



Scottish Arts Council

ARTISTIC EVALUATION – DANCE

Artist/Company: Y Dance

Venue: East Milton Primary School, East Kilbride

Title of Event: Nursery dance project

Type of Event: (e.g. performance, informal showing, work-in-progress, etc)
Filming of work done in workshops

Date of Visit: 29/11/04

Overall Rating (Please rate the production overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – i.e. the particular strengths and weaknesses).

4 – Good. Although the children were young (3-5) they concentrated well and performed their dances when asked for the camera

Name: Susan Hay

Date: 1/12/04

Specialist Advisor

Scottish Arts Council Officer ✓

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named below. It has been prepared by either a specialist Advisor, or an officer of the Scottish Arts Council, as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and to the management of the venue, if the venue is core funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report may be made available to Scottish Arts Council Officers, Council and Committee members, and specialist advisors as appropriate. It will be taken into account in assessing the work of the producing company in relation to applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Council to report on the overall performance of its Core Funded organisations.

Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:

1-Very Poor – standard falls well below what is acceptable.

2-Poor – not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation.

3-Competent – routine rather than especially interesting.

4-Good – well conceived and executed

5-Excellent – conceived and executed to a high standard.

1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, taking account of the following

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Vision and imagination	4	The workshops focussed on working with the children to tell a 'chapter' of <i>Patrick</i> . This group worked on creating colourful papier mache food, with Joannie (visual artist) and made short dances about finding the food when they were very hungry and eating it with Yvonne. Games were used to make this element more creative.
Clarity of communication	4	Yvonne is very clear in her instruction of this age group. She also mirrored the movements she was asking them to do, so they could copy, if they couldn't remember. Caroline, trainee, coped well with the group, encouraging them to participate and reinforcing the instructions given by Yvonne.
Quality of production – production's success in relation to stated aims i.e., in the programme or other printed material)	4	The group was being filmed on a blue background, with colourful props in situ. All the props and costumes were made by the children and it all looked colourful.

2. Strengths and Weakness

Assess the strengths and weakness of the event with reference to the following:

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Choreography - originality, use of space, number and use of dancers, length of piece, etc	4	Choreography was basic, due to the age group, but was well presented. A variety of games was used instead of set choreography, so that the children didn't have to remember too much.
Performers - technical standard, performance skills, and ability to communicate		n/a – nursery group
Sound – appropriateness and effect of sound or music (whole/part, live/ recorded) to the production.	4	Recorded music was used to encourage the children's movements. A new soundtrack will be produced to accompany the final film.
Design – costume, set, lighting		Stunning props, all created by the children with direction from Joannie. Thought was given to the costumes, so that the children looked professional and a part of a final production.
Technical standards – technical presentation of the production (e.g. lighting and sound cues, etc)		n/a The filming crew were professional and interacted well with the children.

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Audience – appropriateness of the production for the audience, estimate the size and reaction		n/a The children managed to concentrate on what they were doing for around two hours, with breaks.

3. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments/observations.

Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
Suitability of the venue for the event	3	Good sized space, but stairs down to the gym/ dining hall
Information/ interpretive material at venue ¹		n/a
Publicity/ pre-publicity ²		n/a
Ease of booking and payment		n/a
Location of venue		n/a school premises
External signage and signposting	3	Education signposting
Internal directional signage	3	Reasonable
Access and provision for disabled people	2	Stairs down to the gym hall. I was not aware of any provisions.
Timing of the event		n/a school time
Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (e.g. box office, front of house, bar and/or catering)		n/a school staff very helpful, and clear on signing in process
Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding ³		n/a

¹ These include programmes, displays etc., assessing the range, quality and clarity

² Publicity/pre-publicity (leaflets, posters, etc), including the range, content, and when and where available. Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Please also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised. Comment on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information

³ The following is an extract from the Scottish Arts Council's conditions of grant for funded organisations:

"The company should acknowledge Scottish Arts Council funding in press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, notices display, exhibition materials, websites and advertising).

Acknowledgement of the Scottish Arts Council grant must also be made in any secondary or indirect products arising from the revenue funding such as recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, computer programmes etc.”
Please comment on whether these conditions of grant were met, including use and prominence of the Scottish Arts Council logo on the company's website.