



Excellence in Training
SINCE 1919



artsed IN focus

w e l c o m e

Welcome to the summer issue of *ArtsEd In Focus*, the newsletter from the Arts Educational Schools, Chiswick. You may be reading this at the Bedford Park Green Days Festival. If so do look out for our performance on stage on Sunday 12th June.

In this issue we have much to celebrate, including the glowing Pupils' School report from the Independent Schools Inspectorate. Prospective students and their parents are invited to join us at our open evenings on 4th and 5th October. For audition requirements and information please contact Rosalie Jones on pupils@artsed.co.uk. For all other information look online at www.artsed.co.uk.

t o p m a r k s f o r a r t s e d

The spotlight of success often shines on ArtsEd's graduates, but more recently it was the turn of the Pupils' School to receive a glowing report from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), the body approved by Ofsted to inspect independent schools. "We are looking for students with enthusiasm, potential and a passion for the arts," says headteacher Greg Beavis. "We welcome students with an aptitude and passion for drama and dance, but they may not necessarily want to pursue a career in performance. We are not a stage school: we aim, rather, to provide an enriching education with a cultural emphasis."

The value of this approach was recognised by the Inspectorate, which confirmed that the school provides each individual pupil with a balanced academic, vocational, cultural and social curriculum of the highest standard. "The inspectors noticed that our students experience a curriculum that is not only challenging, but hugely enjoyable, studying the more traditional subjects as well as significant content from the performing and creative arts. They also acknowledged our excellent standards in teaching, and the attention and care we place on student welfare and happiness, the factors which combine to make the school so incredibly special."





top marks for arts ed pupils

The warm family atmosphere of the school is a major selling point for pupils and parents. There are less than 200 students in total and the small class sizes ensure that each pupil receives individual attention. The co-educational school takes students from 11-18 years of age and facilities include two well-equipped theatres, large studios and well-appointed academic accommodation.

The school's academic standards and expectations are high, and these are matched by outstanding results. A 100% pass rate at A Level has been achieved for the past three years, whilst all Year 11 pupils have scored at least 5 GCSE passes at Grade C or higher – with most gaining 8 or 9.

Sixty per cent of the pupils stay on to the sixth form and are able to choose from a wide selection of A level subjects including, Art and Design, Dance, Drama, English Literature, French, Geography, History, History of Art, Mathematics, Media Studies, Music, Philosophy, Music Technology and Photography. The school also

offers sixth formers the chance to take a BTEC in performing arts, a qualification which is equivalent to three A levels. Students opting for the BTEC will have the added opportunity of studying for at least one other A level, either in a complimentary course such as Media, or in Dance or Drama. The school is committed to increasing the diversity of the student community, and this year introduced scholarship places for talented sixth formers who might otherwise be unable to attend.

The school benefits from a talented, dedicated and committed staff, led by headteacher Mr Beavis. He joined the school 12 years ago as head of Art and Media, before becoming head of Sixth Form, and has held the post of headteacher for the past year. "We value the arts and creativity in the widest sense, and aim for a balance between the two, not just a focus on performance." says Mr Beavis. "We celebrate individuality, and by encouraging our pupils to discover new skills and talents, we are increasing their confidence and their choices."

"I am so delighted that the headteacher and all the school staff have had their excellent teaching recognised in this Inspection Report" says principal Jane Harrison. *"It confirms what we already know: that ArtsEd really is a unique environment for young people to learn and thrive."*

Prospective pupils and their parents are welcome to take a tour of the school. These are organised weekly. To find out more please contact Rosalie Jones on pupils@artsed.co.uk



open evenings

Our next open evenings take place on 4 and 5 October 2011. Tuesday 4 October is designed for Year 7 entry, and Wednesday 5 October is designed for sixth form candidates. Both evenings comprise a tour of the school and its facilities, led by current pupils; the chance to attend a musical theatre and drama showcase production, and an opportunity to see a variety of practical demonstrations, which include science and photography workshops. Precise timings are yet to be confirmed but the evenings are likely to run from 6-9pm. If you would like to attend and find out more about audition requirements please contact Rosalie Jones on pupils@artsed.co.uk. Application forms can be downloaded from the school website www.artsed.co.uk.

HIGHLIGHTS QUOTED DIRECTLY
FROM THE REPORT

- Pupils make outstanding progress – such successful achievement is supported by the pupils good attitudes to learning and their exemplary behaviour
- Teaching is excellent – the teaching is a principal factor in the high levels of the pupils achievement at all levels
- An outstanding vocational curriculum whilst pursuing a good academic curriculum
- Pupils excel in the performing arts and achieve good academic results
- Teachers have a flair and enthusiasm which is infectious and inspires endeavour and interest among the pupils
- Pupils enjoy school immensely – they have positive attitudes to their work, their teachers, and each other which contribute to their academic and vocational achievement
- The personal development of pupils is excellent
- The school is led and managed outstandingly well which is having a direct and immediate impact on the pupils' learning
- Creative work in the arts is excellent
- Outstanding standards are attained in externally assessed and graded examinations in dance, drama and musical theatre
- The sixth-form curriculum provides pupils with an inspiring and challenging education

The GCSE and A-level results have continued to improve year on year, and results are above the national average - to see the most recent results please see the school website: www.artsed.co.uk.

new patrons for artsed

ArtsEd is delighted to announce that Robert Lindsay and Gillian Lynne CBE have both agreed to act as patrons for the school. The two new patrons will represent ArtsEd at public events and support the school in a variety of ways.

Robert Lindsay has close family links to the school since his 22 year old daughter, Sydney Stevenson, recently graduated from the BA acting course. A regular on stage and screen, he rose to fame as Wolfie Smith in the TV series, *Citizen Smith* and is perhaps best known for playing dentist Ben Harper in BBC TV's long running comedy *My Family*. Most recently the Bafta award-winning actor played Aristotle Onassis in the play of the same name in the West End.

British ballerina, dancer, director and choreographer Gillian Lynne is a dance icon. A celebrated Royal Ballet star, she danced to great acclaim in classical and West End productions before moving into direction and choreography. Her work for the Royal Opera House includes *The Trojans*, *The Midsummer Marriage*, *The Flying Dutchman* and *Parsifal*. She is though perhaps best known for working on some of the best-known musicals ever including *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Aspects of Love*.



WHAT'S ON

JUNE

YEAR 9 PUPILS

21st & 22nd June

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

AFRAID OF THE DARK

Written by James Reach

YEAR 10 PUPILS

23rd & 24th June

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER

Written by Tim Kelly

Based on a story by Edgar Allan Poe

MOONFLEECE

Written by Philip Ridley

YEAR 12

28th June - 1st July

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

A NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS

An exhilarating evening of musical entertainment.

YEAR 13

5th & 6th July

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

MT6 SHOWCASE

An exciting selection of musical numbers mixed with sketches and newly commissioned dance numbers.

MA ACTING

30th June - 2nd July

Studio Theatre, 7:30pm & 2nd July 3:00pm

PAINS OF YOUTH

By Ferdinand Bruckner

Translated by Daphne Moore

MA ACTING

7th - 9th July

Studio Theatre, 7:30pm & 9th, 3:00pm

ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE

By Martin Crimp

MA ACTING

14th - 16th July

Studio Theatre, 7:30pm & 16th, 3:00pm

UNDER THE CONCRETE, WAITING

By Sarah Wooley

FOUNDATION COURSE

END OF YEAR SHOWS

19th - 21st July

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

MUSICAL THEATRE

20th & 22nd July

Main Theatre, 7:30pm

ACTING

To find out more & book online visit www.artsed.co.uk

ALUMNI UPDATE

Following the successful Musical Theatre and Acting Showcases in March our students have not only secured agents, a number of the current third year have already landed roles on tour, in the West End and on national television.

Antony Hewitt, Josh Kiernan, Hannah Wilson and Amy Punter are due to join the *Evita* (UK and European Tour) cast and are currently in rehearsals. While Ed Currie and Caroline Bateson will be joining ArtsEd alumni Summer Strallen in the UK tour of *Top Hat*. Sinead Long will be going on tour with *Legally Blonde*. Scott Mobley and Georgie Ashford are performing in *Singing in the Rain* at the Chichester Festival. While Lilly Frazer has been cast as Eponine's understudy and ensemble in *Les Miserables* in the West End.

Finally, George Brockbanks is about to join the prestigious Royal Shakespeare Company. ArtsEd alumni regularly appear on stage and screen at home and away. At any one time a significant number of our alumni are performing in the West End. In particular they feature in the recently opened *The Wizard of Oz* and the UK premiere of *Shrek the Musical* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Former alumni Nigel Harman, best known for playing heart-throb Dennis Rickman in BBC1's *East Enders*, has been cast as Lord Farquaad in the production. Meanwhile 2008 graduate, Laura Haddock, is playing Alison, Will's potential holiday fling in the film of *The Inbetweeners*, due for release in August 2011.

SHOP TILL YOU DROP

ArtsEd zipped hoodies, halternecks and joggers have been flying off the shelves since the launch of our online shop at www.artsed.co.uk/shop. Our new clothing range is designed to meet the performance needs of our students and pupils but its appeal is much wider. It includes ArtsEd-branded lounge and classic joggers, plain hooded tops, zipped hooded tops, men's vests and T-shirts, women's bust-support halternecks, V-neck T-shirts, short ladies' vests and long fitted vests.

If you missed purchasing a programme, past production programmes and posters are available to buy online while stocks last. Even production shots can be purchased via the site.

Making a purchase is easy, simply browse online and take advantage of our secure payment system. We can deliver your order to any address in the UK within 14 days and addresses around the world within 28 days. Current students are of course welcome to collect their items in person.



stay IN touch

In order to save the environment and our costs we aim to distribute subsequent issues of *ArtsEd in Focus* by e-mail. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically please visit the website www.artsed.co.uk and join our mailing list.

The next issue of *ArtsEd in Focus* will be available in the Autumn. Arts Educational Schools London Cone Ripman House, 14 Bath Road, Chiswick, W4 1LY
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