

Hybrid:articles *hybrid:arts*

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a new species of training provider in the creative industries

culture art youth technology partnership learning communication people service

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WDC offically launched Spencer Yard

WDC were supported by a range of representatives from the region, including councillors and members, who've been stalwart supporters of the concept of the cultural quarter from the early stages since 1995. Recognition must go to WDC officers who have never had to be persuaded about the power culture can play in regeneration, Chris Elliott in particular. Vanessa Oakes, Arts Development Officer, commissioned corsages - constructed by Hybrid:arts, which we hope you enjoyed - and also the greening of the pedestrian entrances into the yard with celebratory flamboyance. Hybrid:arts were also commissioned to provide catering, and in a collaboration between the Portuguese community and Mr Simao of Alphonso's Place, Portuguese delicacies were savoured by all. We are especially proud of Liliana, Tania, Bela and Andre - young people from the Leamington Portuguese community who offered their help for the evening. Their professionalism and positive, friendly attitude was very impressive.



And there were some unexpected stars of the show - a few members of the Lillington Crew volunteered to help out at the launch, and they were surprised to find themselves cornered in the music studio by the BBC! A lively interview ensued with a BBC Coventry and Warwickshire radio presenter and her crew, and Terry Herlihy performed one of his own, more romantic, numbers live.

On the case

BECTA have celebrated the success of Hybrid:arts with a case study which and looks at the learner perspective of engaging with and through technology. Here's a snippet to whet your appetite:

"The overriding impression of the work being done by Hybrid:arts is of partnership and understanding between learners and tutors. Students are taught and encouraged to be creative, but in a way that is useful and can lead to something else.

In many cases the first tentative steps are taken in successful learning and with great support and encouragement, disaffected young people become affected, empowered, and e-confident. Hybrid:arts is a place where second chances are given and often taken."

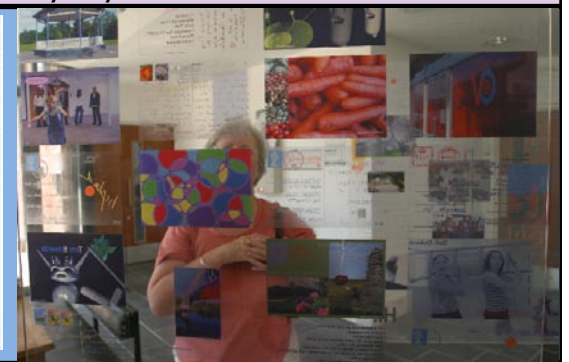
Becta is the Government's lead partner in the strategic development and delivery of its e-strategy for the schools and the learning and skills sectors. It provides strategic leadership in the innovative and effective use of ICT to enable the transformation of learning, teaching and educational organisations for the benefit of every learner. The feature is now live on the BECTA website at <http://ferl.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=17520> so take a look!

Hybrid students begin new journeys

Hybrid:arts will be waving goodbye to two cohorts of students on our graphics and music Warwickshire College franchise courses this month (she says with a tear in her eye). The students who have completed their OCN qualifications will be progressing on to creative diplomas at the college. Hybrid:arts are sincerely proud that we were able to open doors to further education that would have otherwise been closed to these NEET students. We are really pleased with the work the students have done, the portfolios they have created and the distance that has been traveled by them all. We will be sad to see them go!

The next courses will begin in September and we are currently in the process of whittling down prospective students to a lucky short-listed few.

below: Cllr Saint talking to the crew about economic development



Virtual&Real hits the gallery

A Virtual & Real image sample is currently on display at the Pump Rooms Museum and Art Gallery in Leamington Spa until the 6th of August.

Young people of different nationalities worked in teams to produce virtual and real postcards, comparing different cultures from around the world. The project encouraged young people to think about identity and culture by designing and printing postcards that explore the issues surrounding today's youth subculture.

Big visions for the big screen

Script and Red Room Films are working together to provide an exciting opportunity for experienced writers in the Midlands looking to break into the wonderful world of screenplay writing. Workshops and one-to-one mentoring will be on offer to enable experienced writers of fiction or non-fiction; stage, radio or TV drama to write a full length original screenplay. For full details of the course outline and fees, and to download an application form visit www.scriptonline.net/screen.html or call Script on 0121 224 7415. Please note that to be eligible you need to be an experienced writer living, working or studying in the West Midlands.

Deadline September 1st 2006.

The project encouraged young people to think about identity and culture by designing and printing postcards that explore the issues surrounding today's youth sub culture.

The images were then emailed to other young people both locally and internationally, and the recipients then replied with a postcard of their own. A selection of the postcards have been incorporated into a display piece as part of the Warwickshire Artsweek exhibitions at the gallery.

Artsweek is a biannual celebration of the visual arts and the best thing is - it's free! Please pop in and let us know what you think.

Hybrid:arts winner of social enterprise award

Hybrid:arts are proud to have been recognised with this prestigious award from the British Business Association. The award was presented at a ceremony held at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry – a very glamorous affair star-studded with the who's who of the local business world.



We are delighted to have received the Social Enterprise of the Year Award, cementing our standing as one of the innovative movers and shakers currently rocking Warwickshire and providing recognition for our achievements. Expect more enterprising to come your way! For all the juicy gossip, take a look at the website:

<http://iccoventry.icnetwork.co.uk/0150business/businessawards/>

Henley Hub

We have just installed printed windows at the Henley Youth and Community Service (The Hub). The project with young people at the club involved Photoshop sessions (see pic, right) to manipulate images of youth culture in the clubs' surroundings – the resulting collage has been printed onto the new windows to create a permanent public art installation. The windows were recently unveiled by young people in the presence of The Chair of Stratford District Council, Mike Brain. (See picture, below)



CVTV launch

Hybrid:arts are launching a new business initiative. CVTV will offer a camera and tripod hiring service, video and sound production and sound composition. On body printing will also be available, as well as duplication of CDs and DVDs. We also hope to incorporate an artwork and graphic design service into this package. Watch this space.



Wenger booth

Hybrid:arts plan to set up an Indestructible Music Club, which will provide a space for young people to access and experiment with their musical creativity after school and in the holidays. The Club will open in March 2007 and will be developed in a tailor made space within the railway arches in Leamington Spa. The project has been driven by requests for young people to have a safe place to go and express themselves creatively, making and performing music. The Club will support a peer mentoring scheme with trainees that have fledged from the Hybrid:arts music programme, with support from professional trainers.



South Birmingham College are supporting the project by providing two Wenger sound isolation booths worth 40K. The booths will be used back stage to house the recording equipment. Indestructible will be a place for young people to make loud music with full creative expression – it will specialise in the recording of live performances and also help to stimulate the local youth music scene. Hybrid:arts are determined to make this project a success that will positively change young people's lives.