

Name Sophie McLellan

Organisation Malvern Theatres

What was the grant given for?

The grant from Worcestershire County Council supported our education programme aimed at providing community wide access to the arts.

The grant helped to fund our diverse range of events which included our weekly dance and drama classes which range from ages 2yrs through to 55yrs+.

Our Chance to dance classes provided dancers aged 55yrs+ with the opportunity to provide fun classes which improve flexibility whilst learning short sequences and doing creative work. These classes were a great success.

Youth Dance consisted of weekly classes in street and contemporary with our resident dance artist teaching participants technical and creative skills through exciting routines.

Parents & Wobblers provided weekly classes encouraging imaginative and inventive ways of moving and playing to music.

We also successfully ran Malvern Theatres Youth Drama, providing weekly fun and challenging classes exploring dramatic techniques, games and improvisations whilst building a performance from scratch.

The grant also supported our valuable Summer School programme in the mediums of dance, musical theatre and drama. All our workshops and events were provided by high quality professionals and ensured a professional, exciting and valuable experience for all involved.

Throughout the year our programme also included our exciting Performing Arts Event which is a unique opportunity for As/a Level & Btec performing arts students to work with up to 6 inspiring and professional companies, improving skills, knowledge and teaching new ways of working. The students this year worked with Vamos Theatre, Ballet Lorent, Frantic Assembly, Reveal Theatre and Central School of Speech & Drama.

How successful has the project been/been progressing. Please refer to your original application form. We are especially interested in how your original plans have been realized.

We have had a very successful year and are happy with the product of our work and the number of people we engaged with.

Through focus on marketing we ensured that local people gained access to a wide and varied range of work that we provided. Our aim was to provide a diverse range of affordable work appealing to people of varying age, background and interests.

Education events featured in our 'Taking Part' and in our main Theatre brochure which is distributed both locally nationally as well as displayed in house and by other organisations. We put out special letters and leaflets to schools containing details of events to promote to students and even newsletters which could go in their book bags.

We also took part in events that allowed the public to engage with the work we were doing. Our Outdoor/Indoor Dance day was a part of the 'Spin' project and allowed members of the public to see all our dance groups from the parents & Wobblers, through to our Chance to Dance participants perform and showcase the work we do. Additionally our Youth Drama groups had the opportunity to share the work they created over the term with an audience of family & friends.

Through being a POW venue, we have able to secure our wish of reaching young people from poorer backgrounds who may not have visited us before as they have been able to attend events that they might not otherwise be able to afford. We have also maintained affordable fees for our events ensuring they have been accessible to all.

This year has been very successful for Malvern Theatres education department and we look forward to developing in the coming year.

Where did the activity take place? Please provide us with a place or a postcode.

Malvern Theatres, Grange Road, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 3HB

How many people took part/have taken part in the activity

- As artists **19**
- As participants (workshops) **464**
- As audience members **257**

What age groups took part – please tick where appropriate with approximate figures

- All ages **X**
- 0-5
- 5-11
- 12-18
- 19-24
- 25-65
- 65 plus

Was the activity aimed at (please tick where appropriate)

- Young People **x**
- Disabled people
- People at risk of social exclusion **x**
- Black or Minority Ethnic Groups
- Any other specific group

Budget

- What award did you get from Worcestershire County Council? **£5000**
- How much other funding did you get from this project/activity?
- How much was your original expenditure? **£27,010**
- How much was the revised figure? **£27,585**
- How much was the original income? **£26,762**
- How much was the revised figure? **£23,454**

Is there further budget information you would like to tell us about?