What has LEAN been doing?
Overview of our activities from April 2016 - March 2017

Lewisham Education Arts Network (LEAN) has had a very busy and successful year; bringing an additional £93,650 for new projects in 2016-18 (raising £3 for every £1 of support from Lewisham Council). We have also been able to maintain and in some cases increase our core support services to those that are involved in creative work with children and young people in Lewisham.

Communications and advice, guidance and information sharing

During this period we have increased our ways of communicating with our members, and the frequency of contact. We directly communicated with **10,066 people** during the year. This excludes visitors to the website which numbered **17,496**.

We supported **33 people** through one to one/small group advice sessions. In this year we also reviewed how we send out news and information and, in addition to monthly general bulletins, sent targeted newsletters: to primary and secondary teachers for opportunities for their schools and pupils; bulletins with information for Lewisham Youth Arts Network members; termly listings for arts opportunities for young people; and introduced a similar bulletin for under 11 yr olds. In addition, we kept Rainbow Collective members updated through a newsletter and our website. These reached **9,502 people**. We have continued to build our Early Years Arts community - The Rainbow Collective - and 132 people now receive regular news, information, opportunities and updates. Contact Elizabeth Murton if you want to join.

LEAN built on our use of Twitter which has become a vital communications tool - this year we sent 853 tweets, increased our followers from 910 to 1092 and received 1024 mentions, favourites and retweets. LEAN also created two new twitter accounts in March 2014 that are taking off: Young Arts Lewisham and The Rainbow Collective (our Early Years Arts work). Both are still growing but have attracted 590 and 201 followers respectively, with Young Arts Lewisham growing fastest – a 50% increase on last year and 803 likes, retweets and mentions.

Pages viewed on our website remain high and **32,256 pages** were viewed.

**Myths & Misinformation:** What are the myths and misinformation about choosing to study arts subjects and how can we dispel them?

AGM & Annual Arts Event 2017, Thursday 9th February at Goldsmiths College

Each year LEAN holds an arts and education event as part of our Annual General Meeting which addresses current issues in our sector. The format is always different but allows our members to experience something stimulating: a talk; performance; workshop etc. There is always the opportunity to discuss what has been experienced and network over a glass of wine. **This year**, we wanted to focus on what information is being given to young people choosing their GCSE and A Levels, particularly in relation to arts subjects – and its roots, myths and implications.

Five guest speakers offered different perspectives followed by breakout discussions. Pauline Tambling CBE
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At the end of the evening there was an opportunity for the 52 strong audience to pledge how they might be able help dispel myths and misinformation.

Speakers:
- **Steve Moffat**, CEO of A New Direction
- **Wyn Griffiths**, Course leader on the BA/BSc Product Design at Middlesex University, Co-Founder/Co-Director of SMASHfestUK
- **Prof. Michael Archer**, Head of Undergraduate Studies in the Art Department at Goldsmiths
- **Pauline Tambling, CBE**, CEO at Creative and Cultural Skills
- **Catherine Sercombe**, Arts Award

**52 people attended** Feedback included: “Thank you very much for this. I found the presentations really useful and encouraging…”

**100% of people found the talks relevant or very relevant.** ‘I found the discussions informative and thought provoking’ - **90% agreed or strongly agreed** with the statement.

‘I was able to network and make new connections’ - **75% agreed or strongly agreed** with this statement.

**100% strongly agreed** they would like more events like this one.

**LEAN projects relating to children and young people**

**Lewisham Live 2017**

Once again LEAN added capacity to this festival of children and young people’s music and dance. LEAN assisted with performances and audience feedback at several events, managed the festival co-ordinator and oversaw the extensive evaluation and reports. With substantial help from Veronica Jobbins, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, we raised almost £60,000 for the festival. As ever, the festival could not have taken place without the design and marketing support from Lewisham Council, and the hard work of all the partners.

Along with festival staples such as Live Dance and Live Voices at the Broadway Theatre, 2017 saw new activity, we:

- Introduced our young people to new audiences beyond the borough with work showcased from the Creative Collective and Live at Trinity Laban projects at the newly launched Tate Exchange space.
- Launched new ‘projects’ — Creative Collective, Live Composers, Albany Young Creatives which all focused on the development of young people from performers (dancers, musicians etc.) to ‘creators’ (composers, chorographers, producers).
- Introduced Live Bands — a school based showcase with professional feedback and an invited audience.
- Premiered CLUB YMA – a project built out of a partnership between the Lewisham Young Mayors Team, Bellingham Gateway Youth Club and Young Makers Agency (Phoenix Community Housing), and developed on open mic events hosted in the past. The event incorporated music, dance and spoken word with other food and visual arts elements.
- Increased our use of social media and the re-launch of the dedicated Lewisham Live wordpress website by
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our Co-ordinator, Natalie Clarke.

16 shows/events over 6 weeks, 2058 children and young people took part. The performances were attended by 6044 people. 85% Participants who completed a survey rated their enjoyment as **five stars or four stars**.

100% of our audience for Lewisham Live who completed a feedback form rated the shows as **good or excellent**. The feedback for the importance of showcases such as Lewisham Live was also amazingly positive, again, with **96% of our audience** saying that such events were either **important or very important**.

‘An inspiring and memorable evening which admirably celebrated the importance and value of the arts in children’s and young people’s lives.’

**Arts Award Development Programme**

How can an annual multi-partner music and dance festival, for children and young people, increase Arts Award Delivery in Lewisham Primary Schools?

In September 2016, LEAN led on a project to see how Primary schools could use their participation in Lewisham Live to contribute to their pupils achieving Arts Award. The aim was to test some approaches and publish a guide for schools.

We made use of two opportunities to share information on Arts Award already planned; our own session on 6th October 2016 (part of our Arts Award Network) and a session held by Phoenix Community Housing on 17 November. Approximately 22 teachers attended the events in total. Arts Award Advisor training for teachers (free) provided by Phoenix Community Housing shortly afterwards proved very popular and 11 teachers were trained, plus 7 arts practitioners.

Two schools showed great enthusiasm to be involved in the development programme.

**St Augustine’s** took their choir (35 x 7-11yr olds) through Arts Award Discover and their teacher (now a trained advisor herself) made up her own logs for the children to use. Their advisor was the borough singing lead, Clark Caddick. The choir took part in Live Voices at Broadway Theatre. They had a session in school to increase their knowledge and understanding of running a festival and prepare them for their day at the theatre. In addition to their tech rehearsal, they had a guided tour of the theatre, spoke to the tech team, met the organist who played the theatre organ for them and answered their questions. They have shared their experiences back in school. The children successfully completed Arts Award Discover and were awarded certificates. The teacher now wants to do Explore with her class of yr 2’s.

**Prendergast Primary**

20 Reception/yr 1’s took part in Live Dance and are working towards Arts Award Discover with Miriam Wakeling as their Advisor (Cellist and Trinity Laban). They have completed Part A and they are on their way through Part B. Miriam is going to the school again (18th and 23rd April).

**LEAN projects/activities for artists working with children and young people**

**Lewisham Youth Arts Network (YAN)**

Lewisham Youth Arts Network continues to meet regularly (three times during the period). Two Member Newsletters
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were sent to update YAN on local news and information between meetings. New for this
ty year, the network meetings have broadened to include friends from the wider youth sector, locally and further afield.
During the year we heard from and enjoyed:

- A Broadway Theatre tour and update
- Heard news from Shalena Haughton-Peters about the exciting changes in Lewisham Council Youth Support Service
- An update on Headstart, London Borough of Lewisham (LBL) from Penny Phillips
- Information about Lewisham Local
- A meeting dedicated to Youth Forums and Youth Voice with Jennifer Raven, Sound Connections (SC) and Beth Atkinson, Horniman Museum and Gardens presenting along with group discussions
- Information on Lewisham Council’s new partnership with Crowdfunder
- And progress on our Arts and Resilience Toolkit

Lewisham Music Service & Hub
Jane Hendrie has continued to sit on the music hub strategy group and has taken on the role of treasurer. The
drive, energy and ability of Peter Hayward to get through an astounding workload has ensured the hub
continues to thrive and progress well. Now a registered charity (April 2017), Lewisham Music, the role of the
strategy group has changed to an advisory group. Lewisham Music is an active and essential partner in Lewisham Live.

The Rainbow Collective - Early Years Cross Artform Stakeholders Group and Project
We were funded for one year from September 2013 - August 2014 by A New Direction (lead Bridge organisation for London) to expand on our Early Years Arts support for the sector. Our Early Years Arts support has continued with in kind support and no extra funding: The Rainbow Collective hub, as part of the LEAN website, continues to be updated; a bulletin goes out to 132 subscribers, as well as emails sharing relevant local opportunities and events.
LEAN is open to early years partnerships and actively looks for new resources to continue this work. Get in touch with Elizabeth if you run Early Years events, would like a one to one session to discuss your Early Years arts ideas, would like to be on the mailing list or wish to work in partnership with the Rainbow Collective.

Arts and Resilience Community of Practice, HeadStart Innovation Fund
LEAN applied to this fund for a small amount of money to kick start a 'resilience' community of practice for artists and arts organisations. We were successful and worked with Trinity Laban to develop the programme.

*Our aims and outcomes for the project were: To increase artists’ ability to apply resilience and emotional literacy practice to their arts practice, and effectively measure the impact of this work with children and young people (10-14yrs)*
- More artists understand resilience and emotional literacy and use processes that strengthen it in their practice
- The measurement of how creative activities impact on resilience is improved
- Increased arts activity designed to support emotional literacy and resilience for those most at risk and all children and young people

*We began with a Symposium* to understand what artists working within the wellbeing/mental health sectors
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Currently know about resilience and to identify their CPD needs. On 16th June 2015 (Trinity Laban) the event was attended by 35 people and 22 signed up to be part of a Community of Practice. Since then, LEAN and Trinity Laban have been building a community of practice (CoP) with local artists/arts organisations to: share practice; visit effective creative projects; and reflect on how to transfer the learning to others. CoP meetings continued until the summer of 2016. We will conclude the project with an open event at Goldsmiths College on 25 October 2017. Contact Elizabeth for more information and book through our website.

Arts Freelancer's Breakfast Club
This was planned, in partnership with the Albany, as support for arts education freelancers living/working in Lewisham. The first Breakfast Club took place on 13th October 2015 at Deptford Lounge. The first event was free with 21 artists attending who worked with a diverse range of ages. The club has become a stalwart of our programme and the 6th was held on 16 June 2017. Next Breakfast Club will be on 12 October 2017. There is a small cost of £3 to cover breakfast.

Arts Award Local Network
Together the Royal Borough of Greenwich, LEAN and Greenwich Dance launched an Arts Award Network. This initiative aims to support schools, arts organisations, artists, arts award supporters and centres and all those interested in helping children and young people develop as artists and arts leaders through Arts Awards. This network is supported by A New Direction, London's leader in cultural education.

The Arts Award Network is providing Arts Award advisor training, meetings featuring case studies and success stories from a wide range of organisations from all over the capital, and provides opportunities for partnerships to form; all with the aim of improving the Arts Awards offering for young people in South East London.

The first Arts Award Network meeting was in Lewisham at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance (Laban building) on 24th November 2015. The network continued into 2016/17 with the final event for this year taking place on 6 October 2016:
Shining a Light on Arts Award for KS1 and KS2: an event for primary teachers to find out about:
- The nuts and bolts of Arts Award
- How to choose between Discover, Explore and Bronze for year 6
- Benefits to your pupils and school
- Planning your Arts Award delivery – first steps
- Connecting with local cultural organisations

87% agreed that ‘as a result of this event I am more likely to recommend my organisation delivers/continues to deliver Arts Award in the future’

And we are pleased to announce that we will continue the work into 2017/18. More information can be found here.

Community Development Projects at the Fellowship Inn (Phoenix Community Housing)
LEAN was contracted by Phoenix Community Housing to support Heritage Lottery Funded creative projects related to the restoration of the Fellowship Inn and the wider Bellingham area. In addition, we contributed to Phoenix...
Community Housing’s final stage HLF Activity and Action Plan in June 2016 for the Inn which was successful.

Phoenix Community Housing bought the Fellowship Inn, in Bellingham, a semi-derelict south London pub built for First World War veterans and their families, and raised 3.8 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund to renovate the pub and create multiple business lines, including a brewery and the only cinema in Lewisham. Alongside the restoration of the Inn a programme of activities to engage the local community and get buy in to the project will take place. These activities will ensure that people will have developed new skills or learnt about heritage. The activities include:

- Oral History & Digital Project
- Heritage Wall & Tapestry Project
- Performance project

Three cultural organisations are leading on these projects

Cultural Education Challenge – Bellingham Regeneration Arts Partnership
In the autumn of 2016, a core group of local organisations grasped an opportunity to promote Bellingham and all the recent changes in the area, culminating in the opening of the restored Fellowship Inn in 2018. We were successful in our bid to finance this.

- Lewisham Education Arts Network
- Greenwich and Lewisham Young People’s Theatre
- Lewisham Music
- Phoenix Community Housing
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

This group has met regularly as a steering group.

Our aim is:
To discover how a range of cultural/youth organisations working in Bellingham can come together and change cultural engagement and a sense of cultural entitlement in Bellingham young people

The project has 2 strands:
1. To bring together the organisations operating in Bellingham to:
   - agree a shared purpose; share knowledge;
   - identify gaps in provision;
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- ensure a cohesive cultural offer to young people;
- avoid duplication and collectively fundraise for the future.

We also hope the group will be keen to work together effectively to ensure young people and their families feel the new Fellowship Inn is a place for them to create, play, meet, influence and experience a wide range of cultural opportunities

2. To increase cultural engagement and a sense of cultural entitlement in Bellingham children and young people by forming a group of young people who will work with artists and arts organizations to:
   - Become cultural leaders
   - Have a direct say on the local youth arts offer and activities in the Fellowship Inn
   - Develop their own arts activities with artists for two hundred 8-13yr olds
   - 6 family shows
   - Do an Arts Award (accredited qualification)
   - Create a new 'what's on' app or something similar
   - Support local families to take part in fun creative activities
   - Expand their knowledge of great art by going to shows and exhibitions

The first Bellingham Regeneration Arts Partnership group met for the first time in June 2017. The 2nd meeting is on 18 October 2017.

Want to get involved? Contact Jane.

Grants for the Arts Talk and Surgeries
Thursday 14th April, 2016
In partnership with Nancy Stridgen, we organised a talk, Q&A and surgeries with ACE Relationship Managers Chris Rawcliffe, Maria Turley and Richard Ings. The event was well attended by 28 people. There were surgery slots for 12 people and the rest were encouraged to stay after the talk and speak with us and each other.
We plan to make this an annual event; the 2017 talk and surgeries took place in May 2017

Project Planning for Fundraising
A one off opportunity to learn about project planning for fundraising from The Big Lottery
12th May 2016
This was a training and information session delivered in partnership with Voluntary Action Lewisham to find out about and practically apply:
   - The importance of good planning
   - The ingredients of a good project plan
The session was aimed at practitioners who need to raise funds for projects that have a creative/artistic element, want to understand how good planning can improve their funding applications and need help to produce a clear written plan for their projects.
The session included opportunities to:
   - Work on your project aim(s) and the activities (objectives) you are planning to undertake on a project planning template
   - Discuss your plans with your peers with support from the trainers
   - Gain advice from Hugh Stultz (Big Lottery), Jane Hendrie (LEAN) and Lillian Brown (VAL) through mini surgeries
   - Book further one to one surgeries

11 people from arts/VCS organisations attended.
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Marketing members' activity
LEAN has continued to provide staffed marketing opportunities for our members. During Lewisham Live, LEAN ran an information stand promoting creative activities for children, young people and adults at two performances at the Broadway Theatre.

LEAN advocacy activities
We have continued to represent our sector at the: Stronger Communities Partnership Board; CYP VCS Forum Steering Group; CYP Joint Commissioning Group and Lewisham Local. LEAN also represented the arts sector on the HeadStart steering group.

To keep up to date on current issues in the arts education sector we also attend seminars and sessions capital wide such as: Participatory Arts London and Connected London (A New Direction). In addition, LEAN stays well connected to the wider voluntary and community sector through liaising with other local support (infrastructure) organisations.

Membership
Our membership continues to grow. Get regular information, news, professional development opportunities and jobs updates by registering on our website (it is free and quick and easy) and follow us on Twitter.

For 2017/18
Our core activities will continue thanks to funding secured from London Borough of Lewisham until March 2019, albeit at a reduced rate:
- One to one advice sessions with individuals and organisations
- Dissemination through our website, bulletin and twitter of information, guidance, news, opportunities, events and training and funding
- Provide networking opportunities for all our members
- Provide direct marketing opportunities for arts organisations
- Brokering professional relationships
- Adding capacity to collaborative projects e.g. Lewisham Live
- Advocating for the sector

The Rainbow Collective will continue to provide:
- Information sharing; an online early years arts portal for Lewisham

Ongoing projects are listed above but include:
- Lewisham Live 2018
- Arts Award Development Programme and Network
- Lewisham Youth Arts Network
- Arts Freelancer’s Breakfast Club
- Cultural Education Challenge – Bellingham Regeneration Arts Partnership
- Grants for the Arts Talk and Surgeries 2018
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Thank you to our supporters and partners

Support for Lewisham Live
Waitrose Greenwich (support for Lewisham Live)

Want to learn more about our work in any of these areas? Get in touch with Jane Hendrie or Elizabeth Murton.