

Epping Forest Arts

Epping Forest Council's Arts Development Service



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Arts Background

- n The Council has provided an Arts service in the district since 1974
- n In the late 1980's the Arts section was expanded, to meet the government's agenda for improving community sustainability through provision of arts development work.
- n Due to its' innovative work Epping Forest Arts is one of the most highly regarded arts delivery services in the within the County and Region.
- n The Arts Council (England East) has acknowledged the innovative work that is delivered through Epping Forest Arts, by providing significant project funding for the district since 2001. £75,000 was secured in 2006, to develop a three-year programme of projects and events that explore and celebrate the District's community, history, heritage and environment

Arts programme

- n Dance development
- n Visual Arts
- n Performing Arts
- n Music
- n Live Art
- n Film
- n Multi media
- n Crafts & Painting
- n Festivals
- n Celebratory Events

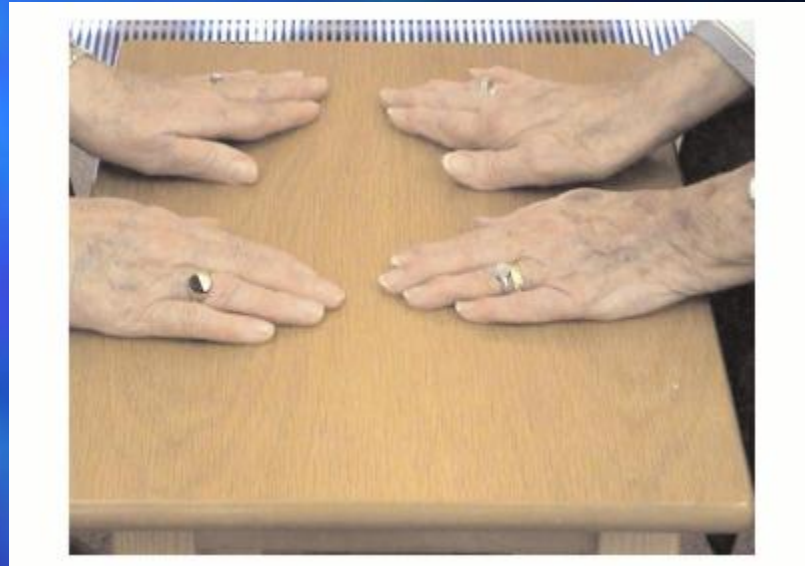


Work with Young People

- n **Urban Street Dance** – regular weekly dance classes for boys and girls 12 yrs+ based on the latest street dance styles
- n **'Reaction' & 'Fuzion'** – targeted at boys and girls 12 – 16yrs across the range of secondary schools, to bring youngsters together to tackle issues of hostility between school groups, using 3 different dance styles with separate gender groups
- n **'Motiv8'** – dance development project for 6 – 18yr olds culminating in showcase at Debden Park School
- n **'eNgage'** – dance development project for 5 – 20 yrs+ culminating in a performance at Harlow Playhouse
- n **'Isadora'** – Dance development project with youngsters at Wells Park and Oakview Schools
- n **Local Dance Groups** – weekly dance groups introduced by EFA and sustained through training volunteers and parents to lead and deliver sessions
- n **'Sense of Place'** – work with young people in key localities of disadvantage in the district

Work with adults and the elderly.....

- n **'Arts Alert'** – specially designed dance, movement and visual arts programme for adults with special needs from 18 yrs through to 50+, based at Epping Forest College. Workshops culminating in performance.



- n **'Sense of Place'** – dance and visual arts cross - generational programme, bringing young people and the elderly together in a range of projects to 'break down barriers'. Focuses on Residential Care homes in the district and wok linked to local schools

Summer Arts Programme

- n 'Lift Off' – acting , dancing and arts skills sessions for 8 – 12 year olds.
- n 'Havoc' – circus skills workshop and arts activities for 3 years+
- n Theatre Performances – for 2-5 yrs and 4 – 8 yrs
- n 'Jammin' – dance workshops for 9 –12 yrs
- n 'Mini-madness' – dance, drama and arts & crafts for 3 years+
- n 'Pandemonium' – performances, arts & crafts, fun activity day for 3 yrs+
- n 'Bugtastic' – bug hunting, pond dipping and games and art
- n 'Beach in a box' – summer holiday activity for 3 – 5 years
- n 'Arty Antics' – clay making workshops for 6 – 8 years

Other work areas.....

- n Administration and management of Epping Forest Music Schools
- n Advice and support to local voluntary organisations and local artists
- n Management of Small Grants Scheme for the Arts
- n Community based arts and environmental events
- n Production of Arts Inform – district wide arts activity and events publication
- n Provision of specialist advice to internal and external partners
- n Strategic partnership working throughout the county, including Essex On Tour and Essex Book Festival
- n Representation and participation in Essex Arts Officers group



Delivering local and national priorities

The arts development work undertaken by the Arts Team fulfils a wide range of Council and government targets and in particular through improving community cohesion and promoting an enhanced quality of life for local residents as individuals and in group settings.

Council Plan:

- provision of opportunities to engage and consult with local people and communities that would not normally 'have a voice' (Action EP4, IP4)
- engagement of young people in positive activities, including a focus on boys sessions (Action HN5, SC2/3)
- provision of outreach programmes in targeted localities of the District (action HN5, SC2/3, FL2, EP5)
- delivery of programmes and projects that encourage people of all ages to lead healthier lives (SC3, FL3)
- respond to issues of deprivation in the district through providing accessible programmes(FL3)
- delivery of customer focused services which meet the needs and aspirations of the diverse communities of the district (EP5)
- reducing 'fear of crime', through intergenerational work (SC3)

Continued.....

Community Strategy:

- improving people's lives through enabling access for all
- delivering services in order to help people live healthier and more enjoyable lives
- ensuring services for children and young people are directed by the needs of the individual
- encouraging people to improve their physical and mental health through partnership working

CPA and the 'Culture Block':

- strengthening, building sustainable communities
- reduction in social isolation improved social integration/ pride in neighbourhoods
- development of capacities
- vehicles for socially marginalised groups to articulate concerns
- potential to improve employability of people, through increased confidence and specific skills, professional development/transferable skills
- regeneration through involvement, communication and exploring meaning

Partners worked with 2006/07

Hereward Primary

Alderton Junior & Infant

Epping Upland

IC Youth Dance

Limes Farm Infant

Upshire Primary

Mad Movers – dance group

Thomas Willingale Junior

Roding Valley High

West Hatch High

Kofi Agyemang – dance artist

Hip Hop Collective

Flowzaic Dance Co

Hip Hop Dance Co

Barbara Sampson – visual artist

Moreton Primary

Alter Ego Dance Co

Moves & Grooves – dance group

Chipping Ongar Primary

Funksters – dance group

Debden Youth Dance

Debden Park High

Roding Valley High

Holy Cross Junior

King Harold High

St John's High

Parsonage Court

Sherrell House

WRVS

Loughton Cricket Club

Mad Maureen – clown

Juliet Orchart – music artist

Playhouse Theatre – Harlow

Roxane Permar – visual artist

Anne Eggebert – visual artist

Carl Stevenson – visual artist

Emily Jost – visual artist

St Clare's Hospice

Epping Upland CE Primary

Theydon Bois Primary

Roydon Primary

Shelley Primary

Theatre Resource

Matching Green Primary

Jiving Lindy Hoppers

Troika Ranch – dance co

Partners cont....

Roydon Open Garden Day

Theydon Bois Open Garden Day

Theydon Bois Horticultural Society

Budworth Hall

Ashlyns Organic Farm

Honeytree Court

Redbrick Nursery

Matthews Plants

Jubilee Court

Leonard Davis House

Pelly Court

Oakview School

Dino Jacovides – creative writer

Ivy Chimneys Junior

Lambourne Primary

Epping Green Association

Davenant Foundation School

Parish Councils: Loughton, Epping, Chigwell, Buckhurst Hill, Ongar, Bobbingworth & The Lavers, Epping Green /Upland, Stapleford Abbots /Tawney, Moreton, Roydon, North Weald

Essex on Tour

Essex Book Festival

Chigwell Library

Countrycare

Loughton Library

Ongar Library

Epping Library

Buckhurst Hill Library

Debden Library

Metropolitan Police Club

Yolande Chandler – dance artist

Michael Szpakowski – visual/sound artist

Bangers & Mash Theatre Co

Ballet First

Focus – Essex Dance

Youth in Action – Walthamstow

Cambridgeshire Youth Dance Co

Obelon Arts

Claire Levinson – visual artist

Dina Williams – dance artist

Epping Forest College

Epping Youth & Adult Centre

Mark Storer – visual artist

North Weald Library

Waltham Abbey Library

Dance East – Ipswich

Braintree College

Stapleford Abbots Primary

Summary

Epping Forest Arts currently provides a wide range of arts programmes for children, young people, the elderly and those with additional needs

- n 7127 people have taken part in Epping Forest Arts activities in 2006/07 (to date)
- n 6241 of these are children and young people
- n This represents 27% of the district population aged 3- 18 years
- n The following 5 minute DVD demonstrates a typical piece of EFA work, which was undertaken with young people on Limes Farm Estate, Chigwell.