



Case Study Evaluation

Arts Hub: North Bromsgrove

Project: Street Dance

North Bromsgrove High School

Delivery Partner: Pablo Productions Ltd

Overview

How can we support young boys and the wider community to help them engage in sustainable dance based activities?

Shaun Cope, an internationally renowned professional dancer and choreographer delivered a series of dance workshops to boys in Bromsgrove worked with the schools and The Artrix, a professional local arts venue.

Reluctant boys who were not engaging in school were offered the project and after initially being very reserved, developed confidence and skills leading them towards public performances of dance and an improvement in the engagement and attainment in learning.

Aims

- The project aimed to encourage the boys to work as a team.
- To get them involved and excited about the dance groups.
- Create awareness of the project.
- To improve their confidence.
- To have the confidence the perform in community events now and in the future.



"I didn't think I would like this but I came along and it has been brilliant, dancing has helped me enjoy my life more." Dan 13

Process

The project supported boys' engagement in dance within a wider programme of arts centred extended services provision. Streetdance workshops ran complementary to Community Thursdays activities from November 2009 to June 2010, providing a programme of progressive street dance workshops.

Shaun Cope has led 34 sessions at North and South Bromsgrove High schools with boys participating from both schools and other feeder schools. To date 37 boys have taken part in street dance sessions.

The sessions were documented on film and with photographs, and marketing / promotional materials were produced to help promote the activity. The film can be viewed on the Arts Extend website at www.arts-extend.com.

Long term, the aim of the project is to increase the variety and popularity of the workshops, so that the whole project becomes ongoing and self-sustaining.



“ I feel like a different person since I started dancing, I am a lot more confident and I am prepared to work harder at everything, you don’t get nothing if you don’t put any effort in” James 14

Impact

“Up to twenty boys regularly attend the Street Dance workshops and we have seen and recorded the impact upon them as individuals and as a group.

“The boys were very nervous at first and reluctant participants, after 3 weeks they had visibly changed and were much more confident and comfortable and were able to express themselves through dance.”

Shaun Cope, Dance Professional

“We struggled with numbers at first but the boys taking part talked about their experience with their friends and their enthusiasm inspired others to join the group.”

Amrit Johal, Extended Services Co-ordinator

“The Street Dance workshops have added immense value to our community offer and have helped us develop our credibility within our local community.”

Steve Cowperthwaite, Deputy Head

“I didn’t think I would like it but I stuck at it and it’s been brilliant.”

Jordan aged 14, Street Dance participant

Success - North Bromsgrove High School Baseline Data

QUESTIONS	Response YES	Response NO	POSSIBLY	Further details
Have you had any experience of being involved in dance?	4	4		2 have danced in previous schools, 1 in projects around the country, 1 in Portugal
Have you had the opportunity to work with boys from other middle or high schools?	3	5		1- In projects around the country
Do you go to any before or after schools clubs?	3	5		1 badminton, 1 trampoline, 1 cooking
Would you attend a boys community dance group outside of school?	1	5	2	

Success -Catshill Baseline Data

QUESTIONS	Response YES	Response NO	POSSIBLY	Further details
Have you had any experience of being involved in dance?	5	4		Street Dance 3, school, 2
Have you had the opportunity to work with boys from other middle or high schools?	1	8		Yes at street dance.
Do you go to any before or after schools clubs?	8	1		Football & Rugby 3, golf 2, Swimming 1, tennis 1, Street dancing 1.
Would you attend a boys community dance group outside of school?	8		1	

Success -Parkside Baseline Data

QUESTIONS	Response YES	Response NO	POSSIBLY	Further details
Have you had any experience of being involved in dance?	12	7		1 has lessons since aged 4, 2 in PE and taster sessions, 4 in boys dance alliance, 2 at school, 2 have previously studied breakdancing, 1 four years ago in Worcester
Have you had the opportunity to work with boys from other middle or high schools?	4	15		1in a singing project, 1 in breakdance, 1 in Worcester, 1 in basketball
Do you go to any before or after schools clubs?	18	1		Football - 14, Basketball 2, other sports 1, construction 1.
Would you attend a boys community dance group outside of school?	16	2	1	



Challenges

The boys were every reluctant at the first session exhibiting behavior that could have been misinterpreted, they looked very disinterested but were in fact nervous and lacking in self esteem.

Finding ways to keep revenue generation from various sources to keep the dance workshops running on a long term basis is an ongoing challenge. With limited access to grants and external funding, securing the services of high quality experienced, reliable dance practitioners is difficult.

Legacy

Boys are engaging in dance in Bromsgrove and the profile of dance generally as an accessible activity has increased considerably.

There is a link from the dance workshops to a local dance festival and The Artrix, the local professional arts venue and with these links providing a platform for boys to showcase their work to the local community.



Contact Details

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