

Oriel
Davies
Gallery

Oriel Davies

Learning & Participation Report

1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017



Making Our Mark: Criw Celf
collaborative workshop

Schools & Colleges 2016-17

Our successful partnerships with Arts Council Wales' Lead Creative Schools programme and with the Severn Rivers Trust's Leaping Lights project each continued into their second year of activity with Oriel Davies in 2016-17. Oriel Davies' flora schools outreach programme drew to a close in summer 2016 with Jacques Nimki's final project, at Ysgol Craig yr Wylfa, taking place in the seaside village of Borth and at Aberystwyth Arts Centre. Our Open Space project, curated by Amber Knipe, inspired young people from schools & colleges to visit Oriel Davies and create new work especially for exhibition alongside professional and emerging artists in The Drawing Room.



Flora Outreach at Ysgol Craig yr Wylfa, Borth

The grant awarded to us by the Ernest Cook Trust in 2015-16 allowed us to reach out to pupils across Wales by extending the flora Outreach Project to three schools near to flora's touring venues, concluding in summer 2016 with Ysgol Hafod Lon near Pwllheli and Ysgol Craig yr Wylfa at Borth, where artist Jacques Nimki worked with the whole Junior Class of 15 children at this small village school. They engaged in activities using drawing, collage, games and investigating wild plants, as well as developing the confidence to present their ideas in public during their visit to flora at Aberystwyth Arts Centre. Pupils learned about the nature of plants and their uses; how colour works and how to mix colours; the visual and spoken languages of art and how these influence every sphere of their everyday lives. Class teacher Lucy Hughes praised Jacques' skills in working with her pupils, observing how their learning was demonstrated during the exhibition visit: "They took in everything they'd done in previous lessons and really took it on board in the gallery. Some of my children who are not confident at speaking in front of strangers – or even teachers – were much more confident than usual." Making the most of the school's outdoor areas and wild garden, as well as the gallery and grounds at Aberystwyth Arts Centre, the duration of the workshops over four days with the artist meant that her pupils "really relaxed, took time, (paid attention to) detail and focussed".

Radical Craft & St Michael's School, Kerry

St Michael's Church in Wales Primary School visited the Radical Craft exhibition with Learning Officer Helen Kozich in July. This lively group of 24 pupils aged 6-8 really engaged with the exhibition, its range of materials and techniques and the often playful nature of the artists' works.



After visiting Radical Craft, they responded to their experience using found and waste materials, including things they had gathered in preparation for their visit, to make personal, wearable objects that focussed on colour and texture. The workshop objective was to encourage the children to work on a small scale and in thoughtful ways, enabling development of fine motor skills, through learning new ways to join contrasting materials and objects. Teacher Liz Holloway commented how much she and her pupils had enjoyed the exhibition and activity, and how impressed she was at the level of individuality expressed in each child's creative output.

Leaping Lights 2016 with the Severn Rivers Trust

Maesyrrhandir, Treowen, Dafydd Llwyd, Penygloddfa and Hafren Primary Schools all took part in the second major community celebration of the life-cycle of the salmon, the River Severn and its Mid Wales tributaries. Helen from Oriel Davies and Lisa Barlow from the Severn Rivers Trust worked together with 221 junior pupils over 10 school days between June and September, helping them to create their own processional salmon lantern sculptures for the Leaping Lights lantern parade. (Lisa and Helen also collaborated with





members of the public to build a giant mayfly feature lantern over a weekend-long drop-in workshop in the gallery, with which a few of the school children also joined in.) The Leaping Lights procession took place on the evening of September 30th, with a majority of the children, their teachers and many family members taking part among the crowd of around 1500 attending. It culminated in the magnificent spectacle of a giant fish-shaped fire sculpture illuminating the park outside Oriel Davies, surrounded by nearly 100 salmon lanterns.

Creative Agent Role: Lead Creative Schools at Ysgol Cedewain

Oriel Davies' Learning Officer continued in the Creative Agent role, planning, project managing and evaluating Year 2 of ACW's Lead Creative Schools project at Ysgol Cedewain. From the initial planning with teachers in summer 2016, through to the project's celebratory exhibition at Oriel Davies in February 2017, Helen supported Ysgol Cedewain staff, pupils and artist Martin Daws in delivering a collaborative, creative, multi-sensory learning project.

Martin used his skills as a spoken word artist and poet, to help teenagers with a range of



physical and learning disabilities to explore issues of interdependence, identity and sustainability in relation to the Global Learning Programme. Beginning from the question, 'Where does our stuff come from?', participants learned about materials, global trade and geography, while developing confidence and skills in literacy, oracy, performance, creative writing and digital competence. They worked with voice, sound and rhythm to develop and record rap poems, audio pieces and make physical artworks. Twenty seven pupils in three classes, their teachers and support staff worked with Martin over 22 days between November 2016 and February 2017.



Ysgol Cedewain's Lead Creative Schools project was celebrated with the artist, participants, family members and special guests including Newtown's mayor and the High Sheriff of Powys, in a one-day exhibition in Oriel Davies' education room. The teenagers' words and ideas were presented through sound, sculpture, collaged national flags, writing and film. Poetic messages in bottles suspended among colourful fish sculptures accompanied their audio piece, 'Sea of Sad', about the toxic effects of plastic detritus on marine wildlife. Giant 3D letters and an original rap tune, written and performed on video by pupils, reflected their investigations into the origins of everyday materials and the vast distances travelled by container ships across the globe to bring these to Wales. Powys Schools Challenge Advisor, Anwen Orrells, afterwards responded, "It was fantastic – the range of skills developed were vast..... A true credit to the school and the pupils. I was so impressed with how many of their pupils successfully discussed elements of globalisation and citizenship with me!!"



The Drawing Room & Imaginary Worlds

The Drawing Room played host to young people from a diversity of formal education settings. Art and Design students from NPTC, Newtown and Afan campuses worked with artist Ellen Bell, who invited them to think of a real or fictional 'celebrity' and create an object relating to their life or home environment. After developing their artworks at college over the autumn term, students from both campuses came together at Oriel Davies to present their works to each other in The Drawing Room. Their sculptures and constructions were then displayed within TDR. Pupils from Bettws

Lifehouse, a specialist school for young people with a range of additional needs, made collaborative poems with Sophie McKeand, Young People's Laureate for Wales, and investigated ways of making sound with books and other objects with visual artist Amy Sterly. Helen Kozich worked with a group from Newtown's Pupil Referral Unit, who combined a workshop making willow masks with visiting The Drawing Room & Imaginary Worlds.



Go & See Grant Funding: Gladestry C in W School and The Drawing Room

Since their previous participation in Oriel Davies' Start Programme 2011-14, Gladestry School's head teacher has been enthusiastic about the learning benefits of working with contemporary art and artists at Oriel Davies, but prevented from returning by the costs of bringing pupils from their rural location. By obtaining Arts Council Wales' Go & See grant funding, her 26 Juniors were able to make two 'before and after' visits to the gallery as well as working with artist Mai Thomas at school, to create new artworks especially for The Drawing Room. The children sketched, imagined characters and devised stories in response to objects in TDR, and planned with Learning Officer Helen Kozich what kind of things they might make back at school. With Mai's expert guidance, the children used brown parcel paper, corrugated cardboard, tape and wire, to construct furniture, props and figures for a large doll's house, as well as designing and making a collection of life-size, wearable paper hats and caps that were installed in The Drawing Room for their return visit.

Looking Forward

Following Ysgol Cedewain's two-year Lead Creative Schools programme with Oriel Davies as Creative Agent, the gallery has decided to pull back from this role in order that more of Helen's Learning Officer time can be focussed on developing new relationships and projects with schools and colleges across the region. Due in part to its successful LCS activities, Ysgol Cedewain has been selected to be a Pioneer School for the Expressive Arts, and we are delighted that this school will thus be playing an important role in helping

to develop the new curriculum for Wales, which will place creative thinking at the heart of learning across all subjects. As Professor Donaldson's inspiring recommendations for a new approach to teaching and learning in formal education are put into place over the next few years, in spite of challenges posed by current financial constraints it will be an exciting time for galleries and schools working together in Wales.

Schools & College Sessions and Attendances



flora Schools Outreach on Tour

Ysgol Craig yr Wylfa, Borth and Ysgol Hafod Lon, near Pwllheli

(including 1 inset session with 25 teachers and LSAs at Ysgol Hafod Lon)

Sessions: 17

Attendances: 257

Hafren School Recycling Rhino Outreach Project

Sessions: 2

Attendance: 9

Radical Craft and St Michael's School

Sessions: 1

Attendance: 24

Leaping Lights 2016 with the Severn Rivers Trust

Maesyrrhandir, Treowen, Dafydd Llwyd, Penygloddfa and Hafren Primary Schools

(including pupils and family members taking part in procession)

Sessions: 21

Attendance: 937

Creative Agent for Lead Creative Schools at Ysgol Cedewain

Sessions: 70

Attendance: 671

The Drawing Room

NPTC, Newtown & Afan Campuses; Bettws Lifehouse; Gladestry C. in W. School; Newtown Pupil Referral Unit

Sessions: 17

Attendance: 334

Schools & Colleges Summary

Total sessions: 128

Total attendances: 2232



Informal Learning 2016-17

The 2016-17 informal learning programme has offered a wide diversity of opportunities for engagement and participation for children and families, community groups and individual members of the public. In August 2016, Oriel Davies signed up for the Family Arts Standards with Family and Childcare Trust, thereby ensuring the public that as an organization we value families and strive to provide good family experience.

There has been an increase in the variety of workshops offered at the gallery and in outreach activities. The programme has been further enhanced by the Open Space project -The Drawing room funded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Literature Wales funded Roald Dahl festival held over the summer of 2016, the Gwanwyn Festival in May and the ACW Our Space community arts project on Maesyhandir estate.

Regular workshops and courses ran throughout the year, including life drawing, children and families art and craft sessions, creative writing courses, the annual Open Writing competition and exhibition related workshops for adults here at the gallery and outreach. Partner organizations such as Aberystwyth University offered visual arts and literature based courses each term at the gallery. Celf, a disability arts organization based in Llandrindod offered training sessions for artists with experience/knowledge of mental health, focusing on practitioners developing their own current practice to produce work for an exhibition planned by DAC (Disability Arts Wales)

Partnership working has increased. The Ein Lle Ni/ Our Space outreach programme worked with a number of statutory organizations linked to Powys Families First such as Flying start, Action for children and the Youth Intervention Support services. We collaborated with other arts based organizations in Powys and beyond, the Library service and with third sector organizations such as Severn River Trust, Montgomeryshire Play Network, Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and Montgomeryshire Forest School to extend our informal learning offer to communities. Contact was also made with EYST (Ethnic Youth Support Team) to invite Syrian families recently housed in the area to Our Space activities.

Additional project funding obtained during this period included:

£1000, from Literature Wales for a Roald Dahl centenary grant towards the running of events in summer 2016.

£500, from Age Cymru, to run the Gwanwyn festival in May.

£22003, from ACW towards the second year of the Our Space outreach programme.

Informal Learning Workshops & Events:

Children & Family workshops

The children and family workshops held during the school holidays have seen an increase in the variety and number of workshops offered. On offer were visual art and craft sessions, Creative Writing workshops for children and storytelling in the gallery space and in the park. Using a wide variety of artists and makers we run workshops linked to exhibitions, national themes such as the Dahl 100 celebrations and to local events, such as the Newtown Food Festival and the Severn River Trust Lantern festival. The following art forms were on offer: painting, drawing skills, creative writing, illustration, making Dahl inspired props and giant sculptures, book illustration, mask making in felt, working in willow and lantern making.

Comments include:

'our children love coming to the gallery to listen to stories and do crafts'

Nursery Leader, Little World Nursery

'great to have an opportunity to try techniques we would never use at home'

'fantastic tutor, helpful with engaging very young children with limited attention span'

'the cost of the workshop is impressive and it is great to work in small groups'

'therapeutic family time!'

'workshop was so cool, I loved illustrating my paper house and seeing it light up'

'great to have an opportunity to work with a variety of different artists'

'loved the scary stories in the Drawing Room'



Other family workshops

We ran 2 workshops for parents/carers of young babies and pregnant mothers. This was in partnership with the Powys Sports Development officer who runs regular weekly Bumps to Buggy walks in the local park. The parents and babies were delighted to come into the gallery after their walk to do crafts. The group held their Christmas party in 'The Drawing Room' and was pleased to work with an artist to create home made Christmas cards. The babies loved dipping their feet in paint to create individual Christmas cards.



Literary Events:

Annual Open Writing Competition

The Open Writing Competition in 2016 had over 78 submissions, an increase from the previous year on the theme of 'Imaginary Worlds', linking it to the recent Oriel Davies illustration exhibition of the same name. A decision was made to make the competition bilingual and entries were welcomed in either English or Welsh. Poetry and prose submissions were received from Wales and England. The winning poem- Blood Lines was by Frances Field from Presteigne and the winning prose-Cosmic Tiger was by Chris Clement-Green from Staylitttle.

Chris Kinsey, who judged the English Competition, ran a reading event in April 2017 to celebrate the winning entries and the commended entrants. Two former winners of the Oriel Davies Open Writing competition, Jan Newtown the 2014 winner and Gill Mcevoy, winner of the first Oriel Davies Writing Competition were invited to read from their work as well. Both winners have since gone on to publish poetry pamphlets and novels. The event was well received with over 30 participants attending the event.

Comments included:

“ Wonderful afternoon, we thoroughly enjoyed it. Congratulations to you, all the readers and the people from Oriel Davies!”

Visual arts:

Life Drawing



Our popular life Drawing Saturday classes run by artist Caroline Ali is often oversubscribed. In response to this need, we organize extra classes on a weekday when there is a waiting list. In September 2016 we ran a themed workshop with burlesque dancer, 'Satine Di Monte' performing two dance sets for the life drawers. Using different models at each session is something that participants appreciate and value.

Comments include:

'superb session. Wonderful model and tutor'

'amazing performer, love the colorful costumes and drawing movements'

'wonderful! Great fun but also a terrific learning opportunity'

'sketched my work out of my comfort zone'

Flora on Tour Informal Learning Workshops

We continued the informal learning activities associated with flora on tour throughout 2016/2017 at:



Oriel Plas Glyn y Weddw:

Rhian Haf ran a flora inspired glass panel making workshop.

Llantarnam Grange Arts Centre:

Becky Lewis ran 3 nature inspired workshops.

Aberystwyth Arts Centre:

Ruth Packham ran a flora related felting workshop.

Oriel Myrddin:

In-conversation event with Anne-Mie Melis and Alex Boyd Jones, Talk by Bruce Langridge National Botanic Gardens, Nature Prints Workshop with Ceri Rhys Matthews and an artist group guided tour.

Open Space: The Drawing Room



From October 2016 to February 2017 The Drawing Room was a multi-use space - an artist studio, boutique cinema, stage set, newsroom. A place for ideas, where discussion, learning, creativity and play were encouraged – Newtown's living room in an art gallery. Oriel Davies worked in collaboration with artists and the public to create The Drawing Room, a curiously inviting room assembled from found, collected, customized and bespoke objects. Through open calls, conversations and invitations - residents, schools, voluntary groups, established and emerging artists took part and contributed to the ever

changing environment. Artists who engaged with the public of all ages, through a seminar, creative workshops and drop-in activities ranged from poet and Young People's Laureate for Wales, Sophie McKeand to Conversations: Dancing in the Gallery seminar host Simon Whitehead, and also included Amy Sterly, Ellen Bell, Morag Colquhoun & Lisa Wilkins, AJ Stockwell, Helen Stratford and Honey Jones Hughes.

Partnership:

Lifelong Learning for Adults: Aberystwyth University

These are held in association with the University of Wales School of Education and Lifelong Learning. During 2015 to March 2016 courses on offer were: Screen Writing; Writing and Rewriting - Inspiration and Crafting; and Exploring Creative Writing Techniques, run by tutors Lara Clough and Chris Kinsey. Visual arts courses run by Dr June Forster included: Introduction to Oil painting and Colour Choices. Two new workshops introduced this year included basic sewing machine skills and up-cycling garments, i.e. learning to cut garments to create new and exciting clothing.

Celf-Able

Celf- Able is an organization run by and for disabled and disability artists in Powys aimed at reducing isolation and raising awareness of disability arts and disability issues. They meet regularly as a self-help group at Oriel Davies to meet and create art, supporting and learning from each other to do art, and share skills.

Additional Activities:



Ein Lle Ni / Our Space programme

We were successful in obtaining funding for the second year of the Our Space project. Our target audience was the “genuinely hard to reach”, those whose circumstances meant that they have low or no cultural engagement of any kind due to social, financial and physical barriers to participation.

To do this we targeted:

- areas with high levels of children on free schools meals
- Welsh Government designated Flying Start areas.

We also worked in partnership with a number of organizations/agencies already working in the area to draw on joint expertise and resources.

The second year of the project concentrated on family learning through the arts. We ran free monthly intergenerational family learning art, craft and cookery sessions on the Maesyrhandir Council estate. The half-day sessions took place on the third Saturday of each month. In these sessions we offered up to 5 high quality art/craft sessions at each event from 10am to 1pm. Children and families took part in the activities as a family group thus encouraging and increasing parental engagement. Children aged 8 and over could



attend on their own, but many attended with family members.

“myself and my 3 children look forward to attending these sessions. We get to make things that I would have no idea where to start before, we can work as a family during these sessions”

Susan Brian, mother of 3 children (aged 9, 10, 13)

“It is fantastic that the group is so welcoming, my step children visits at some weekends and it is great that they can just turn up for Our Space”
L, mother of a 4 year old, and step-mother to 3 others

“because on Saturdays, I’m normally at my Grandad’s and am bored, so coming here is really fun. There are lots of different things to do”

Megan, aged 9

“We have all been sitting down to eat together for the second year of the project. This has made such a difference to the overall feel of the session - I feel that the participants have developed a great sense of ownership of the project”
Jacquie, mother of a 3 year old and 13 year old.

Our Space participants were offered opportunities to take part in the children and families’ workshops run during the school holidays and in the free workshops run as part of the ‘The Drawing Room’ project. The Children and families sessions at the gallery cost £5 per person but free places were offered to OS participants.



The outreach sessions were well received by Maesyrrhandir residents and by school staff. Feedback has been very positive and a strong and productive relationship has been created with the children and families living on Maesyrrhandir estate, the wider community and the school. “Our Space has been an amazing project for the families at our school. As a socially deprived area, there are a lot of tensions within the community. Visiting the project and seeing our parents relaxing with their children, engaging in meaningful activities and enjoying this special family time is something that I was so happy to see. Everyone involved has got so much from it and for many parents I have seen their confidence grow.”

Alison Ellis, Head, Maesyrrhandir School.

A contributing factor to the success of the programme has been the research and community development undertaken by the Informal Learning Officer alongside the course of the project. The success of the programme is also due to effective partnerships, which has been a key feature of the Oriel Davies' Our Space programme. The Informal Learning Officer building on her past experience of community development effectively liaised with partners already working in the community to reach new audiences (Maesyrhandir CP School, Flying Start, Youth Service, Powys Young Carers , Action for Children,



Montgomeryshire Play network, Ethnic Youth Support Team). Working directly with these groups and the communities has been crucial to the success of the programme, however such developmental work takes a great deal of time and organization.

Creating a more sustainable community has also been an aim of the Our Space programme. We have used the arts as a tool to build confidence and self-esteem, develop new skills and improve the physical and mental wellbeing of hard to

reach groups in the Newtown area. Though hard to measure in the short term, we believe that the transferrable skills gained by the participants in the project could be a potential route into volunteering, social enterprise and employment.

“ I have been attending the sessions with my partner and her 2 children for the last 2 years. The project has helped my confidence. I suffer from depression and find it hard to be with people, but I have come to enjoy taking part in the Our Space activities and am looking forward to be actively involved in the project from April 2017 as a volunteer.”
Roger, step-father of a 10 and 14 year old.

During the course of the two years, some members of the group have begun to take on a more active role, helping in the planning of the activities, proactively encouraging and signposting families to the sessions. The families have now decided that they would like to form a committee, fundraise and continue running a programme of activities on the estate. Sheela will continue to support the group on a voluntary basis.

Gwanwyn Festival

The Gwanwyn Festival funded by Age Cymru is aimed at increasing the health and well-being of people aged 50 and over and is held annually in May. We were successful in getting a grant to run two jewellery workshops in the gallery. The workshops, working in silver and copper received excellent feedback from participants:

“lovely to meet other creative people & learn new techniques in a sociable atmosphere”

“I feel much less depressed for doing something creative and have pushed my boundaries by trying new things”

“thoroughly enjoyed the morning, didn't want to leave!”

2016 was the tenth anniversary of the Gwanwyn Festival in Wales, and to mark the event, six artists were commissioned to produce one-off works of art, inspired by the quote “It’s good to look back, but it’s rude to star’. As part of the celebrations, Llangadog-based artist Elizabeth Bricknell’s commissioned artwork “Piecing Together”, an art installation of cups and saucers of different sizes went on display in the Education room at Oriel Davies together with documentation from the jewellery making workshops held at the gallery in May.

Leaping Lights Festival

We collaborated with the Severn Rivers Trust (SRT) on an arts project based around the migration of the Salmon to local rivers. As part of the project we ran five lantern-making workshops at the gallery for local families and two at Maesyhandir estate for the Our Space participants. Participants were also invited to join

the lantern procession held as part of the Leaping Lights Festival. The parade ended at an installation of fire display in the park by the gallery. A total of over 1500 people were recorded as taking part in this event, which brought communities together and visitors to the town



Looking to the future

The annual Open writing competition has grown in popularity over the last few years with increasing submissions each year. The 2017 Open writing competition on the theme of ‘Water’ to coincide with the Canal Trust exhibition will be launched in May 2017.

There is potential to increase the Life Drawing offer in the gallery as there is a demand for



the classes. Feedback from participants indicates that they are keen to have sessions in portrait drawing and extra sessions on a Friday. We use a variety of models at these sessions and it may be worth exploring the possibility of running untutored classes as a way of increasing income.

We have a strong working relationship with Aberystwyth University and it would be mutually useful to continue to have a dialogue with them to ensure that regular accredited arts courses are on offer at the gallery.

The Roald Dahl themed summer

workshops brought in not only local children and families but also visitors. 2017 has been themed as the year of legends by the Welsh Government. There is potential for the summer children and families workshops to be based on this theme and to be marketed as such to bring in visitors to the gallery.

The informal Learning programme has been enhanced by collaboration with organizations such as Powys Dance during the Dahl-inspired summer activities, the local Town Council during the Food Festival weekend and the River Severn Trust during the Leaping Lights Festival, all helping to make scarce resources go further by partnership working.

Informal Learning Sessions and attendances:

Children and Families Events

Sessions: 46

Attendance: 573

Ein Lle Ni/Our Space Project

Sessions: 34

Attendance: 1101

Writing and Literature Events

Sessions: 3

Attendance: 121

Life Drawing

Sessions: 13

Attendance: 163

Visual Arts/Crafts (adults):

Sessions: 28

Attendance: 192

Aberystwyth University Lifelong Learning

Sessions: 80

Attendance: 650

Exhibition related talks and events:

Oriel Davies Open 2016

Sessions: 2

Attendance: 66

Radical Craft: Alternative Ways of Making

Sessions: 2

Attendance: PV talk 19; PV attendance 32

Studies in Solastalgia: Sean Vicary

Sessions: 2

Attendance: Talk 47; PV 61

Imaginary Worlds

Sessions: 1

Attendance: PV talk 85

Open Space: The Drawing Room

Sessions: 54

Attendance: 292

Flora on Tour

Sessions: 13

Attendance: 97

Informal Learning Summary

Total sessions: 278

Total attendances: 3499



Criw Celf 2016 - 2017

Participating Schools:

Llanfyllin High School, Ysgol Bro Hyddgen Machynlleth, Caereinion High School, Welshpool High School, Llanidloes High School.

This year we accepted all applicants onto the project (33 in total). Officially there were 30 places, but Art teachers told us that those making applications had set their hearts on getting onto the project, and were concerned that any that did not get a place would be very disappointed. We decided to run with the 33 as it meant one additional participants at each masterclass (there are normally 10 participants in a group). The numbers have been

manageable, though additional numbers do mean additional administration - this age group (and some of their parents) are poor at replying to messages so a lot of chasing up has to be done in the lead up to every event.

Our highlight this year was the 'Making Our Mark' exhibition that was shown in the Testbed space during January and February 2017. This was the culmination of a collaborative workshop that took place just before Christmas. The workshop was filmed and edited by a previous Criw Celf participant, and was uploaded to the Oriel Davies and Arts Council of Wales' websites.



During this period, Criw Celf was also invited to exhibit artworks made during masterclasses with Automota Artist Andy Hazell. The invitation came from the Curator of the Drawing Room, Amber Knipe. The participants' tin sculptures were shown within dressers in the Drawing Room:

many positive comments were received about the work and the young artists clearly appreciated having the opportunity to exhibit their individual artworks in the gallery, alongside the 'Making our Mark' group exhibition.



We held an opening event for the exhibition, which was very well attended by participants, their parents and many other visitors.

The 'Making our Mark' exhibition will also be exhibited at the 'Rawffest' Youth Festival in Llandudno during August 2017. The Arts Council of Wales have actively encouraged Criw Celf projects across Wales to exhibit at the festival, so we submitted our application to the Rawffest youth panel. 'Making our Mark' has been selected and we anticipate that it will be shown in a

different format, to suit the space available, along with the film.

As always, Criw Celf Oriel Davies' participants are able to take the artworks they make at masterclasses away to include in school portfolios. Many also develop techniques they have learnt during sessions in further work at school or at home. This helps to maintain the relationship between project staff and Art teachers who are in the main very supportive.

Please find below details of the Criw Celf programme for this period.

June 23rd 2016 - North Powys Art teachers' CPD trip to the Ikon Gallery Birmingham

This training event aimed to inspire and invigorate secondary school Art teachers through a visit to the Ikon Gallery, which included a Continued Professional Development (CPD) session with a member of the gallery's Learning Team, which involved looking at a retrospective of American Artist Dan Flavin's artworks. The outing also included a visit to the recently opened Library of Birmingham, to look at how artwork has been incorporated in the building. In addition to the training which was very enthusiastically received, the event proved to be an useful networking and team-building event for the teachers, who are very keen to undertake further training again in Summer 2017.

Sessions: 2

Participants: 7

Attendances: 14



9th July 2016 - Criw Celf trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park - Not Vital Exhibition.

This was an opportunity to visit a major arts venue which at the time featured a major exhibition by Not Vital along with sculptures by many other artists in the galleries and parkland. The participants spent some time drawing in the Not Vital exhibition. Feedback from the trip was extremely positive.

Sessions: 2

Participants: 14

Attendances: 28

Bilingual sessions.

23rd July 2016 - Studio Sessions - A full day at artist Amy Sterly's studio creating woodcut prints.

Three participants spent the day at printmaker Amy Sterly's studio, experiencing working alongside an artist to make woodcut prints of their own.

Sessions: 2

Participants: 3

Attendances: 6

15th October 2016. Trip to the New Art Gallery Walsall, including a Gallery talk by artist Daniel Jones.

The visit included seeing a major exhibition by Eva Rothschild and included an opportunity to draw from her work.

Sessions: 2

Participants: 29

Attendances: 58 Bilingual session.





12th & 19th November and 3rd December, Masterclasses with automata artist Andy Hazell.

Participants created artworks using tin, and learnt how to manipulate metal and to form structures by soldering. The resulting artworks were stunning and were exhibited in the Drawing Room at Oriel Davies during January and February.

Sessions: 6

Participants: 25

Attendances: 50

Bilingual sessions.

17th December 2016 The Criw Celf Christmas Party/ Collaborative Workshop

This was led by Bethan Page with assistance from Artist Amy Sterly, and involved working collaboratively to create artworks for a specific exhibition in the Testbed space.

Sessions: 2

Participants: 21

Attendances: 42

Bilingual session.

14th January 2017 Opening event for the Criw Celf 'Making our Mark' exhibition at Oriel Davies

We had a very good turnout for the opening, and very positive reaction to the Making our Mark exhibition.

Sessions: 1

Participants (Criw Celf current participants): 13

Bilingual session

18th, 22nd and 25th February 2017 - Screenprinting Masterclasses with artist Becky Knight.

The participants created individual designs for screenprints and succeeded in printing them sometimes using several colours.

February 18th:

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 9 Attendances 18

February 22nd

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 9 Attendances 18

February 25th

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 5 Attendances 10

All bilingual sessions.

4th February 2017 - Visit to Chester University's Fine Art Department

Our visit to Chester University's Fine Art Department has become an annual event and we are very fortunate that the university provides incredible activities such as sculpture casting in aluminium, printmaking and drawing workshops.

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 21 Attendances: 42

Bilingual sessions.

11th, 18 and 25th March 2017 - Bookbinding/book creating Masterclasses with artist Amy Sterly

These masterclasses involved creating books from scratch using formal methods, then creating artworks inside the books using a wide variety of resources provided by the artist.

March 11th

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 7 Attendances: 14

Bilingual session

March 18th

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 8 Attendances: 16

March 25th

No of sessions: 2

Participants: 9 Attendances: 18

Criw Celf Summary

Total sessions: 31

Total attendances: 347



Oriel Davies Learning and Participation 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017

Schools and colleges: sessions 128 + attendances 2232

Informal Learning: sessions 278 + attendances 3499

Criw Celf: sessions 31 + attendances 347

Overall sessions: 437

Overall learning & participation attendances: 6078