

YOUNG NORFOLK ARTS FESTIVAL

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

The dust is beginning to settle on a very successful and busy 2014 Festival and ideas are being gathered for the 2015 programme. The Festival Coordinator will be delighted to hear from schools, cultural organisations and individuals with ideas for events and participation opportunities for next year. In the meantime, the purpose of this letter is to ensure that you have next year's dates in your diaries and to give advance notice of a few of the exciting ideas in the pipeline.

The ethos of the Festival is that it should be "by and for" young people. In 2015 there will be a number of schemes which will encourage the "by" part of that aim. One such opportunity for secondary school age young people is a link with the **Artist Rooms** Jeff Koons exhibition which will be running at the Castle during the Festival period. Further information is attached to this letter. Please could anyone interested in any aspect of that scheme contact the Festival Coordinator on enquiries@ynaf.org.uk by 17th October 2014.

Another major opportunity for large numbers of young people to be involved with the Festival will be next year's **Royal Norfolk Show.** In 2015, the Show will take place on 1st and 2nd July. The Festival, in collaboration with the Garage, will be hosting a zone within the Show specially designed for school age young people. There will be a performance areas and breakout spaces for quieter activities. The performance areas will be available on each Show day to young people either in groups or individually to display their talent. Schools will already be aware that there will be no fixed INSET day for the Show and therefore they have maximum flexibility to attend the Show with groups of pupils who may include performers and supporters. It is a perfect venue in which school groups and individual young people can

show the people of Norfolk how talented they are. The Show can also provide young artists with a chance to perform again something which they have worked hard to create for a school production. Registration forms will be distributed in due course but in the meantime schools, groups and individuals can express an interest in taking part by emailing the Festival Coordinator as above.

There are many other events and opportunities in the pipeline for YNAF 2015. Details and, where necessary, registration forms will be sent out in due course. In the meantime, the list below gives a flavour of what to look out for:

- Open mic opportunities at Festival venues such as the Puppet Theatre for musicians, comedians, storytellers and actors. Encourage your young people to put on their own show.
- Free poetry workshops in schools culminating in a Slam run in collaboration with the Writers' Centre,
- Participation in the Festival's contributions to the Lord Mayor's Celebrations on 4th and 5th July,
- Free drama workshops in the Cathedral Cloisters,
- Film making and training with BBC Voices and Cinema Plus culminating in chances to display finished films and curate show case events at Cinema City. In addition a team of young film makers will be recruited to make a documentary about the 2015
 Festival under the guidance of BBC Voices.
- Another recruitment round for young people to produce the Young Norfolk Daily Press (YNDP) 2015 and chances to apply for radio training with BBC Introducing and Future Radio.
- Opportunities for young people to participate in workshops run by leading musicians such as members of the Britten Sinfonia.

It is not necessary to wait for further information to register an interest in any of the above. Simply email the Festival Coordinator with your ideas now at enquiries@ynaf.org.uk.

The Festival is an **Arts Award Supporter.** This means that any young people working to complete any level of Award can use the Festival events and opportunities to help them achieve their goals. For example, participation in the Jeff Koons Collective will provide a perfect launch pad for those aiming for the higher levels of Award. Also, the Festival's provision of the Puppet Theatre as a free venue gives young people a unique chance to produce, promote, manage and evaluate their own event from scratch.

More news soon. In the meantime the website www.ynaf.org.uk has some photos from YNAF 2014 on display and the Festival's Twitter feed @YN_AF has up to the minute information about events and opportunities happening now which are of interest to young people.