

Department of Culture and the Arts

Engaging with Children and Young People Through the Arts

Following is a selection of research, information and resources for people wanting to know more about engaging with young people through the arts.

For further information, please contact Jane Mitchell, Senior Policy Officer Young People and the Arts on 9224 7457 on Monday mornings, and all day Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or email jane.mitchell@dca.wa.gov.au

Case studies featuring young people and the arts

Telling Tales (WA Department of Culture and the Arts, 2007)

www.dca.wa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/9949/Telling_Tales_Case_Study.pdf

Features a series of case studies showcasing Western Australian artists in schools partnerships across a variety of age groups and art forms. Includes a summary of shared knowledge arising from the featured projects, and tips for success.

Liveworx (Community Arts Network WA Summer 2009)

www.canwa.com.au/canwa-resources/publications

Publication featuring a range of articles about youth arts and cultural projects that have taken taking place across Western Australia.

Thrive and Fuse (Propel Youth Arts WA)

www.propel.org.au/resources/toolkit

- **Thrive** tells the stories of 20 different arty projects that happened around Western Australia in 2004. Each was inspired and driven by diverse young people and supported by YCulture: Presented by Drug Aware.
- **Fuse** aims to get to the nitty-gritty of how youth arts happens and can happen better-bigger and more sustainable.

Great Art Stories, from Regional Arts Australia (Regional Arts Australia)

www.regionalarts.com.au/raa1/great-arts-stories.asp

Links to three publications (Big Story Country, Heartwork, and The Great Yarn Event and other stories from regional Australia) showcasing stories about the great, the curious, the inspirational and the most creative arts and artistic events that have happened in the towns, cities and remote communities of regional Australia.

Resources and guidelines, including finding artists

Online information and links to organisations that can assist in engaging with young people, sourcing and securing professional artists, and developing your project to get the best results:

Finding appropriate artists

The Department of Culture and the Arts funds a number of arts organisations across all art forms. These organisations can link you with artists with specialist expertise working with young people. For a list of these organisations go to the Department's website:

www.dca.wa.gov.au/programs/Funded_Organisations.

For more information on who best to contact, email us youngpeople@dca.wa.gov.au or call 08 9224 7300 (freecall Country WA 1800 199 090) and ask to speak to the Young People and the Arts Project Officer.

ArtsEdge (Department of Culture and the Arts and Department of Education)

www.artsedge.dca.wa.gov.au

The ArtsEdge website contains a range of resources and information, including contacts for Western Australian arts organisations and extensive information on artist in schools (via the Artists in Schools link). Whilst focusing on the education sector, much of the information is could be applied beyond a school environment.

ArtsYakka

Practical online tools to support community arts: www.artsyakka.com

An initiative of the Queensland Arts Council and funded by the Australia Council for the Arts, ArtsYakka is an online resource of practical tools and templates, information and ideas to take some of the 'hard yakka' out of developing community arts. It contains practical ideas, tried and tested templates, along with weblinks and online forums.

Providing the Best (Arts Council of England, 2006)

www.artscouncil.org.uk/media/uploads/documents/publications/providingthebestpdf_phpJq0DJ9.pdf

Providing the best provides guidance for artists and arts organisations on assessing the quality of activities provided for children and young people. The document defines the characteristics of high quality activities for and with children and young people and, using prompt questions enables artists and arts organisations to assess and assure this work. We hope that the self-assessment approach encouraged through this document will raise the standard of work experienced by children and young people

Tool Kit for Arts Advocates (Young People and the Arts Australia)

www.ypaa.net/docs_large/tool_kit.pdf

A practical step by step guide on how to craft an effective lobby or campaign message and target it to your selected audience to get the desired result.

Young People and the Arts Fact Sheets (Young People and the Arts Australia)

A set of four sheets containing a selection of facts and figures on the way arts participation provides positive outcomes for children and young people.

www.ypaa.net/welcome/docs/YPAAfactsheet.pdf

Funding Opportunities

Following is a selection of funding bodies that may provide financial support for projects engaging with young people through the arts. Always ensure you speak with a Project Officer or Program Manager to determine eligibility and see what advice and support is available to you when making an application.

Department of Culture and the Arts: www.dca.wa.gov.au/grants or www.dca.wa.gov.au/youngpeople

The Department of Culture and the Arts manages a range of funding programs, including a Young People and the Arts program focusing specifically on arts activity by, with and for young people.

Community Arts Network WA: www.canwa.com.au

Healthway: www.healthway.wa.gov.au

Lotterywest: www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants

Office for Children and Youth: www.childrenandyouth.wa.gov.au

Propel Youth Arts WA: www.propel.org.au

Australia Council for the Arts: www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants

Australian Government Youth Development and Support Program: www.youth.gov.au

JBSeed: www.thejbseed.com

Office of Multicultural Interests Grants: www.omi.wa.gov.au/omi_grants.asp

Minter Ellison Youth Arts Foundation:
www.minterellison.com.au/public/connect/Internet/Home/About+Us/Our+offices/Minter+Ellison+Youth+Arts+Foundation

Office of Crime Prevention: www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/content.php?page=funding

Grantslink: www.grantslink.gov.au

Research

A small selection of recent research and discussion papers on the topic of young people and the arts. Whilst much of the research has a focus on arts and education, many of the principals and methodologies discussed can be applied to other settings.

Case study twenty-seven: Australia: Children's Voices / Professor Wendy Schiller, Director of the de Lissa Institute of Early Childhood & Family Studies Research Group (UniSA).

portal.unesco.org/culture/fr/files/30040/11401025541Case_study_27_Australia_Children's_voices.pdf/Case%2Bstudy%2B27_Australia%2BChildren's%2Bvoices.pdf

The research project commenced in 2003 and concluded in 2005. Two questions provide the framework for this study:

- What is the impact of attending live arts performances on school-aged children in public school in South Australia?
- What is the relationship between schools, their communities and these live art performances? Children's Voices builds on child narratives and initiatives but also involves research training and mentoring in arts education action research for the teachers.

ArtPlay Melbourne Research Project (current)

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/artplay/about/Pages/Researchproject.aspx
www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/ace/research/artplay.html

ArtPlay is a place in the centre of Melbourne where families and children can be creative and express themselves in an open and supportive environment. In 2007, ArtPlay began its own formal investigations into its role as both children's educator and creative outlet. A three-year research program was established in partnership with the University of Melbourne and the Australian Research Council. Through this research, ArtPlay seeks to identify the value of providing opportunities for children to work with artists. As well as educational benefits, ArtPlay is also interested in identifying any social benefits generated through its endeavours.

Developing children's full potential: why the arts are important/New South Wales Department of Education and Training 2006

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k_6/arts/kids_potential.php

Short article discussing why the arts are an important factor in the development of children's full potential, drawing information on from a variety of available literature on the subject.

Critical evidence: how the arts benefit student achievement (National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), Washington, USA 2006)

www.nasaa-arts.org/publications/critical-evidence.pdf

Critical Evidence updates and expands on the case made for arts education in NASAA's earlier collaboration with the Arts in Education Partnership, *Eloquent Evidence: Arts at the Core of Learning*, originally published in 1995. "Ten year's after its release," observes Critical Evidence author Sandra S. Ruppert, "the evidence is even more eloquent, and the need to demonstrate the link between the arts and student achievement has grown more critical."

Beyond enjoying and achieving: Children, young people and the arts (Arts Council of England, 2006)

www.artscouncil.org.uk/media/uploads/documents/publications/everychildmatters_php9wXkGp.pdf

Explores how the arts contribute to all of the UK's Every Child Matters outcomes. Using the arts to tap in to existing interests and provide new experiences, children and young people can challenge views of them, raise their aspirations, become active, healthy citizens and, importantly, enjoy themselves.

Using the arts and culture to deliver positive activities for young people (Arts Council England, 2009)

www.artscouncil.org.uk/publication_archive/using-arts-and-culture-deliver-positive-activities-young-people/

Following three successful national events run by Arts Council England and Museums Libraries and Archives which looked at the ways arts and culture deliver positive activities for children and young people, we have collated a small number of case studies which represent the essence of the three events and which we hope you will find useful as an advocacy tool



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