

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 22 March 2010

REPORT ON: Dundee Repertory Theatre Creative Learning Team - Revenue Support 2010-2011

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 96-2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To submit to the Committee a request for renewal of Revenue funding for Dundee Repertory Theatre - Creative Learning Team 2010/2011.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 remits the Director of Leisure & Communities, on behalf of Dundee City Council, to enter into a one year Service Level Agreement with Dundee Repertory Theatre - Creative Learning Team, subject to on-going monitoring and evaluation as to its efficiency, economy and effectiveness
- 2.2 remits the Director of Leisure and Communities to keep these arrangements under review and amend as appropriate.
- 2.3 approves the Grant Funding amounting to £20,208 per the period 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The funding recommended is £20,208, which sum is provided for in the Leisure and Communities Department's Revenue budget for 2010-2011, as shown in the budget at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The terms and conditions of the grant will be contained within a Service Level Agreement 2010-2011 between Dundee City Council and Dundee Repertory Theatre, Creative Learning Team.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Dundee Rep's Creative Learning Team's Mission Statement is to enrich the lives of local people by creating a range of opportunities for participation, personal development and creativity, using theatre and drama, both within and outwith the theatre. They aim to develop self confidence and the transference of skills and to use the theatre's resources and expertise to create a forum for wider community involvement. The Team delivers its programme directly in the community and at the Rep and directly engages those who may not normally participate in mainstream arts provision. They prioritise work with:
- Children (0-13) and the people who work with them
 - Young people (13-25) and the people who work with them
 - Vulnerable adults and the people who work with them
 - Adults and Children experiencing mental health difficulties and the people who work with them.

- Socially excluded, culturally diverse and minority groups who would not normally access the theatre.

4.2 **Review of the Year 2009-2010**

In 2009/10 the Creative Learning Team has delivered 1,148 workshops to 22,393 participants. The programme supports Community Outreach Workshops, Education Workshops in schools, Further and Higher Education, Dramatherapy and Creative Drama sessions, Youth Theatre, a Life Long Learning programme, a CPD programme for youth workers and teachers. A variety of other projects such as taster sessions, national and international projects, theatre tours, work experience, training for community artists and the creation of theatre for excellence for children and young people.

Major Achievements in 2009/10 included:

- In June the 14-16s/16-18s Youth Theatre performed a production of *Twice Upon a Time*, the production allowed young people to learn directly from professionals in acting, directing, composing, lighting, sound, stage management and costume design.
- The Adult Group and Women's Singing Group joined creative forces to perform *Creative Voices* a play that was written by a member of the Adult Group.
- The Women's Singing Group toured Whitfield and Menzieshill Community Centres in November.
- Every member of the Creative Learning Team in house groups from the 5-7 year olds to the adults performed on the main stage.
- Two Play in a Week projects allowed 11-13 year olds and 14-16 year olds the opportunity to perform on stage, this project was funded by Cashback for Communities.
- The Education officer worked with selected Dundee Primary Schools on a partnership project with the McManus Dundee Art Gallery & Museum.
- The Creative Identities Project has had many delightful and touching moments through out their projects. One example is a young woman who is supported by Barnardos Face Project who works with young women at risk of sexual exploitation. During discussions with her worker it had been noted that she was not turning up for her meetings with her social worker or her Through Care/After Care worker, however she attended 100% of her Creative Identities Dance Project sessions

Community

- The satellite Youth Theatre is now thriving with long standing groups running in Menzieshill Community Centre and Whitfield Community Centre thanks to funding from the Lethendy Trust. In July Whitfield Youth Theatre performed in their own venue to family and friends.
- The Creative Learning Team have established two groups for adults with learning difficulties one at Ellen Mhor (meeting weekly at the Rep) and one at the Wellgate Day Centre.
- The AAAAs a group run by Grey Lodge for young people with barriers to learning now have weekly sessions at the Rep.
- The Creative Learning Team have recently set up a new group in the Ashram Centre funded by Mentor Scotland, where we will work with a group of young people on alcohol awareness within a culturally diverse community.
- The Creative Learning Team will be working with a group of clients (some of whom are wheelchair users) from the Whitetop Centre from March and hope to set up a second group early in the new financial year.

Dramatherapy

The client group and profile have both once again built this year.

The Creative Learning Team took part in the city wide Mental Health Week Festival and continue to engage in local, regional and national networks.

SPARK

Once again, the Creative Learning Team flagship education project funded by Provident Financial was a huge success. Six primary schools (Whitfield, Newfield, St Ninians, St Peter and Pauls, Park Place and Gowriehill) that were identified as having little or no access to arts provision and situated in regeneration priority areas, were given the opportunity to see a show and work with Directors, Artists and musicians to create performances that they played at the Rep.

PLAYHOUSE (New writing for Primary Schools)

This project allowed the Creative Learning Team to work with local primary schools on new plays commissioned by the Rep and their partner theatres across the UK. The plays were performed at the Rep allowing many friends and family who had never accessed the building to do so and the teachers received a comprehensive CPD programme.

PERFORM AT THE REP

This project allowed the Creative Learning Team to engage with secondary schools on a deeper and more intense level. The four schools engaged with the Rep in CPD and training and performed on the Rep main stage.

Holiday Projects

Two Play in a Week projects gave 11-13/14-16 year old the opportunity to work on a script from Monday to Friday with a performance on main stage on Saturday.

Wild Things

In partnership with The Space, DCA, SDT, DCC and Camperdown Country Park, we once again delivered this successful project involving a series of community sessions and an intense summer school for the young people of Dundee.

Creative Identities

Creative Identities is an 18-month pilot project funded throughout Scotland. Cashback is a Scottish Government initiative that is funded by monies reclaimed from the proceeds of crime. The project aims are to work with hard to reach young people from the ages of 10-19 years who may be experiencing difficulties in their lives. Working in partnership with Action for Children, Barnardos, Includem, Young Carers Project and Looked after Children. The project can offer bespoke projects and programmes of work including drama, dance, moving image, creative writing, screen-printing, photography, jewellery making and visits to see live theatre and film to mention just a few, they also offer some open access projects.

Links

The Creative Learning Team continued to develop their links with community centres, schools and other venues to raise the profile of Dundee Rep Creative Learning on a local, national and international level.

4.3 Major Plans for 2010-2011

Productions

- This July the Rep. will present *Dundee Stories*, *Dundee Voices*, *Authentic Voices from the Heart of the City*. This will give a public platform to the different adult participatory groups, including the Women's Singing Group.
- Throughout the year, the many Youth Theatres will be given an opportunity to perform on the Rep. main stage with professional production values.
- The Creative Learning Team aim to allow the Youth Theatre the opportunity to create theatre in different ways, and in ways that attract different audiences to the Rep.

Creative Identities

The Creative Learning Team are currently awaiting confirmation about continued funding from the Cash Back for Communities Scheme. If this is successful, they will build on the work with vulnerable young people aged 10-19 and deepen the engagement and cross-art partnership with the DCA.

Skills and training/Arts Education

The Creative Learning Teams ambition is to develop the theatre into a creative and cultural hub that will service the arts education needs of the City and region. The LEARN fund from the Arts Council will come to an end in May, but the theatre intends to mainstream two of the posts to ensure that this excellent work continues. For example, two ENTERPRISE days are planned for October when young people are invited to experience working in all the different departments of the Rep.

The SPARK funding from Provident Financial is also coming to an end but the theatre will continue to make links with the Curriculum for Excellence and use the resources of live performance to enhance young people's learning.

Satellite Youth theatres

The Creative Learning Team will continue to run and develop these groups encouraging more children from the local area to take part and develop confidence, communication and teamwork skills.

Community/Diversity

The Creative Learning Team will build on this year's successes and aim to work with more community participants in a variety of areas. For example, they will work with the Ashram project at Dudhope Centre. They aim to establish on-going links and opportunities for this group to perform at the Rep thus broadening the cultural diversity of the theatre.

Dramatherapy

The successful service will continue work with clients with mental health issues and they will work with their colleagues in the Social Work Department to develop new and innovative ways of disseminating our best practice. They will also continue to run and develop their Creative Learning drama sessions.

Perform at the Rep

The Creative Learning Team will offer local secondary schools and youth groups the opportunity to perform at the Rep in a supported programme of performance sharing.

Holiday Projects

The Creative Learning Team will continue to offer Holiday projects and look at ways of helping these to service the need of their very long Youth Theatre waiting lists.

- 4.4 Dundee Rep's Creative Learning Team sustained 7 full time job equivalent in Dundee during 2009/2010 and is projected to achieve 90% of their income from non City Council sources in 2010/2011.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

**STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
2 MARCH 2010**

DUNDEE REP THEATRE - CREATIVE LEARNING TEAM**APPENDIX 1**

	Projected Out-turn 2009-2010	Projected Budget 2010-2011
Expenditure		
Staff costs	165,328	160,444
Education	32,127	8,038
Community	5,647	3,670
Dramatherapy	3,810	3,889
Participation	38,212	30,278
General	10,441	11,600
Total Expenditure	255,565	217,919
Income		
Box Office, Fees, sponsorship, donations miscellaneous, project associated funding	33,121	48,952
Grants		
Scottish Arts Council Revenue Grant	111,555	116,709
Dundee City Council Revenue	20,208	20,208
MISG	30,410	30,410
Learn	59,904	
Sub Total Grants	222,077	167,327
Total Income	255,198	216,279
Surplus/(Deficit)	(367)	(1,640)