

Harris Academy At Peckham (HAAP)

Performing Arts Specialism Newsletter

Summer Term 2008 – Issue 1

Introduction

Welcome to the first HAAP Performing Arts specialism termly Newsletter. We intend to keep you updated with the events, activities, news within the academy and in our local community. The performing arts together with the business and enterprise specialisms enable the academy to raise standards in the school, develop community links with schools and other organisations.

Staff Profile

RAY LAU (Curriculum Co-ordinator for

Performing Arts)
Ray is the recently appointed Curriculum Co-ordinator for Performing Arts with responsibility for the developing of the specialism. He oversees the dance, drama, media and music departments at the Academy. Ray holds a Masters degree in Music Education from



Trinity College of Music and plays the recorder, flute, piano, harpsichord, clarinet, saxophone and sings! He has just taken grade 8 in music theatre singing. Ray has taught for a decade in a variety of city comprehensive and independent schools. He is also a practising OFSTED Additional Inspector frequently sent to inspect specialist arts or Sport colleges / schools. Furthermore, he is a BTEC External Verifier for performing arts, a swimming / first aid consultant and one of the Regional Subject Advisers for Key stage 3 music in the London region.

Outstanding student achievements!



Congratulations to our year 11 music and year 13 performing arts students. They have been working very hard over the last few months and have produced outstanding results on their BTEC courses.

Year 11 Music

The following students have been awarded the **Edexcel BTEC Level 2 First Certificate in Music** and we have secured 100% A* to C this summer.

Distinction*	(equivalent to 2 GCSE passes at A*) – Jenny Duong and Fatma Ozer
Distinction	(equivalent to 2 GCSE passes at A) – Stefano Bonku-Ephraim, Kweku Dadzie, Ceylan Munuroglu, Luis Gustavo Navarro, Damiyr Saleem and Alex Torrado
Merit	(equivalent to 2 GCSE passes at B) – Chelsea Abrahams, Jack Evenden, Joshua Moses, Elisha Griffith-Hobby and Deshaun Green-Bascombe
Pass	(equivalent to 2 GCSE passes at C) – Martin Tuffour, Josiah Wilson, Jermaine Haywood, George Mbugua and Isabelle N'Guessan

Year 13 Performing Arts

Congratulations to the year 13 students who have been the **Edexcel Level 3 National Diploma in Performing Arts**. This diploma is worth 3 A Levels and the grades shown in brackets are the equivalent A Level grades.



Michael Grandison (AAA), Amie Mayers (AAA), Mariama Bah (AAA), Shaun Wilson (AAB), Victoria Butler (AAB), Danny Armstrong (ABB) and David Munde (BCC)

Special mention must go to Michael Grandison who achieved 15/17 units at distinction level. Thanks to the performing arts staff of: Linzi Adams, Hannah Fitzgerald, Julia Murrell-Cooper, Ray Lau, Elgar Clayton, Maylene Catchpole and Penny Paraskeva for their hard work with the students.

PERFORMING ARTS CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

We intend to develop this through our staff, school and the community. We are strengthening our links with Oliver Goldsmiths Primary school and Gloucester Primary school. Congratulations to both schools in obtaining their new performing arts status. In addition, we are working collaboratively with Highshore Special School. Congratulations to Highshore on their recent Artsmark Silver accreditation.

Theatre group triumphs at BP's Big screen Festival!



The Academy community theatre group, 'In translation' established last year triumphed in the BP Big screen festival in association with the Royal Opera House competition. A forty second clip produced saw their interpretation of Tybalt's death from 'Romeo and Juliet'. This was chosen as one of three from hundreds of entries. Congratulations to the group and Michael Grandison in particular with a classic action in a swimming pool.

View it on <http://www.youtube.com/bpsummerbigscreens>
Please contact the school to join the group.

The HAAP primary schools' Event

In March 2008, the 'History of Theatre' was staged at the Academy featuring over 120 children from several feeder primary schools. These include Oliver Goldsmiths, Gloucester Road, Ivydale and Hollydale Primary schools. This multi-media production was a high standard received well by parents and friends from the various schools. Thanks to Dawn Pajovic for organising the event.

Preparing for the school musical!



We are currently preparing to host our first whole school production under new management and united performing arts team. Therefore, we have decided to host High School Musical. We are currently scheduling this in December 2008. We had over 70 students audition for the first round demonstrating the talent found the academy in acting, dancing and singing. Information will be available on our production on the website in due course. There will be an afternoon matinee performance for the local community and feeder primary schools. If you are interested in bringing a group, please contact Ray Lau.

MUSIC

International Composer working with Academy students



Dr Dai Fujikura has been in the academy working with our year 11 BTEC music students on an individual basis. He has been very impressed with the quality of the work produced and special mention must go to **Kewku Dadzie** for his outstanding original composition piece. Dai studied at the Trinity College of Music, the Royal College of Music and gained his doctorate in composition at Kings College, London. His compositions are performed all over the world (including at the London Proms!) and also works at the Purcell School, a highly specialised school for extremely talented musicians.

Evening Soirree

On Thursday 27th March 2008, the year 11 BTEC group organised and ran the Evening Soirree as part of their unit 1 assignment. There were musical performances from the year 11 students, wind ensemble, year 8 rock bands and individual vocal performances from Ashley Zola and Renika Palmer in year 9. Well done to all those involved and thanks to all those students, parents, staff members who came to watch the performances.



DANCE

Dance and music interludes for the Jack Petchey Speak out Challenge



Mariama Bah and Michael Grandison



Ashley Zola and Joel Johnson

The borough final of Jack Petchey's Speak Out challenge was held on Thursday 19th June 2008 at the Academy. There was a very high standard of public speakers from the various schools in the borough. We had performances from Ashley Zola and Joel Johnson performing 'Killing me Softly', Alex Almedia (year 8) playing a grade 6 piece on the piano. In addition, Mariama Bah and Michael Grandison performing their excellent jazz duet. Thanks to Elgar Clayton and Hannah Fitzgerald for co-ordinating the night's entertainment.

Students perform at the Mayor of London's Big Dance event

Akademi, a South Asian dance UK company based in London worked with our Year 10 BTEC performing arts students on a Bollywood dance project. This was performed at the scoop for the Mayor of London's annual Big Dance event on Monday 7th July 2008. The piece was also used as an assignment piece as part of the coursework for the BTEC and students did fantastically well in costumes!



Students in rehearsals with Akademi workshop leaders Karin & Jade



An evening of BTEC dance & drama

Thursday 26th June 2008 saw our vast BTEC talent at the Evening of dance and drama. The year 10 BTEC performing arts group gave dance performances in the styles of tango and bollywood. They also performed their drama pieces created by the groups themselves. The year 13 BTEC performing arts group gave three distinctive interpretation of duet jazz dances and two contemporary pieces. Well done to Hannah Fitzgerald and Linzi Adams for organising the event and assisted by Ray Lau and Elgar Clayton.



DRAMA

Blood Brothers

The year 12 / 13 BTEC Performing arts group in February 2008 hosted their version of the Blood Brothers as part of their BTEC Music Theatre module. Congratulations to Mariama Bah, Shaun Wilson, Danny Armstrong, Vicky Butler, Deron Kerr, Amie Mayers, David Munde, Michael Grandison and Bryan Melgar on their excellent performances. Thanks to the director, Linzi Adams and Musical Director, Elgar Clayton and the instrumental teachers who formed the band.



Rose Bruford experts visits the Academy

Julian Bryant and a scratch poet from Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama delivered a workshop Years 10, 11 & sixth form on how to make a career on performing arts. Students were excited and developed their aspirations within performing arts industry, rehearsed on an audition technique and made mini movies on mobile phones.



Stage fighting in action!



A number of years 8 – 13 students got treated on Mon 7th July during Activities week to a taster stage fighting workshop. The experts, Sam Khan and assistant ably led the sessions on unarmed combat. This consisted of punching, kicking, slapping, blocking each other's moves. This is in preparation for those students over 14 years interested in doing the British Academy of Screen and Stage Combat Junior Grade award qualification next term. This version is on the step to what the professional actors and stunt people go through in gaining a qualification in this field!



Scheduled Events 2008/09

Autumn Concert
Thu 27 Nov 2008

High School Musical production
Wed 10 & Thu 11 Dec 2008

Spring BTEC Soirree
Thu 5 Feb 2009

PA Community Showcase
Thu 26 Feb 2009

Sixth form production
Wed 18 & Thu 19 Mar 2009

Evening of dance & drama
Wed 01 Jul 2009

Summer Concert
Thu 02 Jul 2009

Carnival Themed week
w/c Mon 06 Jul 2009



The Performing Arts specialism journey

Our aim: To raise the profile of the Performing Arts across the school and within our local community

The main performing arts subjects that form the specialism are dance, drama and music.

There are plans to:

- introduce BTEC National Award courses in Music & Music technology (including to study DJ!) at the Academy sixth form from September 2008;
- expand our instrumental programme, develop DJ & music technology and run workshops;
- introduce Capoeira, Bollywood, street dance and cheerleading workshops in dance;
- run stage fighting, special effect make up, masks, voice projection workshops in drama;
- work with the London Gospel Community Choir, STOMP, setting up our own youth dance company and a school radio station. There are lots of exciting developments! Watch this space!
- link with the Harris Federation academies and the Royal Opera House which Ray Lau is the lead person for this project. The RoH 'Chance to dance' project is already established at the Academy enables local feeder primary schools to be taught Ballet on Tuesdays;
- run a number of staff initiatives to improve teaching and learning within the school.

Contacts

If you have any questions or enquiries about:

Performing arts specialism, contact **Ray Lau**
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Music, contact **Elgar Clayton**
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Dance, contact **Hannah Fitzgerald**
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Drama, contact **Linzi Adams**
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