

*artsinfo

The newsletter for Slough's growing arts community

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artsinslough.org.uk, a helping hand for the arts in Slough

www.artsinslough.org.uk, which has been providing information and opportunities for the arts in Slough for the last two years, is about to get a makeover. This is a result of a large scale project to redevelop the site and make it more user friendly. The updated website will be simpler to navigate, easier to read and bursting with arts information.

If you have an activity, vacancy, or any opportunity for the arts in Slough you will be able to put a note on the virtual pinboard and reach an online audience 24 hours a day. There will also be a step by step guide to project planning with templates and resources in the Art & People toolkit. There is also the opportunity to be inspired by projects and people working in Slough, who are profiled in the new Limelight section. The website will also have a newly designed

homepage, which will act as a gateway to the site, enabling you to find exactly what you are looking for as quickly as possible.

The updated website is a direct response to comments and in-depth research with artists and project organisers working in Slough. The site has been tailored to the particular needs of the community with an emphasis on giving artists and groups the tools they need to make their own projects a success. Assistant Arts Development Officer Louise O'Dwyer, who is responsible for developing the website said:

'The website has gone from strength to strength over the last year and we hope it will become the gateway to support for the arts in Slough. We have tried to make the site as accessible and as useful as possible.'

Local Arts

*artsinfo

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*artsinfo

Arts Development

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01753 477176

www.artsinslough.org.uk

Tell us your news!

What's happening in your area?

Send in your articles, news stories
and pictures to

artsinfo@slough.gov.uk

Creative Learning Outdoors

An outdoor cinema, site specific theatre and a navigation trail. Where? At Langley Park. Creative Partnerships Slough is supporting an exciting new project exploring the impact of the great outdoors on creative learning for young people. Creative Learning Outdoors (CLOD) is an innovative programme involving three local schools each working alongside a creative partner. Bucks Country Parks are involved providing the beautiful setting of Langley Park, as a 'space of possibilities', for this unique collaboration.

- Pupils from St Anthony's Primary School are working with theatre practitioner Ruth Williams to devise a site-specific piece of theatre about the science of animal habitat and adaptation.
- St Joseph's Secondary School is working with visual artist Sarah Worthington and outdoor artist-educator Anne Brown, to create a trail-based installation combining navigation and environmental art.
- Foxborough Primary School, working with digital multi-media artist Martin Franklin, will be screening a number of film shorts at a specially created outdoor cinema.



All the schools will come together on the 4th May to share their work with friends, peers and families at the CLOD showcase. For further information contact Creative Partnerships on 01753 470324.

>> Foxborough School making a film for the CLOD project at Langley Park

*artsinfo MAY – AUGUST 2006

*artsinfo is published three 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 copy regularly, 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 Friday 12th 2006.

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 the official SBC policy. The editor would like to thank everyone who has submitted articles for inclusion in *artsinfo.

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

The 24 hour library: gateway to a world of knowledge

Slough libraries now offer library members free access to a wide range of quality online information resources via the online catalogue. Simply log on at any time, from anywhere, to use for study or leisure.

Resources include the Oxford Reference Online collection, NewsUK, Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Times Digital Archive, the Oxford English Dictionary, Issues Online and SearchMuze. Browse newspapers old and new, research school projects, or find that elusive word to complete the crossword. Art lovers can enjoy all that Grove Art offers with over 45,000 images and articles on art and architecture, while lovers of music can indulge their passion in Grove Music and SearchMuze, a database of all UK released music, DVD and video.

Access to these wonderful resources is easy; just log on to www.sloughcatalogue.info, click on the 24 Hour Library link and enter your library card number and PIN. If you are not a member of the library yet then joining could not be easier. Simply come along to any library in Slough with proof of identification (something showing your name, address and signature) and join.

Further information on this and all the other services offered by Slough Libraries can be found on the library website www.sloughlibrary.org.uk

Slough Co-operative Film Society receive bfi Community Award

The British Federation of Film Societies, BFFS, held its national Film Society of the Year Awards ceremony at the bfi National Film Theatre on London's South Bank on Saturday 11th March.

Slough Co-operative Film Society was presented with the Community Award by Chair of the bfi and acclaimed director, producer and writer Anthony Minghella.

Minghella said: Too often we hear commentators state that specialist cinema is confined to London, but film societies across the land have been providing that service for years. Community cinema is important to the entire industry and this celebration is a fitting appreciation of their invaluable contribution."

Local Focus

Chair of Slough Co-operative Film Society, Dudley Smithers said: "The Society is extremely proud to receive this particular award and would like to thank all its supporters and partners of the last 60 years, especially the Co-operative Group, Slough Borough Council, Cineworld (formerly UGC), Aik Saath and Resource Productions."

The Film Society of the Year Awards are vitally important in achieving recognition for the often unsung work of an army of dedicated film enthusiasts, all of whom work for their film societies entirely voluntarily to bring high-quality film to their local communities throughout the country.

For a full programme of films and further information please visit www.same-difference.org.uk or call 01753 574780.

>> 2006 Alex Campbell/BFFS



>> Anthony Minghella and Dudley Smithers (chair of Slough Co-operative Film Society)

Same Difference Film Festival 2006

The Same Difference Film Festival showcased films based on the themes of conflict, conflict resolution and community and included local and international films that reflect the rich and diverse community that makes up Slough.

This year the festival went out into the community with showings taking place at six different venues. There were themed days where you could enjoy films and meet advice groups on issues such as the environment and health. The festival was opened with a speech from Karin Woodley, Chief Executive of the Stephen

Lawrence Charitable Trust. The festival included fourteen feature films and twenty short films, produced for the Same Difference Short Film Competition and emanating from all over the world.

The Same Difference Film Festival was organised by Aik Saath, Slough Co-operative Film Society, Resource Productions, Instinct Media and Plastic Projects and was supported by Creative Academy, Slough Borough Council, the European Social Fund, Equal, the Co-operative Group, Awards for All and Active Archive.



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.



>> Short Film Feast



>> Aik Saath and Resource Productions

The artsinfo interview: Annie St-Aubin, The Enterprise Hub



>> Annie St-Aubin

What is your role at The Enterprise Hub?

I am the Enterprise Hub Director. I have recently been appointed on a permanent basis taking over the role from Anne Johnson who has left to work at SEEDA (South East England Development Agency)

What experience do you bring to the role?

My background is in the creative field of public relations. I started my career working at Cirque du Soleil in Montreal. By the time I left it had grown into an international phenomenon employing nearly 4000 employees worldwide. In fact I recently worked on an offshoot production in Las Vegas. I have a lot of organisational development experience having worked in Belgium for four years for a number of contemporary dance companies.

What attracted you to the role at the Enterprise Hub in Slough?

I've often been asked this question and it is really very easy to answer. I've found so much energy and passion in this town. The companies I have worked with are passionate about their work. Everyone is enthusiastic and wants to see local entrepreneurs succeed. SEEDA recognise this and see this as an investment in the economy of the region.

What is an Enterprise Hub?

Enterprise Hubs are a SEEDA initiative with the aim of helping new companies to develop and realise their potential. SEEDA identified the first three years as the most important for a new company. There are 21 Hubs across the South East. Slough Enterprise Hub has a focus on creativity and new media, which is great because we have a lot of talent here. We work on a one-to-one basis with each company, identify where they need extra support and help them to source it. Some companies require a lot of help and for others the atmosphere of a Hub takes them away from working in isolation and gives them an opportunity to network with other like-minded people to share ideas and problem solve together.

What companies are at the Enterprise Hub now

We have 18 companies at the Hub including web designers, musicians, writers, a dance company, software and mobile phone software designers. We have four film companies at the Hub that are already working together on projects. We recently completed a new extension so have nine new units available on the second floor. The new space has a kitchen and meeting space. There is also a media suite and sound booth available for use by our tenants. Some companies, the virtual tenants, do not require a work area but have access to the same level of support and advice.

Do you organise regular networking events?

We work in partnership with Slough Borough Council's Arts Development team to organise regular Artist Network Meetings. It is so important for new businesses to establish links within Slough as well keeping up to date with new developments. The meeting is usually split into two parts with an opportunity to listen to a speaker then time for networking.

How do you see the Hub developing?

I would like to develop a second stage project that takes companies beyond the three years helping to retain the creative focus. I also want to strengthen our links with our current partners and create new ones in order to develop the range of services we offer.

Annie St-Aubin
Slough Enterprise Hub
01753 697815
e-mail: annie.staubin@tvu.ac.uk
www.slough-hub.co.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 tick the box if you would like us to join the West Wing's mailing list.

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

Artist Network Meetings in Slough

Artist Network Meetings are run in partnership with Arts Development and Slough Enterprise Hub. Meetings are free to attend and are held four times a year alternating between Slough Enterprise Hub and the West Wing. The sessions include artists talking about their practice and other creative and business professionals speaking about their roles within the creative industries. The rest of the evening is dedicated to networking and sharing ideas in an informal setting with light refreshments.

If you would like more information or details about the next meeting, email Alastair Gemmill on Alastair.gemmill@tvu.ac.uk

New look for artsinfo

From September, each issue of artsinfo will have a specific theme, the first of which will be the arts and health. This will enable us to focus on areas where the arts community in Slough is really making things happen and look at the impact that projects are having on the quality of life in Slough. Our aim has always been that artsinfo should be a

Arts Development

newsletter about the community and not Arts Development so if you have worked on an arts project in Slough that aimed to make people healthier, get in touch.

This and future issues will cover four months to capture as many themed articles as possible.

Mayors Arts Awards

The annual Mayors Arts Awards ceremony took place on Thursday 20th April at the West Wing. The event was held in celebration of the arts in Slough and the dedication shown by people working with the arts. Winners included Christine Wilkinson who was awarded the Ranjit Mann Award for Women in the Arts for her outstanding contribution in helping artists and community groups to meet their goals. The Mansell Award for Best Newcomer to the Arts went to

Natasha Jain for her film about domestic violence against men. Katherine Belcher was presented with the award for the Individual Artist of the Year in recognition of her work with young people using photography to develop their self confidence. Fusion and M.A.T.R.A. were jointly awarded Arts Group of the Year for their work with many different individuals and groups which helped to increase community cohesion. The award for Arts in

Education was given to the Young Offenders Reparation Pottery Group who helped to raise young peoples' self esteem. The award for Arts Project of the Year went to the Via Dolorosa project, which engaged artists from diverse backgrounds to encourage tolerance and understanding in the community. The event was a great success and brought over 150 people into the West Wing to network and share in the creative energy of Slough.

Hi! Street exhibition hits the High Street

Hi! Street, an educational project opened on 14th April at Slough Museum. The exhibition features work by young people from Montem and Slough and Eton Schools, and Slough Young People's Centre. It was jointly funded by Art at the Centre and Creative Partnerships, Slough and organised by Making it Work. Inspired by Art at the Centre, the project Hi! Street brought teachers, pupils, young people and artists together to explore the processes behind urban design and the creation of site-specific artworks within the context of Slough High Street. Three of the Art at the Centre artists have been

working with the young people: Ulrike Steven worked with Slough Young People's Centre to identify temporary alternative uses of space and ways of using them that would attract visitors to the town centre. Temporary artwork installations were created as a way of exploring ideas, and the results were recorded.

Bhajan Hunjan worked with Montem Primary School on a project that began with a visit to the High Street for a drawing session and resulted in vibrant paintings depicting the past, present and future face of Slough High Street.

Taslim Martin worked with Slough and Eton School to create a tower, that will be clad in tiles, that depicts their ideas for the High Street.

Roger Kirkham, Project Manager for Art at the Centre, said: "We are very pleased about the interest by the school children from the two local schools and the young people from SYPC in the Art at the Centre scheme. The three artists, who are all exceptionally talented, are helping them develop creative ideas about our town centre."

Local News

Changing Faces

Jag Khatkar joins the Creative Academy as Business Manager, Jag takes over the role from Kevin Harrison who left the team in February. Jessica Jhundoo and Trina Dillon have joined Creative Partnerships, Trina will be covering the role of Communications & Development Co-ordinator whilst Anna Jones is on maternity leave and Jessica is the teams new Operations Manager.

Young People's Arts Awards

The Young People's Arts Awards, a joint venture between Arts Council England and Trinity Guildhall were unveiled at the West Wing on the 15th March. The Arts Awards are designed to allow young people to gain recognition and qualifications for their arts activities and operate on a bronze, silver and gold system, similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Participants are expected to organise and lead activities and are supported

by trained advisers who also assess their work. For more information on the Young People's Arts Awards, please visit www.artsaward.org.uk

Piece of the Pie

Are you interested in theatre? Piece of the Pie Theatre is a new company for disabled and non-disabled young people aged 14 – 21 from all backgrounds and communities. Based at the West Wing, they explore, experiment and perform new theatre. The free weekly sessions are delivered by a variety of theatre professionals from both performing and technical backgrounds and are held on Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm. For further information please call 01753 823 710 or email westwing@slough.gov.uk or pieceofthepie@hotmail.co.uk

Group Chat

Group Chat is an exciting new initiative by Slough CVS to help encourage groups to research the needs and

opinions of Slough's communities. This page is for organisations to post information about new projects that they plan to undertake and invite members from the wider community to comment on them. This will help the groups' decision making process and help assess whether the activity they are planning to undertake is required.

Further details are available on www.sloughcvs.org.uk or by telephoning 01753 219114/524176.

CAST's new summer show

This summer let Colnbrook Amateur Stage Theatre take you back to Ancient Rome for Stephen Sondheim's musical farce, **A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum**.

The show will be performed at the West Wing from 26th-29th July. For further details or to obtain tickets visit www.cast-online.org.uk or telephone 07891 486330. Tickets are £10

Training

The Slough Community Partnership bulletin gives an overview of the wide range of training available in Slough, the majority of which are free to voluntary and community groups. If you would like to receive a copy or to book a course, please contact training at Slough Council for Voluntary Service on 01753 524176. You may be interested in the following courses:

Running a Community Group

16 May 2006
10.00-12 noon
Trainer: Slough CVS
Practical guide to what it takes to run a community group successfully. Aimed at new and smaller voluntary and community groups.

Effective Budgeting for Projects

23 May 2006
10.00-1.00pm
Trainer: Slough CVS
This is a beginner's guide to preparing budgets for a project, including guidance on a range of costs and advice on how to present your case to potential funders.

Legal Responsibilities of Voluntary Organisations

7 June 2006
9.45am - 4.30pm
Trainer: Slough CVS & Slough Social Enterprise
This is an excellent course run by Sandy Adirondack that covers legal responsibilities and requirements for people running voluntary groups.

Historical Hats

Students from Arbour Vale School and Northbrook Pupil Referral Unit are experiencing the glamorous world of fashion. Working alongside Design and Fashion students from TVU and East Berkshire College, they will be designing and making a series of hats drawing on historical information and artefacts on display at Slough Museum.

Creative Partnerships Slough and Slough Museum are supporting this project with students having the chance to visit other museums including the V&A in London as well as visiting TVU to see, first hand, how the design process works. The hats will be revealed at a fashion show at the West Wing in July, so look out for details.

Up to £10,000 now available from Awards for All

The ceiling of the National Lottery's Awards for All grants programme has now been raised to £10,000, with the threshold lowered to £300. This means that not-for-profit groups in Slough now have the opportunity to apply for funds for larger and more sustainable projects, or projects where a small amount of money can make a huge impact. The grants themselves still offer the same ease of application and quick turnaround, with groups having

a decision on funding eight weeks after application. Over the last 9 years, Awards for All have provided more than £500,000 of grants to groups for arts activity in Slough. This money has made a dramatic change to arts activity in the town and is enabling groups and projects to grow from the ground up. If you have an arts project idea in mind and would like to discuss funding options, please contact Arts Development on 01753 875667.

Do Less...Achieve More - Self Development and Art

Personal development trainer Carole Connolly and artist Zeljana Schonauer facilitated a residential course for Slough social entrepreneurs and people working in the voluntary sector entitled "Do Less.... Achieve More". The ten participants spent 3 days in March at Hawkwood College in Gloucestershire.

Carole and Zeljana designed the personal development course in which the attendees explored their values and principles and examined how they are practicing them in their daily lives. The group spent time reflecting and examining fundamental personal views while using creative expression through painting, drawing and collage as a way to connect with and externalise thoughts and feelings. The course has

been evaluated with excellent feedback.

Carol and Zeljana will be developing more creative self development courses in the Berkshire area. For more information and bookings contact Carole Connolly 07870689314 or Zeljana Schonauer 0786220011.



>> Sukhy Gill

>> Course participant

Opportunities

Kidscity

What: What happens when you let children design a city? A class of 10-year-olds (and teacher) from Foxborough Primary School, in partnership with student architect Jerome Beresford and supported by Creative Partnerships Slough are creating their own child-sized town in their playground. Tourists welcome to this free event!

When: 22nd June 4-6pm

Where: Foxborough Primary School, Common Road, Langley

Contact for more information and to book a place: 01753 470324, slough@creative-partnerships.com

Are you taking the mic?

What: The West Wing is continuing with its popular open mic sessions and is inviting you to join in the fun. Don't forget, the performers need an audience too, so if you want to see new and exciting acts make sure you come to the West Wing open mic nights. The evening starts at 8.00pm and is free for participants and £2 (£1 concession) for the audience.

When: Poetry night 26th May
Music night 30th May
Comedy night 21st July

Where: West Wing, Stoke Road, Slough

Contact: All you have to do to take part is to email westwing@slough.gov.uk or call 01753 476651 to book your slot the day before. Acts need to arrive at least half an hour before the start time.

What's happening?

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
May				
3	7.30pm	Theatre: Aruba	West Wing	01753 823710
6		Music: SWIPE	West Wing	01753 823710
8	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting:	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
10	8.00pm	Music: Paul Jones and David Kelly	West Wing	01753 823710
11	7.30pm	Dance: Ether, Angika Indian Dance Company	West Wing	01753 823710
15	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Guest Speaker: Jennie Berry. Air-ambulance Service	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
19	7.30pm	Theatre/Comedy: A Shut up Comedy from Japan	West Wing	01753 823710
22	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Write Night: Betjeman Night	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
25	8.00pm	Music: Bryn Haworth	West Wing	01753 823710
26	8.00pm	Open Mic: Poetry	West Wing	01753 823710
30	2.00pm	Children's Theatre: Magic Sandals	West Wing	01753 823710
June				
5	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
12	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Craft: Spinning one's Web	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
17	2.00pm	Children's Theatre: Puck's Bottom	West Wing	01753 823710
19	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting Write Night: Fancy Meeting You	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
24	8.00pm	Music: Guy Davis	West Wing	01753 823710
26	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
30	8.00pm	Open Mic: Music	West Wing	01753 823710
July				
3	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Write Night: CSI – Characterisation	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
8	2.00pm	Children's Theatre: Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus	West Wing	01753 823710
10	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Discussion: My Year	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
17	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: AGM. Poetry Competition results and reading	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
21	8.00pm	Open Mic: Comedy	West Wing	01753 823710
26-29	various	CAST production: A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum	West Wing	07891 486330
August				
4-5	7.30pm	Our Country's Good, West Wing Adult Drama Group	West Wing	01753 823710

Useful Websites

www.artsinslough.org.uk
www.sloughcvs.org.uk
www.awardsforall.org.uk

Arts Development website for the arts in Slough
 Advice and training for voluntary organisations
 Awards for All National Lottery funding

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