



ARTS AWARD NEWSLETTER

September 2017

Our new Arts Award year began in earnest on the evening of Monday 11 September at the British Legion Hall, Hall, Lane, Chingford.

Parents and students, especially those in Year 7 who expressed interest in joining our Arts Award family, were invited to attend an introductory meeting to find out about activities and projects proposed for 2017-2018.

Despite the short notice of the event, we were delighted to welcome 44 interested families who came along consisting of a pleasing mix of parents & students.

We also had an invited group of experienced Arts Award students who displayed some of their portfolios.

During the evening Yolanda Guns informed the audience of the advantages of embarking on an Arts Award journey and outlined the various projects that are available to inspire and enlighten the students during the year.

In summary these include:

- Barbican Art Box
- London City Poets (in association with the National Literacy Trust)
- Barbican Junior Poets (our 4th successive invite)
- Arts Award Theatre Company (our 15th production as part of Saturday College)
- Involvement in Arts Award Bronze, Silver and Gold qualifications based on combined Arts, World War I, Shakespeare Challenge, Barbican Poets and a new enterprise – World War II
- Entry into the British Arts and Boroughs United Showcase.

Yolanda informed the meeting about the forthcoming visit to Chingford Academies Trust of a Chinese delegation, organised by the Trinity College, London.

As a result of Chingford Academies Trust's national reputation for excellence in the delivery of Arts Award involving students and families, we have been asked to host a visit from a delegation from China who are on a fact finding mission about Arts Award. In view of this visit on Friday 20 October, it would be a nice idea for students to do some research about the arts in China and put together some posters or presentations. These could then be included in Arts Award portfolios. Please bring the work you produce to the October Arts Award evening.





During the evening several students entertained those present with examples of their Arts Award specialities:

Charlotte Sinclair of Year 12 – a stalwart of a number of Arts Award Theatre Company productions, sang “Would You” from our production of “Singing in the Rain” followed by “On the Sunny Side of the Street”.

Regan Clark of Year 9 read a poem he had written as part of the Barbican Junior Poets Programme.

Shannon Norman, one of our Saturday College students, read a poem she had written as part of her Arts Award World War I portfolio.

Josh Jeranyama and **Lewis Blee** spoke about what Arts Award means to them.

Yolanda made reference to the fact that Wednesday 13 September was Roald Dahl day. She produced a hand out which included many quizzes, puzzles, “Roald Dahl” word searchers and writing projects and challenged students (and parents!) to fill it in and use it as part of their Arts Award portfolios (please contact Yolanda if you could like a copy of the hand-out).

We aim to continue to hold Arts Award evenings once a month, usually at South Chingford Community Library in order for students to share work they have done, collect comments and display portfolios before moderation day. Often, these meetings have a particular theme, eg. poetry, music, writing, etc. and parents, as always, are very welcome.

Our October Arts Award is at South Chingford Community Library on Friday 6 October 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Admission of course is free and refreshments are provided. We are indebted to our hosts at the Library who always make us feel very welcome, and thank you to all the volunteers for their valuable support.

We work closely with both Chingford Foundation School and Rushcroft Foundation School students but as we are an Arts Award centre, we welcome students from all local schools to our Saturday College and all extra-curricular events.

Saturday College – Arts Award Theatre Company

Our first meeting of the term took place on Saturday 23 September. We were delighted to welcome a talented mix of newcomers and a number of students who have been in previous shows. They all worked well together to make an excellent start on our new production which is a new take on the Christmas Carol story set during World War 2.

We are always happy to receive new actors/singers/dancers and a variety of set designers/costume designers, etc. etc. Just come along to our next session which is between 9:30am and 12:30pm on Saturday 7 October. Whatever your artistic interest, it could lead to an Arts Award qualification.

