

*artsinfo

The quarterly newsletter for Slough's growing arts community

Inside this issue:

>> New singing lessons >> 3

>> Changes to the artists directory >> 5

>> New enterprise hub up and running >> 7

Doing it in the Street!

Are you interested in learning to develop street arts work? Slough Arts Alive! is offering the opportunity for Slough artists, creative practitioners and community group leaders to learn more about street arts work, through a series of masterclasses.

Red Earth

This masterclass is an introduction to street arts: what it is and how to do it. It is aimed at people interested in creating outdoor events and collaborating with other artists.

This experimental four-day workshop will explore the conceptual and practical implications involved in creating a street-based performance.

With a mixture of discussion, interaction and hands-on practical exercises the sessions aim to give participants a fuller understanding of the practicalities of devising a street performance. The second half of the workshop will focus on creating a short collaborative street performance.

Desperate Men

This masterclass will take a practical look at street arts and the devising and development of street arts performance. The sessions will include games, exercises, discussions and creation of performances.

Sessions include: an introduction to street arts, practical performance skills and techniques, devising and improvisation and the golden rules that apply to working on the street. Work will be created throughout the four days and one performance will be presented on the street.

These two masterclasses will take place at the same time, in different venues. These details are to be confirmed shortly. To take part you need to live or work in Slough. If you applied for a place last year on these masterclasses, you will need to book a place again.

Funded by Arts Council England, South East. You are expected to attend all four days and places are limited. To book a place contact Rob Eagles at Zap Art on 01273 821588.



Local Arts

*artsinfo

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*artsinfo

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Tell us your news!

What's happening in your area?
Send articles, news stories and
pictures to artsinfo@slough.gov.uk

Title photo:

Mouth & Trousers at Arts Alive 2002

Photographer: Words & Pictures

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*artsinfo is published four times a year and is free of charge. The publication aims to raise the profile of the arts, artists and creative industries in Slough.

To receive a regular copy, please
call: 01753 875667
minicom: 01753 875030
email: artsinfo@slough.gov.uk

Articles and pictures for inclusion in the next *artsinfo must be submitted by 2 April 2004.

While every care is taken with submitted material, the editor regrets that no responsibility can be taken for material that is lost or damaged. The views expressed in *artsinfo do not necessarily reflect official council policy. The editor would like to thank everyone who has submitted articles for inclusion in *artsinfo.

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

Schools brighten Burnham Beeches

Over 400 children from schools in Slough and South Bucks celebrated the ancient trees at Burnham Beeches. They took part in the Corporation of London's third annual Tree Dressing Event in December 2003. Slough schools taking part in this year's event were Slough Grammar, Slough and Eton, Langley Grammar, Priory, William Penn and Lea Infant.

The event was initiated in 1990 by an organisation called Common Ground to encourage the celebration of trees. It brings together the ideas and traditions from many different cultures from all around the world.

Art workshops with local artist Sarah Worthington were held in a number of schools throughout November, in partnership with Slough Education Action Zone. At the start of December schools participated in two days of Tree Dressing activities at Burnham Beeches. A nature walk and storytelling was included for younger

students and a public day on the 7 December attracted over 1000 visitors. The range and quality of the schools artwork was exciting with visitors delighted by a spectacular show of form and colour.

For further information contact Anne Brown at ramblercot@aol.com



>> *Artwork from Slough schools on show at Burnham Beeches*

Slough Museum 'Making History' 10 December - 28 February 2004

'Making History' exhibits the results of a project between five local schools (Baylis Court School, Langleywood School, St Bernard's Convent School, St Mary's Primary School and Wexham Court Primary School) and Slough Museum, Reading Museum, BASA (Black & Asian Studies Association), SWIPE (Slough West Indian Peoples' Enterprise), independent artists and Slough Creative Partnerships.

The 'Making History' project was a cross-generational community history project that saw local children interview Slough residents and then video drama productions based on the information collected from these interviews. The exhibition includes written and spoken information (listening posts) from the interviews, loan boxes and a 'mini cinema'. Themes include childhood, school days, wedding days and festivals.

The loan box project by Reading Museum and Slough Museum included object-handling workshops and saw the creation of ten loan boxes containing real Slough Museum objects. They will be administered by Reading Museum Service and can be booked from April 2004 by contacting 0118 939 9888 or visiting www.readingmuseum.org.uk.

For further information contact Slough Museum on 01753 526422 or email info@sloughmuseum.co.uk or visit www.sloughmuseum.co.uk

Local dance company open to new members

Fusion Dance Company is a young community dance group, which specialises in jazz and contemporary dance styles. Workshops also include Pilates, dance and performance technique, physical theatre and choreography.

Following the success of 'Bubbling', a project based on self-image in which Fusion worked with different schools around Slough towards a performance at the Windsor Arts Centre, Fusion is now preparing new performances.

The group is based at Slough Young People's Centre and meets on Tuesdays from 6.00-9.00pm. Workshops are free of charge.

If you are aged between 16-30 yrs old, enjoy dancing and would like more information, please contact George or Emma on 07949 693589, call in at Slough Young People's Centre, 323 High Street, Slough SL1 1TX or visit www.fusiondancecompany.co.uk

Local focus



>> Fusion in action

Memories about local businesses required

STEAM (Slough Town Employment Action Movement) are planning another exhibition at Slough Museum in September 2004. In May 2003, STEAM researched and organised an exhibition about working life on the Trading Estate in the 1920s and 1930s. This well received exhibition created much interest from visitors and STEAM have been encouraged to organise another exhibition. This time contents will include businesses not on the Estate, such as Horlicks, ICI, Elliman's Embrocation, the Admiralty Compass Observatory and many more.

If you have memories of, or information on, businesses in the Slough area, up to the 1950s and know what has happened to them between now and then, please contact Richard Hall on 01753 573521.

Sound Singing

Learning singing and recording techniques

Sound Singing is an exciting new music project for young people aged 12-16yrs old, who live in Slough and its surrounding areas, funded by Awards for All.

Sound Singing is a series of singing and recording workshops, which will be held at Rotunda Youth Centre, Slough. The centre has a rehearsal room and recording studio, where sound engineering workshops are already held. You don't need to have previous experience in singing or recording, just a great enthusiasm for it. We will be singing and producing different styles of music, from covers to original tracks depending on student demand.

Gloria Garcia is teaching singing technique, with two assistants, Marisa and Charlotte Bharjward. Sound engineer, Amit Kamboj, will manage the recording process.

Workshops are free of charge and will be held on Wednesdays from 6.30-8.30pm, starting on 4 Feb 2004.

If you would like to learn or improve your singing technique, increase your repertoire, meet people with similar interests or gain more experience of singing in a recording studio, book a place on this exciting project by contacting Gloria Garcia on 07969 024473 or email gloriagp2000@yahoo.com.

Join the Slough Arts Development marketing list

Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we are required to gain your 'informed consent' to add your name and details on to our marketing list.

*We would like you to join this list so that we can send you **★artsinfo** and information about funding programmes/events/performances/workshops and training organised by Slough Arts Development, other Slough Borough Council departments, other local or regional community/arts/education organisations we think are relevant.*

We will also use the information we will hold to assist towards statistics used to promote the Arts.



Photographer: Parminder Kahlon

>> Sody Singh Kahlon

What is decibel?

The Arts Council of England has developed decibel as a short-term project with a long-term impact. Through activities and extensive campaigning, decibel intends to challenge the existing arts landscape and create change so that the arts truly reflect contemporary British society.

decibel is raising the voice of culturally diverse arts in Britain and in the South East Region.

How long is decibel around?

decibel began in September 2003 and runs until September 2004.

What's happening in our region, the South East?

decibel in the South East and across the regions is building a voice, accessing funds and creating opportunities for artists now and in the future. In the South East, decibel is building these bridges through promotion, debates, networks, training and capacity building. It will also increase access to funding opportunities.

How can we find out more?

decibel, South East in partnership with local authorities are setting up roadshows around the region, with the opportunity for artists, arts organisations, venues, programmers and community arts organisations to come together for dialogue, networking and debate. One of these all-day roadshows is taking place in Slough on 24 March 2004.

The event will provide the opportunity to talk about work and practice and

also find out more about how Arts Council England, South East and decibel can help with skills development and funding advice.

An important part of the day will be a critical debate around three fundamental questions to facilitate discussion. The questions are:

1. What are your challenges?
2. What practical steps can you take to overcome these?
3. What would help you?

The Slough roadshow is free. There will also be refreshments and food served at each event. If you require further information or to book your free place on this decibel roadshow, please contact Catherine Lucktaylor, decibel Assistant on 01273 763030.

The decibel team is:

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Sovereign House, Church Street,
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T: 0800 300 6200
F: 0870 242 1257
E: southeast@artscouncil.org.uk

You can also find more information on the decibel website www.decibel-db.org or the Arts Council England's website www.artscouncil.org.uk.

Marketing List - entry form

Please complete in CAPITAL letters

First Name

Surname

Position (if applicable)

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Postcode

Tel No

Fax No

Email

Website

Professional Artist Voluntary Artist

Professional Arts Org Voluntary Arts Org

How would you like to receive information from us:

Post email

Please tick the box if you would like us to share your details with other relevant organisations as detailed overleaf.

Please return the marketing card to: **Arts Development, Slough Borough Council, FREEPOST (SCE 8944), SLOUGH, SL1 3BR**

Artists' Directory about to change

Arts Development's Artists' Directory is about to change. Due to the development of **★artsinfo** online we are pleased to announce that the Artists' Directory will be managed through the website.

The Directory is a growing resource that provides information about professional artists' and arts organisations' that have experience in participatory arts. It links arts practitioners with project opportunities and is the direct route for local groups to find an arts practitioner to work with on projects. It is also a tool for Arts Development to contact artists about their work, training and opportunities.

Who will use the directory?

Currently community groups, voluntary organisations, schools, youth clubs, artists, arts organisations, local authorities, museums, libraries and local businesses use the directory. We hope that putting it online will increase the number of users, and the amount of work artists are being offered.

Who can join the directory?

Any professional artist, creative professional or arts organisation that delivers participatory arts work, living in or interested in working in Slough can submit their details for inclusion on the directory.

Benefits

Registering on the Directory of professional artists and arts organisations entitles you to:

- >> submit information about your practice and profile your work
- >> input and select the information that you would like to be published online
- >> update your information when you require
- >> receive relevant information about funding programmes, events, performances, workshops, training and new opportunities relating to the arts
- >> browse the artists' directory to select creative practitioners to work with you

- >> be part of a searchable directory enabling people to find your work

- >> receive **★artsinfo** newsletter

Using the Directory of professional artists and arts organisations enables you to:

- >> search for artists and arts organisations by artform and client group
- >> view profiles of artists and arts organisations so that you can make an informed choice
- >> instantly see contact details for artists you are interested in approaching

All artists who are currently on the directory will need to register online, so that you can register with up-to-date information. To register visit **★artsinfo** online from 24 Feb 2004.

For further information about the Artists' Directory contact artsinfo@slough.gov.uk

New celebratory publication

Arts Development, Slough Borough Council are celebrating 10 years of the popular Community Arts Training in Slough (CATS - see page 6). To celebrate we are planning some research and a publication about past participants of the course and how the course has supported or changed the work they do. The publication will be distributed widely around the country and used to profile the fantastic arts work taking place in Slough.

Arts Development would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in being

involved in the publication and who would like to be interviewed for the research part of this project. As there is a limited number of people we can include in the publication, inclusion will be decided once the research has been completed. All of the people involved in the research will have the opportunity to have their story published on **★artsinfo** online.

If you would like to tell your story and be part of this project please email artsinfo@slough.gov.uk.



>> Participant from CATS for teachers

Local News

New staff and new projects at Slough Museum

Slough Museum is delighted to announce that over the past three months three new members of staff have joined the museum team to deliver exciting new projects to improve the museum's service to the public.

Elias Kupfermann and Arthur Saunders have been set the task of digitising Slough Museum's collection of 13,000 objects and photographs with the aim installing a computer terminal in the museum's permanent exhibition space. Accessible to visitors, the searchable database will help them find out about items in the collection.

A new project, Creative Collections, funded mainly by Creative Partnerships will be delivered by a new Creative Co-ordinator, Carline Gumbs. She will co-ordinate and run the project, building on the museum as

a centre of creativity, inspiration, learning and enjoyment.

For further information contact Slough Museum on 01753 526422 or info@sloughmuseum.co.uk

Resource Productions win award

Dominique Oliver of Resource Productions, Slough has won a BBC Skillset Millennium Award for Community Video Production.

As part of this award Dominique attended two weeks of camera training at the BBC Training Centre in Marylebone. Working alongside professional crew and editors she produced a pilot of the documentary proposal, 'In the Mix', that won her the award.

As someone who is herself from a mixed cultural background, Dominique aims to produce a half hour documentary that gives people an

insight into the way people of mixed heritage feel about their identity.

As cultural tradition and heritage is often strongly reflected in the food a person eats, likes or dislikes, Dom decided to film her interviewees cooking a meal of their choice, before interviewing them about how this food reflected their own cultural heritage.

Dom is looking for locals interested in being interviewed by her. You would be required to give up four hours (at a time that suits you) to allow Dom into your kitchen to film you cook a simple dish and interview you. Expenses and all food will be paid for.

The completed film will be screened later this year at BAFTA, to heads of industry including Greg Dyke, Director General of the BBC.

For further information contact Dominique Oliver on 0771 597 5914 or dom.oliver@virgin.net

Training

Community Arts Training in Slough

This practical training course aims to equip participants with the skills needed to set up and run arts projects in the community. CATS is a free four day training course for people living or working in Slough. It offers the knowledge and skills of expert trainers and has attracted national interest. The course will take place at the Learning Resources Centre, Thames Valley University, Slough on 5-6 & 12-13 March 2004 from 9.30am-4.30pm.

For further information contact Arts Development on 01753 875517.

Slough Council for Voluntary Services

Further training in 2004:

17 Feb	Looking after your groups money
24 Feb	Budgeting and financial planning for projects
3 Mar	Introduction to Payroll
11 Mar	Dealing with the Media
22 April	Application Management
6 May	Legal responsibilities of voluntary organisations

For more information contact training@sloughcvs.org.uk

all ways Learning Fair

A one-day event with a wealth of ideas and information on learning and development - for everyone involved in arts management. This year it is bigger than ever with high profile guest speakers, information stalls, a range of seminars, 'one-to-one' development sessions and round table discussions. The fair will take place on 4 March 2004 from 11.00am -4.00pm at Reading town hall.

For further information contact learningfair2004@yahoo.co.uk or 07766 900795

Let's celebrate!

After last year's successful Mayor of Slough's Annual Arts Awards, we are pleased to announce their return on Thursday 29 April 2004. 2003 saw an increase in attendance and nominations, creating more networking opportunities and a real sense of occasion and celebration.

The Arts Awards are an opportunity to recognise the individuals and organisations that offer their creative skills for the cultural life of the community. The Awards celebrate the arts in Slough, recognising those who have extended people's involvement and participation in the arts, and the depth of creative talent to which Slough is host.

There are six different awards for which individuals or groups can be nominated. Why not ask people to



Brian Tollington

>> *Care Promotions
Arts Group of the Year 2003*

nominate you for the arts work you have been undertaking from April 2003-March 2004?

For a nomination form please contact Arts Development on 01753 875517.

*Once completed return the form to FREEPOST, SCE 8944 Mayor of Slough Arts Nominations, Slough Borough Council, Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough SL1 3BR. Closing date is **20 Feb 2004**.*

Enterprise Hub open and seeking residents

Thames Valley University, Wellington Street, Slough

The Slough Enterprise Hub is a new business incubator offering open plan 'hatchery' style space to early stage companies in the new media and creative industries field. The Enterprise Hub aims to help those companies get off the ground successfully by providing an environment that supports and encourages their growth. The Hub works with a range of partners that can provide support on topics such as business planning and access to finance.

The Hub, based in the Paul Hamlyn Learning Resource Centre within the Slough campus, offers about 3,500 sq. ft of flexible workspace on an easy-in, easy-out basis. Rental charges as at November 2003 are as follows:

Year 1: £12.50 per sq. ft per annum (+ VAT)

Year 2: £15.00 (+ VAT)

Year 3: £18.75 (+ VAT)

Companies will be expected to move out and into 2nd stage

accommodation after year 3.

Before moving into the Hub, the company will provide a copy of their business plan to the Hub Director and this will form the basis for a discussion to decide if the Hub is suitable for the company and if the company is suited to the Hub.

Slough Enterprise Hub is led by Thames Valley University in Partnership with Slough Borough Council, and is part of the SEEDA (South East England Development Agency) network of Hubs across the South East. Slough has a major focus in supporting and encouraging growth in the new media and creative industries sector through a number of initiatives, such as the Hub, linked to the Heart of Slough project.

For further information contact the Slough Enterprise Hub Director, Ann Johnstone on 01753 697815 or email ann.johnstone@tvu.ac.uk

Arbourvale Update

Arbourvale is a step nearer to becoming a resource for everyone in Slough. Austin Nicholas has been appointed to plan a two-week soft launch in spring, programming events and celebrations of local and professional work.

Austin is looking for anyone locally who would like to be involved in the celebratory opening programme, whether to showcase their work, volunteer to help in managing the building or have ideas of what Slough residents would like to see. All artforms are welcome. Watch this space for further developments.

If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Austin on 07947 866133.

Local Digital Artists install pieces on High Street

Resource Productions, based in Slough, received funding from Arts Council England to commission four pieces of digital art on the theme of 'The Changing Face of Slough High Street' for the window of Slough Museum.

The four artists commissioned were Dominique Oliver of Slough, Austin Nicholas of Burnham, Tom Law of Maidenhead and Tina Palmer of Windsor.

The artists used Slough Museum's photographic archive as inspiration and worked alongside volunteers from Slough Young People's Centre in order to realise their final pieces.

The four pieces were created using digital photography, moving image and computer manipulation. They were displayed in Slough Museum's window, during January 2004.

What's happening?

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
February				
10 Dec - 28 Feb	Museum opening hrs	Slough Museum - 'Making History'	Slough Museum	01753 526422
2	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Write Night - Children Genre	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
4	7.30pm	Slough Art Society - Your Impressions of Rainy, Windy February	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
9	5.30-6.30pm	Unlocking Funding - seminar from Heritage Lottery Fund	Slough Tennis Centre	01753 875517
9	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Discussion	Venue tbc	01628 661725
10	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Russian Ark	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
16	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Craft - Comic Verse	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
10	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Le Fils	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
18	7.30pm	Slough Art Society - Demonstration by Huw Davies in Charcoal, followed by a workshop.	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
18	8.00pm	Slough Writer's Group - Committee Meeting	Venue tbc	01628 661725
23	Ongoing	*artsinfo online launched	On the world wide web	01753 875667
23	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Guest Speaker	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
24	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - In This World	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
March				
1	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
2	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Nine Queens	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
3	7.30pm	Slough Art Society A.G.M	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
4	11.00am-4.00pm	all ways Learning Fair	Reading town hall	07766 900795
5-6 & 12-14	9.30am-4.30pm	Community Arts Training in Slough 2004	Learning Resources Centre, Thames Valley University	01753 875517
8	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Discussion - Our Big Read	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
9	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - 8 Mile	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
11 Mar - 17 April	Museum opening hrs	Slough Museum - 'Forty Eight' The Annual Slough Schools Art Exhibition	Slough Museum	01753 526422
15	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Write Night - Dada Poetry	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
16	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - The Clay Bird	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
17	7.30pm	Slough Art Society - Portrait painting	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
22	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
23	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Dirty Pretty Things	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
24	11am-5pm	Decibel Roadshow	Venue tbc	01273 763030
29	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Story Comp	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
30	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Chihwaseon	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
April				
6	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Far From Heaven	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
7	7.30pm	Slough Art Society - Criticism by Claude Charles	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
13	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Lilya 4-Ever	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
19	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group - Start of Summer Session	The Greyhound Skittle Alley, Eton Wick	01628 661725
20	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Spring Time in a Small Time	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
21	7.30pm	Slough Art Society - Parisian Scene	Red Cross HQ at Upton Hospital	01753 532678
27	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society - Abouna	UGC, Slough	01784 434868
29	7.00-9.00pm	Mayors Arts Awards	Council Chamber	01753 875667

Arts Development - supporting the arts in Slough

Arts Development, Slough Borough Council, works in partnership with local people to provide the following services for arts organisations, community groups, individuals and artists, living or working in Slough.

>> **Advice and support**

>> **Resources**

>> **Training**

>> **Publications**

>> **Directory of Artists**

>> **Public Art Programme**

Let us know your arts news on: artsinfo@slough.gov.uk