

Harris Academy At Peckham (HAAP) Performing Arts Specialism Newsletter Autumn Term 2008 – Issue 2

Editor: Ray Lau & Co-editor: Danny Patterson 8CLI

Editor's report



Welcome to our second issue. This term has been very busy. We welcome Sarah Oladele, temporarily covering maternity leave. She

is a drama and dance specialist. Penny Parakseva returns back from her maternity leave. In music, we welcome James Kirsch (guitar), Mike Freeman (piano and keyboard) and Ryan Dawson (singing) to our instrumental staff. Tiffany Berton, a singing specialist is supporting High School Musical vocals. In addition, we have appointed Dawn Pajovic as a part time community teacher of drama specialising working with the community.



We contributed to the Awards Evening with an excellent performance from Jerdy Santos, year 10 singing Faith Hill's 'There'll you be, an audience-pleasing and gripping 'stage fighting' excerpt from Excalibur by Andrew O'Shaughnessy and

Luciano Chungong year 12 BTEC performing arts students. A year 10 BTEC ballet dance performance was given by Whitney Ashbourne, Katie Willoughby, Alfred De



Souza and Luke Howard to Swan Lake. In addition, we hosted the Autumn Evening Soirree.

Ray Lau contributed to the Harris Federation Teaching & Learning INSET. In addition, we have prepared for a pre-OFSTED visit,

**HIGH
SCHOOL
MUSICAL**

completed the Artsmark re-accreditation application form and are now preparing for High School Musical.

Our arts mission statement

To **inspire** the students and the **community** uniting them **together**. We endeavour to develop people's creativity and passion to **explore** the arts. The journey will develop people's **voice**, **teamwork**, **responsibility**, and **independent** skills enabling all including the **youth** to perform and prepare for the world of work.

Pre-OFSTED review

In November 2008 we had a recent whole school audit and performing arts were one of the key areas of focus. The following extract is taken from the visit. The inspectors reported that:

"The overall effectiveness of performing arts is good and improving. Achievement across performing arts is good. It is outstanding in Music and Media at Key Stage 4. At Key Stage 5 standards in Performing Arts BTEC Nationals are very good. Students have positive attitudes to learning. They actively enjoy their work in performing arts and have an energetic appetite for learning. Students take an active role within the community through a range of performance events, shows and concerts. The quality of teaching is good with some outstanding elements. Peripatetic lessons strengthen the department. Extra-curricular provision is outstanding with students having the chance to participate in a range of over 20 different of groups, productions and clubs. Provision for gifted and talented students in Year 9 is good."

We are addressing areas identified and are striving towards an overall effectiveness of outstanding.

Michael Grandison,
Performing Arts
enrichment facilitator



Staff Profile

Michael is an ex-Peckham student having completed his BTEC National Diploma in Performing Arts graduating in 2008. He received 15 out of 18 units at distinction level and specialises in dance and drama. He is having a gap year before going to university next year. Michael is our performing arts enrichment facilitator on a temporary basis. He provides support to specialist performing arts lessons runs the drama group, dance group, supports High School Musical rehearsals and our community outreach work.

PERFORMING ARTS CONNECTING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Partnerships

We are working in Middlesex University and the Royal Academy of Dance hosting teachers as part of their Post Graduate Certificate of Education programmes across art, dance, drama and music. In addition, we also work have been working closely with Peckham Shed on a drama collaboration project. Within dance, we continue to work with Akademi and Nzinga dance companies to provide workshops to our students. Zoo Nation who hosted the West End production of 'Into the Hoods' will be coming to do a series of Hip Hop workshops. In music, we are liaising with Stomp and the London Backbeat Orchestra to create a series of workshops.

Arts Award success!



The Arts Award is a national qualification which supports young people to develop as artists and arts leaders. Young people aged between 11 - 25 can achieve Arts Awards at levels 1, 2 and 3 on the national qualifications framework. There are three levels; bronze, silver and gold. Each level increases the knowledge and skill development of the art forms and the leadership skills required. Congratulations to the 20 students who were successful at Silver level which is worth a GCSE grades A* to C using media as their art forms. Ed Bussett, Subject leader for Media.

Performing Arts Student Committee

This term sees the inaugural launch of the Performing arts student committee. The purpose is to shape the performing arts taking an 'active' role within the academy and how we can benefit the community. They are allocated a budget and work with the teaching team.

Year 13 – Bryan Melgar, Year 12 – Chelsea Abrahams and Stefano Bonku, Year 11 – Jade Munns and Joel Johnson, Year 10 – Jerdy Santos and Alfred DeSouza, Year 9 – James Beattie, Year 8 – Rainie Clandfield Year 7 – Nikola Wereszczynska (Who also represents us as one of the student ambassador for the Academy). Bryan Melgar, BTEC Performing Arts .

PERFORMING ARTS CONNECTING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Drama success

Last year, we had 100% success with LAMDA examinations. 48 students obtained distinctions in their outstanding performances. This involved some of our feeder school students at Gloucester Primary school and Oliver Goldsmiths Primary school. Congratulations to the students and to Dawn Pajovic for their hard work.

Outreach Community Work

This term I have been busy in the community working with two of our feeder schools, Oliver Goldsmith and Gloucester. Both schools are embracing a creative curriculum, and as such I have been introducing 'learning through Drama' with a variety of workshops with different year groups. The Academy's in house theatre company, 'In Translation' continues to go from strength to strength with growing numbers and two very exciting projects are in the pipeline for next term. Workshops with the BBC and a short film entry to a BBC Blast competition! This term we will be performing a pantomime to our feeder primary schools. Dawn Pajovic, Community teacher of drama

Voice protection and projection workshops



Christine Berg

We are hosting a voice protection and projection workshops for the school and members of the local community. A small but committed group have been working with Christine Berg. She holds a Masters degree from the Central School of Speech and Drama specialising in Vocal studies. Christine is a vocal communication coach and also provides workshops to our BTEC drama and performing arts students. These protection and projection workshops are a series of after school twilights that started on Mon 3rd November 2008. The sessions so far attended have been interesting and enabled to discover how body alignment, breath, posture, gestures, resonance are vital for the better projection of voice. There will be another series of workshops starting from Jan 2009 for members of the community to participate.

MUSIC

Autumn Evening Soirree

In the evening of the 4th December 2008, the year 11 BTEC music group hosted the Evening Soirree in the school hall. The organisation, promotion and overall running were all done by the students and fulfil the coursework requirements. There were a variety of dance, drama and musical items across the performing arts faculty. We drew a good crowd of fellow students, teachers and parents who seemed to enjoy the evening's entertainment. This was a 'dry run' for the main concert next term. We learned much on the evening and already identified areas we can improve on for the next event. Keep your eyes peeled for the promotion of our next Soirree and I hope you can join us. Thanks to Dujgui Diabate and Tom Singh for their technical expertise. Lisa To (11ECL) and Rhys Robotham (11VNA) BTEC Music students



DANCE

Bollywood! Working with Akademi



In November 2008, a class of year eight students participated in an Indian Bollywood dance workshop led by Ash from Akademi Dance. The Bollywood piece had moving and grooving to a fast beat, combining classical Indian dance steps fused with modern jazz and hip hop. Students enthusiastically met the challenging opportunity to engage with a new form of dance and expressed their thanks and appreciation to Ash and Akademi Dance! This followed the success of our partnership with Akademi in the Summer where our then year 10 BTEC class performed at the Lord Mayor's dance festival. Hannah Fitzgerald, teacher of dance.

African dance workshop - Nzinga dance organisation

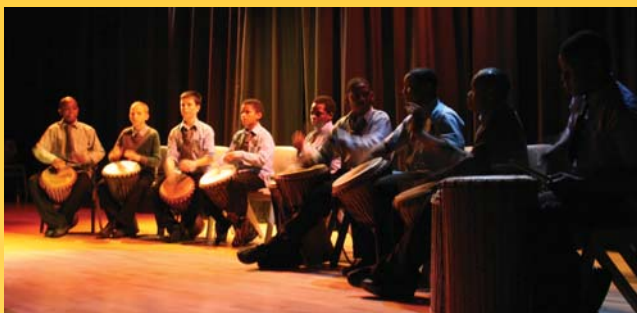
In November 2008, Nzinga Dance Company came to the Academy to deliver a dance workshop in a Ghanaian style of African Dance. The workshop was taught to a group of year 8 and year 11 students by Deanna De Souza and accompanied by her live drummer. The students developed an understanding of how important the relationship between the music and dance is. The students learned a set dance, which they performed to each other at the end of each session. The structure of the dance was determined by set musical cues, which was an excellent way of developing the students listening skills. They thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and inspired by the tutor from Nzinga dance so much that demanded that she come and work with them again! Alicia Kleity, PGCE Teacher of dance

Michael Grandison dance group

Michael Grandison has recently set up his own dance group as afterschool on a Wednesday 4.-5.30pm. He delivers a session that focuses on a street dance and Contemporary dance fusion. The club has attracted a huge



amount of interest. His sessions are fun, and have also started to provide the students with opportunities to perform. Recently Michael choreographed a dance piece which as performed at the Performing Arts Evening Soiree. The piece was performed and received very well. Performing is an excellent way to develop the students self-esteem, confidence and team-building skills.



Music Technology & DJ Investment in the Sixth Form

A first for the academy college history, we are completing the BTEC National Award in Music and Music Technology in the sixth form. It has been a great success so far and the performing arts faculty has invested considerable money. We now have 6 PC computers with Cubase 4, Reason 4 & Sibelius 5. There is a new recording studio with a variety of microphones, an electric drum kit and sets of CD and Vinyl DJ Decks. We are certainly enjoying using the equipment to create our own pieces and record each others' work. George Lewis & Stefano Bonku year 12 BTEC Music students

The Winter of Concert

We have been working in collaboration with Highshore School producing a combined choir for the Christmas concert at the Globe Theatre. This was held on Thursday 11th December 2008 as part of the Southwark Schools' Winter of Concert celebration of languages. Students had to learn two contrasting songs performing this acapella (unaccompanied) in three part harmony. They rose to the occasion and performed exceedingly well. Congratulations to both schools for working together. Elgar Clayton, Subject Leader for Music

DRAMA

Certified Junior Award Stage Fighting holders

The British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat (BASSC) Junior Grade award course was run over a three day residency over the October half term and two days the week after held with experts, Sam Khan and his assistant Kiera. This involved unarmed combat from kicking, punching to throat holding to armed combat using swords! Congratulations to the following who passed the award with silver: Kieran Langman, Jade Munns (year 11), Andrew O'Shaughnessy (year 12), Luciano Chungong, Alex Torrado, Michael Grandison & Richard Rumble who passed with gold!

"I chose to do stage fighting in school because I thought it would be a good experience and also it would be a valid qualification because I would like to go into acting as a career. I was learning with other year 11 and sixth form students. The people teaching us (Sam and Kiera) were very down to earth which made it, in my opinion much easier to learn. Some of the unarmed combat (for example strangling from behind) was a lot easier than learning than the moves in armed combat (different positions of the swords) but it was all fun to do! (Including playing with the swords)"

Richard Rumble, year 12 - BASSC Junior Grade Gold Award holder



Dr Harold Moody – Black History project with Peckham Shed

Peckham Shed has been working with us in a funded project by Southwark Council on a project featuring a famous local black person, Dr Harold Moody as part of Black History month in October 2008. A play was constructed and Samson Adeduntan, Ayomide Noble, Michael Colvill, Linford Young, Nathaniel Danderson, Coner Masters, Jordan Simmons and Mohammed Ismail took part as the actors. They also toured around the local primary schools. The project has been recognised as an excellent community cohesion project by the council and was recently assessed as a possible example of local excellent practice by the Department for culture, media and sport. Thanks to Lucy Bradley from Peckham Shed for co-ordinating the project.
Linzi Adams, Teacher of drama

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Scheduled Events 2008/09

HSM production

Tue 27 Jan 2009 (6pm start) & Thu 29 Jan 2009 (6pm start)

Performing Arts Community Showcase

Thu 26 Feb 2009 (6pm)

BTEC Spring Soirree

Thu 12 Mar 2009 (5pm)

Sixth form production TBC

Carnival Themed week

w/c Mon 06 Jul 2009

An evening of dance & drama

Wed 08 Jul 2009

Summer Concert

Thu 09 Jul 2009

Contacts

If you have any questions or enquiries, please contact:

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