

2 FACED DANCE CO

Spring 2011 Education Newsletter

Welcome to the 2011 Spring Education newsletter... In this newsletter you will find information on recent residencies, FRESH (our annual schools showcase), an in school focus (this quarter we are focusing on Hereford Academy), an update on the massive hr1 project, some very interesting facts and figures and a teachers focus (this quarter Fiona Hay will be the subject). If you require any further information on any of the above topics please email dan@2faceddance.co.uk or ring us on 01432 276807. As always this is an interactive newsletter. If any word is highlighted in blue... Click on it and be taken directly to the appropriate website for further information. Pictures are also linked, hover your mouse over the pictures to find out...

hr1 Project update

Hr1 is a dynamic mass participation project in association with the Olympic Games. As part of the hr1 project we will be leading workshops in all of the market towns in Herefordshire, these being Ledbury, Leominster, Ross-on-Wye, Bromyard, Kington and Hereford City Centre. If anyone would like to get involved in this amazing project please get in touch with us to register your interest. This will help raise dance awareness in these areas. The overall aim is to create six new community dance companies in these market towns, who will then take part in the final site specific performance on the castle green in 2012. Our aim is to increase participation in dance activity for everyone and the interest for dance to continue to grow within these communities. hr1 aims to involve as many people from around Herefordshire in dance, the project will finish with a large scale, torch lit, site specific project in the centre of Hereford in 2012, which will help put Herefordshire on the map developing a strong regional and national reputation for dance.

StoneMason's Tale (SMT) (click on picture)

The Stone Masons Tale is an educational project involving 70% of Key Stage 3 students from Herefordshire schools. The project is being led by [The Hereford Cathedral](#) and [The Music Pool](#). The SMT will represent different periods of the Cathedral Close through music, drama, dance, visual arts, story telling, costume, film, photography and the stone carving themselves. 2Faced have been working in St Mary's High School and Bishops Blue Coat school to create 2 Street and Breakdance pieces that will be performed in the Cathedral on the 30th June 2011 after a street parade through the centre of Hereford.



Hereford Cathedral

Some useful statistics

2010 - 2011 Student percentages

12325 people participated in a 2Faced Dance workshop

2352 students participated in our in school sessions, **43%** were male and **57%** were female

A total of **280** students participate in our community classes **59%** are male and **41%** are female

The Overall total of students who participated in our autumn term classes is 1400

45% are male

55% are female

FRESH 2011

The FRESH concept was created after we realised there was no schools dance platform in Hereford. So we decided to provide an opportunity for young aspiring dancers to showcase their talent. After much success in previous years **FRESH 2011** has exploded with interest, it will now be held over 2 days with a mixture of primary and secondary schools performing each night. Schools taking part are: **St. Pauls Primary, Kingstone & Thruxton Primary, Brampton Abbots Primary, Almeley Primary, Longtown Primary, Madley Primary, St. Mary's Primary Credenhill, Michael-Church Escley Primary, Riverside Primary, John Masefield High, Hereford Academy, Fairfield High, St. Mary's High School, Trinity Primary school, Minster Secondary School** and more to be confirmed. As well as these fantastic schools there will also be 2 guest groups from Wolverhampton. These 2 groups were chosen from a school dance project which was part of 'Staying Safe' a council led project which aims to raise awareness in young people. We worked with 8 schools in total, in and around the Wolverhampton area to create and help develop a dance piece. The piece was then performed at the Oceana night club in Wolverhampton. (If you want more info on this project request the professional newletter). Throughout the day leading up to the performance evening of **FRESH** there will be various workshops happening around the Courtyard giving the students a wonderful opportunity to work with different artists learning new styles in an ecstatic fun environment. **If you would like your school to be involved in future FRESH events please contact Nathan French on nathan@2faceddance.co.uk**

In schools focus

This quarter we are focusing on **Hereford Academy** a school in the south of Hereford. Nathan French teaches BTEC Jazz in the school every Tuesday. "I have been teaching BTEC Jazz at The Hereford Academy. I have taken this as a chance to improve and develop myself as a teacher and broaden my style vocabulary. I have been teaching some quite complex routines and the students have been dedicated and have attacked everything I have thrown at them". Said Nathan French. Vicky Cookson is the head of dance at Hereford Academy and oversees the classes; "2Faced Dance Company have been working with a group of BTEC dance students here at The Hereford Academy since September. During this time they have worked closely with the students to complete their first unit which has been a 'Jazz Dance' unit. Each week 2Faced have come in and worked with the students to help them develop the key elements of Jazz dance. The students have benefited greatly from this experience as they have learnt a number of fundamental skills, such as body positioning and a number floor work drills which they practiced regularly to improve their footwork. The students now have a routine lasting approximately three minutes which is looking great. The group as a whole and individuals within the group are a lot more confident in themselves and this can be seen in their performance. The group look forward to having their lesson with them and the knowledge of dance 2Faced have has been extremely valuable and we will definitely be using them again".



Teachers Focus

Fiona Hay, Education Officer; Fiona has been working for 2Faced since late 2009. She works along side Nathan French in the Education department. Currently she teaches around Hereford and in Ross On Wye. She specialises in Nu Style, commercial hip hop, contemporary and choreography.

Do you think your teaching techniques have improved since working at 2Faced?

As I have been working with a variety of students who require different needs, I have learnt how to deliver dance which is appropriate to that school, youth groups and even individuals. I feel that I'm always learning new teaching methods and hope to develop and improve these further.

Are you looking forward to the HR1 project, and getting back on the stage?

HR1 will be one of the biggest projects I have been involved in as a community leader administratively and performance wise. I cant wait to get back into performing again and working with these established artists. I am very excited about the outcome of this project and the impact it will have in the the county. It will be a very memorable event which I think Hereford won't forget.



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