

Flashlight

LIGHTHOUSE PRODUCTIONS

Lighthouse Productions is currently involved in making three films with a fourth in the pipeline. Convolution, a film with a twist and Underfoot Safari 2, a film which employs blue screen filming to shrink three students into the underfoot world of a compost heap are both in post production.

Ten is a short film where the storyline resembles the BBC cult series '24' starring Kiefer Sutherland. The story unfolds in 10 x one minute episodes shown in some parts in split screen format. The split screens may be the same event filmed from two different perspectives or show two different events happening simultaneously. Students from Hilbre High School met Greg Hall, last week. Greg, a professional film producer, will oversee the script writing and filming process.

At their first meeting Greg and the students formulated a storyline which followed the theme of 24. Once the script has been completed, auditions will be held for the main parts in the film.

All the films produced by Lighthouse Productions this year will be premiered at Pacific Road Arts Theatre on 26th June 2007.

WIRRAL SCHOOLS' FILM FESTIVAL FOUR ALL

The fourth 'Wirral Schools' Film Festival' will be held on Wednesday, 4th July 2007 at Weatherhead High School Media Arts College in conjunction with The Learning Lighthouse City Learning Centre and Wirral's Gifted and Talented Strand.

If you are involved in making a film this year or in the planning stages then make sure that your film is submitted to this festival by 5th June 2007. The film festival has become a 'not to be missed' annual event in the Wirral School Calendar. Put the dates in your diary!

If you are interested in these or any other projects that we can help you with – contact April or Patsi at the learning lighthouse on 678 2509.

SUSTAINIBILITY IN ACTION

GROUNDWORK MERSEYSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

From the loss of biodiversity with the felling of rainforests or over fishing, to the negative effect our consumption patterns are having on the environment and the climate, our way of life is placing an increasing burden on the planet. We need to make a more decisive move toward more sustainable development. The Groundwork Merseyside Environmental Awards is a showcase event that gives community groups, schools, public authorities and businesses an opportunity to demonstrate that they are playing their part and celebrates the environmental achievements that have been made on Merseyside.

This year the Learning Lighthouse CLC was short-listed for the Creative Environment Award which is for groups and schools achieving excellence in raising environmental awareness through the use of creative arts. The judges were looking for innovative and creative projects that promote environmental messages through the use of arts in any media.

The Learning Lighthouse CLC submitted the film made through Lighthouse Productions called 'The Wirral Green Scene', made in collaboration with Grove Street Primary, Millfields Primary School and St Mary's College. The students described the current recycling methods used at their schools and their involvement in the Eco-Schools scheme. They also visited CAT - The Centre for Alternative Technology at Machynllech, Europe's leading environmental display centre. Here the students learnt about wave, wind and solar power, composting, organic gardening and environmentally responsible buildings. The DVD has now been distributed to all Wirral Schools in an effort to encourage them to become part of the scheme.



Flashback

VIKINGS IN WIRRAL

The 'Vikings in Wirral' is a huge and wide-ranging web-based resource on the Wirral Learning Grid. It contains lots of information for students, researchers, museum visitors and the general public with an interest in Vikings in Wirral. There is also a special section for children and teachers in Wirral.

Mike McCartney, Wirral's Cultural Ambassador, visited the Learning Lighthouse and was filmed by staff at the CLC using the blue screen facilities to create the illusion of Mike appearing with other Vikings in different locations.

The whole programme is organised through a series of key historical questions and arranged in small chunks, providing a focus for children's learning.

The site will introduce you to Ingimund and the stories and adventures of Wirral's Viking settlers.



IN VIVO, IN VITRO, IN FORM

'science inspired art informing young people'



The Wellcome Trust, *Pulse* award has provided substantial funding to support a Wirral school's arts initiative. The Pulse awards provided funding for arts projects that engaged with biomedical science and encouraged debate about issues raised by scientific developments interacting imaginatively with young people.

The project, 'In vivo, In vitro, In form' which was co-ordinated by The Learning Lighthouse CLC, involved many young scientists, artists, design technologists, performers, dancers and musicians and also young people interested in debate. The project raised awareness to the developments in the design, manufacture and use of artificial and organic replacement and regenerated body parts through the medium of artistic expression.

In vivo, In vitro, In form culminated in 8 thought-provoking live multimedia performances held at the Wirral Museum, Birkenhead for over 800 students. The performances included the use of Isadora, a graphic programming environment that provided interactive control over digital media, with special emphasis on the real-time manipulation of digital video. The performances included multiple projections, acting, dancing, a live feed through a downstream key and inspirational lighting, both motorized and Ultra Violet.



All the art work created by the artists in residencies was displayed around the theatre during the performances. Many of the projections included digital art work and animations created by students during the life of the project. A larger than life puppet, made by the students, called 'Wilberforce,' was animated on the stage by dancers as part of the performance.

The stage shows were very well received. Many members of the audience were amazed by the technology used and learnt a lot from the content of the script, particularly about stem cell research and robotics and the potential for such research to grow replacement body parts, cure diseases and extend the human lifespan.

SPECIALIST STRAND SCHOOLS STEERING GROUP SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE

The Wirral Schools' Showcase took place at Pacific Road theatre on Wednesday 29th November 2006.

This was a high profile event attended by a number of VIPs and showcased some of the amazing talents and achievements of Wirral students.

The Learning Lighthouse provided full audio/visual support to the event which included a live camera feed, special effects and projection on to three projection screens.