



HQ Arts Update January 2008

In 2007 HQ Arts worked with over 500 young people. HQ Arts delivered work for NCH, the children's charity; Barnardo's Young Families; Connexions, Activity Agreement and Wakefield MDC's Beacon project; Mencap and with the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC).

Autumn 2007

HQ Arts were busy during the autumn months with two new performances and a series of consultation events.



Julie Richardson working with young people CWDC Chelsea FC

Performances

Growing Strong

Was created in response to the NCH “Growing Strong” campaign.

Their first performance took place at the IT industries annual fundraising event, Byte Night, hosted by Ernst and Young at their Headquarters overlooking the Thames.

The second performance was at the Children’s Rights Officers and Advocates (CROA) annual conference in Manchester.

“what I got from the performance was the idea of how strong peer pressure is for good or ill, and negative /positive comments can influence young people.”

“The performance was very funny but also thought provoking. Sometimes we want children and young people to change overnight when we should realise that this is a process, not an event.”

Further performances are scheduled for the spring.

My GY (the Beacon project in North East Lincolnshire)

My Gy was a twelve minute performance with the theme of staying safe in Grimsby. It was created with 17 young people and their support workers and performed at Grimsby Town Hall as part of Youth Work Week celebrations.

The next stage in the process that is to give these young people the opportunity to create an arts event for their peers and act as peer mentors in the creation of another piece of original theatre on the theme of “Labels”

Consultations

Mencap

The HQ Arts team worked alongside Mencap to ask over 60 students at Rumworth School, Bolton what arts activities they were currently involved in and what they would like to do more of in the future. Everyone had a great day and footage shot by young people has

been edited by Immedia and will soon be available to view on our web site [www,hqarts.com](http://www.hqarts.com)

As a follow up from the Arts YAC in Lincolnshire, seven young people were supported to devise and deliver a presentation to council officers about their experience of the arts and what they want their local authority to provide.

A report that includes young people's voices from Lincolnshire and Bolton is available from HQ Arts or Mencap.

CWDC (Children's Workforce Development Council)

The Children's Workforce Development Council support the people who work with children and young people, their parents, families and carers, to do their jobs well.

CWDC wanted children and young people to tell them what they should be doing on their behalf.

HQ Arts were commissioned to plan and deliver two creative consultation events:

"During November, 150 young people came together in Sheffield and London to tell the CWDC what they thought about the people who worked with them..

There was a huge choice of dance, drama, puppetry, video, lyrical poetry and visual arts and the day was really fun and interesting.

The team at HQ Arts were engaging and creative in the methods and helped the young people feel comfortable and supported.

In just 3 hours they produced some fantastic artwork and performance, the content of which is now helping CWDC plan their work based on what's most needed."

Alex Brookes CWDC

What the young people said about the workshops on the day

"I like being here today because I really expressed my feelings by my art work"

"Today I let my voice be heard and I was understood, thank you – great day, exciting and enjoyable."

We also asked the adults who came to support the young people what they thought...

“Much more fun and interactive than expected. Workshops were great.”

“An interactive creative way of working with young people [which] has help[ed] give me some new ideas to try out with other groups”

Footage shot by young people has been edited by Immedia and is now available to view on our web site [www,hqarts.com](http://www.hqarts.com)



Jo Knowles supporting young people's presentations at the CWDC event in London

Coming soon

My GY

HQ Arts will work with young volunteers to design and deliver a Youth Arts Event in Grimsby to launch the next phase of the Beacon project. The Youth Arts Event will take place on 18th April 08.

Access All Areas

The North Yorkshire Beacon project begins in the spring with a performance by young people scheduled for 19th May 08 in Scarborough.

ARTiculation

The 10th annual Youth Arts Weekend will take place at Crewe and Alsager during August '08.

News

Web site re-vamp

New images, updates and a NEW FILM SECTION can be found on the HQ Arts web site following its' recent re-vamp. We hope to add to the film section throughout the year.

Artist in Focus

Watch out for the new "artist in focus" section in our next newsletter.



Associate artist Chris Campbell in action