. And it was getting dark. It was only pretend to teach us how to handle a real emergency.

We made the shelter with branches and leaves. Our shelter had a back and front door so if we needed the loo we could get out quickly. After that we had lunch which was pizza.

I wish we could have stayed longer because we had a lot of fun. I wish that I didn't bring my wellington boots because I didn't use them. But I liked the fact that we got to put on a show.

ROSIE, AGE 9 & NAE NAE, AGE 8





My youngest child Christopher has recently undergone a stem cell transplant for a rare and life threatening condition. Paddington Arts was pivotal in the family support at this time, as it was difficult for Christopher to develop his social skills with his peer group due to his high intensive hospitalised treatment.

Paddington Arts supported his social development through a range of activities including trips away and soon supported his development to within his age range.

Paddington Arts were also instrumental in the support for my eldest child Adrian. This was also a difficult time for him, and although academically very bright was lacking in confidence. Paddington Arts supported his emotional development and increased his social skills and confidence levels. They allowed Adrian to discuss the difficulties and emotions with regards to managing his brother's illness and gave him time to pursue his own interest.

I would encourage all children of every culture and various special needs to give the staff at Paddington Arts the opportunity to work with their children because they really are amazing and fantastic with their approach with the children and supporting of the parents too. They have been very supportive to me, and I am truly grateful. I cannot measure what they do because to me, it is priceless

MARIA CRIPS (PARENT)

PADDINGTON FESTIVAL

Paddington Arts has helped me improve my confidence because I was very shy and I would not talk to anyone. Also, it has helped me with my dance. Before I could not do any of the dance moves.

My experience at Paddington Arts has been a joyful one. I have made loads of new friends despite being there for only a short period of time. I have had a very good time.

My dad also thinks it is very beneficial to my sister and to me as it gets us out the house. My mother also thinks this, as well as a way to express our feelings. They both agree that it helps us to try new things challenge ourselves.

Finally, Paddington Arts has not just helped me in dance but also academically. When I was in class I was very self-conscious and when it came to tests, I would instantly freeze up. Paddington Arts has taught me to loosen up and have confidence in myself.

HARDESHA ODIJA, AGE 11







Paddington Arts has helped me for 2 years now finding my skills and confidence. Paddington Arts has pushed me harder to get to where I am, every Tuesday and Thursday.

Two years ago, I didn't know how to play the steel pans or how to dance. But now I'm great at it because of all the lessons I've had.

After those two years, I got better at dance by learning from friends that had more experience than me. I was constantly learning new things.

It had been challenging being at Paddington Arts but I never gave up on anything that I was instructed to do by Chloe and Eldora.

Now I could never even think of giving up on any type of dance. My preferred types of dance are the more complicated ones. My skills are always being put to the test. Another thing that I learnt was to never be scared about the unknown.

IMANI, AGE 8

PADDINGTON HONEY

In the three years I have helped look after the bees at Paddington Arts, I have learned a lot. In the hive during the summer months there are around 20,000 bees, or more. There is one queen: her job is to lay eggs all day, maybe 2000 in one day. The eggs are laid one in each honeycomb-shaped cell. After three days, the eggs will hatch into larvae, which will be fed by worker honey bees with honey, royal jelly and other liquids from plants. These honey bee larvae have no legs, eyes, antennae or wings; they resemble a grain of rice with a small mouth. They will eat and grow into adult workers, queens or drones.

When the bees fly out of the hive, they will fly up to 5 kilometres to look for food or other supplies. They come back with pollen or nectar, which is made into honey, or a sticky substance like sap, which they make into propolis, which they use to seal up gaps in the hive. The worker bees and the drones live between five and eight weeks, the queen lives for around three years, then needs to be replaced.

To harvest the honey, the frames are taken and put in a spinner, which forces the honey out of the frames. It is then put into jars. It is 100% pure and delicious!

In the picture on the facing page you can see capped brood (the cells that have the baby bees inside); uncapped brood cells (if you look carefully you can see the larvae); and capped honey cells.

STEVE SHAW





PADDINGTON ARTS IN NUMBERS

SEPTEMBER 2015
- JUNE 2017

481

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WORKSHOPS: DANCE, DRAMA, STEELPAN,
CHINESE BOXING, BREAKDANCE

TOTAL NUMBER
OF PARTICIPANTS

1925

Does Religion Do More Harm Than Good
Avon Tyrrell Residential
Milkshake Disco
Neasden Dance Festival
An Afternoon with Boy Blue
Paddington Festival Launch
Caribbean Day
Youth Dance Platform

PROJECTS & EVENTS

#Street Life
Jack Petchey Awards
Black History Month
Faith Identity & Belonging
Jus' Jam
Che3cks Music Video
London Youth Promo DVD
Youth Mentoring Project
Create Church Street
Carnival Launch
Notting Hill Carnival
Paddington Farm Residential
Ignition Dance Festival at Lyric Theatre

3876 TOTAL NUMBER OF
WORKSHOP ATTENDEES

AVERAGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS
ATTENDING WORKSHOPS PER WEEK

63

81 TOTAL NUMBER
OF SESSIONS

TOTAL NUMBER OF
PROJECTS & EVENTS

40

2145

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUNG
PEOPLE WORKED WITH

STAFF, TUTORS & VOLUNTEERS

Director: Steve Shaw

General Manager: Sharon Marshall

Head of Performing Arts: Eldora Edward

Finance Officer: Dipa Kotak

Caretaker and Cleaners: Colin Vidal, Junior Browne, Debbie Boyce

Maintenance: Ricky Antoine

Summer Project Staff: Eldora Edward, Daniel Shaw, Nicholas Weekes, Tori Sian Pegus

Dance Tutors: Chloe McFayden, Eldora Edward, Kerin Morris

Drama Tutors: Amani Naphtali, Eldora Edward, Colin Vidal

Spoken Word Tutors: Chris Preddie, Maxwell Golden

Photography Tutors: Steve Shaw, Tim and Barry

Steel Pan Tutors: Marvin Barrie, Nicholas Weekes

Admin Volunteer: Aida Avila

Volunteers: Colin, Dionne, Jason, Lenny, Matthew, Nicholas, Shaun

Volunteer Gardener and Beekeeper: Mike Wohl

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Alan Hayling (Chair)
Angela Piddock (Vice Chair)
Vanessa Suri (Treasurer)
Leandra Box (Company Secretary)
Adele Braithwaite
Alison Stanley

Cllr Barrie Taylor
Danie McCarthy
Jennifer Williams
Lionel McCalman
Pat Buckley
Yvonne Dawood

FUNDERS

John Lyon's Charity
Arts Council England
Westminster City Council
WECH
Awards for All
Rose Foundation

Jack Petchey Foundation
BBC Children in Need
Create Church Street
Westminster Amalgamated Charity
Paddington Charities
Harvist Trust





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