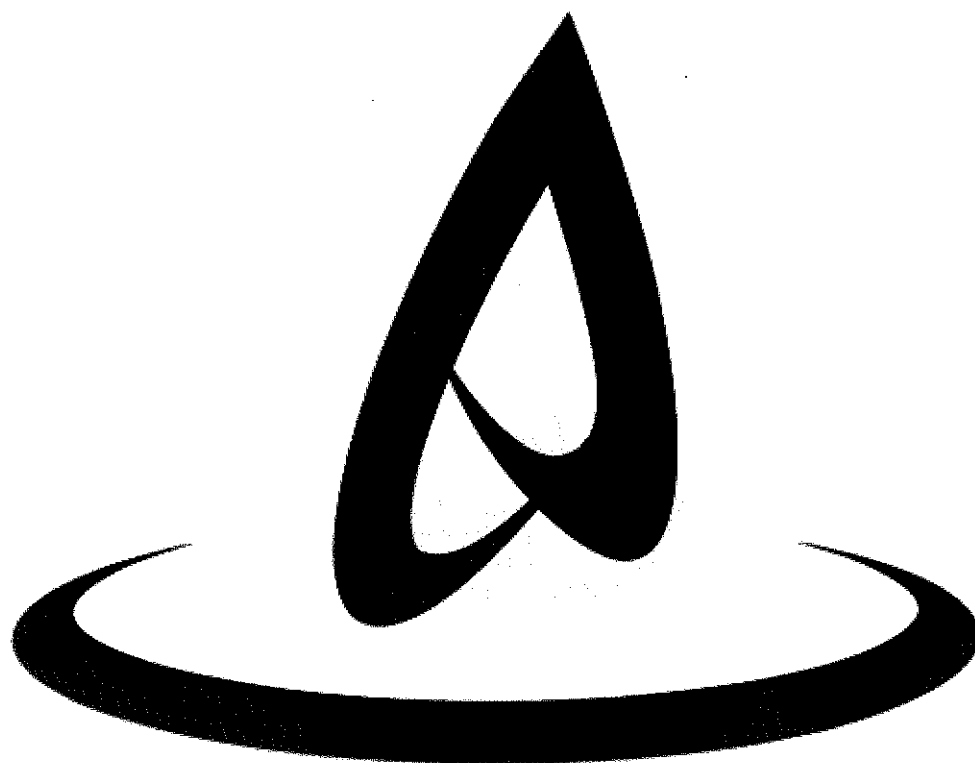


Accessible Arts
creativity expression inclusion

Our New Logo

ACE News

Issue 1 Winter 1997



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Our New Logo

Editorial

Winter is upon us and with it comes some changes at Accessible Arts Inc. Yes it's our new logo on the cover, designed by Richard Stanford (Richard is a computer based visual artist). What do you think? Pretty snazzy? Richard has been working on a new design over the last couple of months and bringing ideas to the Management Committee. Gradually it has undergone a few changes and this is the final result. It will be going on all our promotional material as well as a new letter-head. It's originally in colour with a creamy textured background and an aqua frame.

As you are aware we will be moving to new premises at Pier 4/5, TheWharf in Hickson Rd., Walsh Bay. We will be moving the week starting July 28 and services will be limited from July 21 for three weeks – our information and resource service will not be available during this time. This will allow us time to get organised and nicely ensconced in our new abode. A launch of AA's new home and the Getting it Right project will follow in October. A exact date on this is yet to be established.

So it is with a little sadness that we depart and say *adieu* to our old lodgings here within the great old walls of The NSW Writers Centre. However one thing that won't be missed is the crammed space that has been our office for the last five years. It's goodbye birds and trees that are the tranquil surrounds of the old Rozelle Hospital and hello bright lights and the hustle and bustle of the CBD; and that means new offices with room, our very own floor space to sprawl out across, and new cotenants too in the Bangarra Dance Company, Ausdance, Carnavale and Multi-cultural Arts Alliance.

It is with a touch of sadness too that we inform you of the resignation of Suzie Walker our Project Officer, who had become such an integral part of AAI. We wish to say thanks for all the years of hard slog she has put into the organisation and for the countless hours she spent banging away at the computer to get ACE out. Good luck Suzie for future endeavours.

Another change to take note of is the Annual General Meeting. The AGM is usually held in September, however due to our imminent departure to new offices we will be holding off the Meeting until the end of October. Notices will be sent out as to the exact time and date.

Helen Connors our Executive Officer is back working with us after a stint at the Australia Council. Lastly, a calendar of events has been tabled on the back page of this, our inaugural newsletter to keep you informed of what's coming up in the months ahead.

Working Arteeeests

There must be artists out there looking for work. Yes? Surely there are, you are one of the most underpaid, undervalued segments of society! Now we have your attention, think about contacting us as we can offer you the opportunity for work.

AA has a large data-base and resource information service and we are always in need of updating and expanding our information as a way of keeping abreast with changes and adding new contacts – and we are lacking in contacts of artists.

It is important to maintain a current list of artists – of all endeavours – who have a disability or who work in the area of disability. If you fit this bill think about registering with us. We want to be always aware of the skills, interests and abilities of artists out there working and creating in the community and by registering your CV and becoming a member of Accessible Arts you will be able to gain full benefit of our resources.

There are advantages to developing a link with Accessible Arts as we can provide employment, pass on useful information and contacts with other people working in a similar field. Demand for artists outstretches supply, particularly in drama – artists don't have to have direct experience but an interest. AA will be offering disability awareness training for artists in November (see opposite page).

We can also provide training and organise access to suitable venues. It is simply a matter of adding your name to a growing list so get in touch with us.

Accessible Arts

Ph: (02) 9555 1022

Fax: (02) 9818 4469

Email: aarts@ozemail.com.au

CandoCo Touring

CandoCo is a critically acclaimed British dance company who incorporate dancers with and without disabilities and they will be touring Australia from September. Pushing the boundaries of contemporary dance they have developed their own extensive repertoire as well as regularly commissioning work from recognised choreographers.

CandoCo was formed by Adam Benjamin and Celeste Dandeker who had trained as a dancer before an injury left her using a wheelchair. Since their establishment CandoCo have gradually become a successful mainstream company in their own right. They are also committed to education and training in integrated teaching of dance. CandoCo Dance Company will be conducting workshops and performing throughout eastern Australia.



CandoCo dates for Newcastle and Sydney

Newcastle: Wed, October 1 – Sat, October 4
Civic Theatre, Hunter St.
8pm
Workshops: Fri, September 26 and Sat, September 27
Venues TBA

Sydney: Wed, October 15 – Sat, October 18
Glen Street Theatre, Frenchs Forest
8pm

They will also be going to Lismore. For further information contact Accessible Arts. We may be able to organise transport from Sydney to Newcastle workshops.

Artists – Master Classes

In November AA will be conducting Master Classes for artists. The classes will be separately structured in the areas of drama, music, dance and improvisation. Emphasis is to be placed on disability awareness training as a way of adapting techniques for people with specific abilities and requirements.

Generally there is a lack of qualified people in this area and Accessible Arts would like to encourage artists to register with us and become involved in teaching creative skills to people with disabilities.

Classes will be run over the entire day and equal time will be given to artistic development and awareness training. AA wants to hear from artists, members and people teaching in creative arts, who would be interested in attending

For information contact:

Helen or Neridah at Accessible Arts

Community Cultural Development National Conference

The Australia Council is to host the first national gathering of community cultural development workers in more than a decade in Brisbane this November.

Artists, art workers, local government, youth and health sector workers Australia-wide will come together at Dare – a three day national conference to identify new directions and acknowledge the achievements of the community cultural development field.

Many community workers in remote areas feel isolated from their peers and the conference is a way of bringing people together to discuss issues.

The conference will be held in Brisbane – 17,18,19 November.

For further information or input please contact Peter Wood:

Ph: (02) 9281 6414 or toll free on 1800 226 912.

State Library Seminars

'An Open Invitation to the Library Services for People with Disabilities Seminar.'

Not only is the State Library of NSW a veritable forest of information, it also offers specialist services for people with disabilities and it will be conducting a seminar on how to best utilise services.

The seminar is made up of three sessions:

1. The Disability Information Service – a short talk on the type of inquiries requested and where to find the answers, plus a demonstration of relevant databases;
2. The Alternative Formats Collection – a session on talking books, captioned videos and other resources collected by the State Library: what is available and how to borrow them;
3. Adaptive Technology and Building Access – a walk around the library looking at the building and information access, including demonstrations of equipment and software.

Dates: Thursday 20 November
Thursday 4 December

Time: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Where: the State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney

There is no cost to the seminars but bookings are essential

For more information contact the Disability Access Service
Ph: (02) 9273 1583

1998 Gunnery Studios Program

The NSW Ministry of the Arts wishes to receive applications for use of the Gunnery Studios in Woolloomooloo, Sydney for 1998:

'The Ministry wishes to encourage a broad range of emerging and established artists, working in a variety of media, from New South Wales, interstate and overseas. Artists and organisations will be selected on the basis of a written proposal submitted to a selection committee convened by the Ministry of the Arts.'

Three residential studios and three non-residential studios will be available for average periods of three months. The studios are located at 43-51 Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo on the second floor of the building and can be accessed 24 hours a day by either stairs or lift.

The application form should be completed in accordance with the guidelines and returned with all the necessary support material by Friday 29 August 1997 to:

Program Information and Co-ordination
NSW Ministry of the Arts
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001
Ph: (02) 9228 5533

Artstart and Festival

Late August sees the Youth Arts and Skills festival taking place which is a part of Artstart. What's Artstart?

The Youth Assistance Strategies Section of DTEC's (NSW Department of Training and Education Co-ordination) Education Access Service Branch managed a small grants program which allowed a wide range of community groups to run arts skills workshops or other training-based activities for young people. The program was called Artstart. It continues under that name in 1997 with a statewide festival.

The target groups for Artstart since its inception are young women, young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, young people with disabilities, the young unemployed and those from non-English speaking backgrounds.

The Youth Arts And Skills Festival program was initiated in 1991 as a strategic response to a growing body of evidence showing participation in arts and cultural activities is successful in attracting young people back into training and further education.

For more information about the festival program or Artstart, or if you would like to get involved contact us here at Accessible Arts and we will give you details on co-ordinating organisations in your area.

Facing Today – an exploration of new media, computer technology & the Internet

Last December Accessible Arts and the College of Fine Arts put on a two day course introducing people to digital imagery as part of our *Facing Today* project. The project idea looks at new forms of media and how people with disabilities might use aspects of it as a tool for creative expression or communication. We are again conducting two day courses from August, emphasis this time being the Internet.

An expression of interest is required from interested individuals or groups for participation in an Internet workshop given by computer based artist Richard Stanford. The aim of the workshop is to introduce people with disabilities to the potential of documenting, creating or producing artwork for the Internet. The workshop will show you how to format images and text, consider the design of a site and work through web page formatting software.

Proposed dates and locations

Sydney: College of Fine Arts – Aug 23-24 1997

Bathurst – Sept 1-2 1997

Newcastle – TBA (mid to late September) 1997

COST: Free

To register your interest contact Neridah at Accessible Arts

'AWARE' Art Exhibition

TAP Gallery is a non-profit art space and from October 15 will be hosting the AWARE Exhibition and Award. Held in conjunction with Mental Health Awareness Week the exhibition is an opportunity for clients of Community Health Care Centres and psychiatric hospitals to exhibit work in a professional environment with the added incentive of a prize to the value of \$500 being awarded to the winning entry.



It is hoped the award will encourage further artistic development and TAP plans to host an annual art prize. An auction of works will also take place. The aim of the exhibition is to raise public awareness about mental health issues and help remove the stigma involved with having mental illness through media and the art. Mental illness affects a large segment of the community and sufferers continue to function as members of society.

For details contact TAP Gallery:

Ph: (02) 9361 0440

Fax: (02) 9361 3972

Ability Counts

Under the title Ability Counts, the ABC and Accessible Arts came together in May for an exhibition of works by artists with disabilities and the launch of the ABC Disability Action Plan. The artists displaying their work were Luis Vidal, Daniel Kojta, Wart, Adam North and Stephen Corry and the art itself varied from photography to linocuts. The improvisation dance group CoMotion also performed. The day generated a great deal of interest in the artists and some works were purchased.



Artist Luis Vidal

Accessible Arts Calender of Events

| July | August | September | October | November | December |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Youth Arts Skills Festival events: Gosford, **West •Bathurst project finished and documented •Newsletter Issue 1 •Training for Dept. of Con. & Arts •1st stage of LOUD projects complete: Newcastle – radio Sydney – multi-media •AA move to new premises – reduced services for 3 weeks from July 21 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •2nd stage LOUD complete projects •AA reduced services: no info-resource service •Set up new office space and library •Orange & Dubbo projects – finished and documented •Draft: Audience Development Guide, focus groups •Material for Getting it Right & brochure go to printers •Artstart project completed within festival •Sydney Internet workshop for <i>Facing Today</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Application to Australia Council for project in 1998 •Presentation at Youth Arts Skills Festival Conference •Exhibition for Festival of the Dreaming: Sept to Oct •CandoCo tour – performances & workshops in Newcastle, Sydney and Lismore •Issue 16 of ACE •Regional workshops for <i>Facing Today</i> •Complete Audience Development Guide | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Launch: Getting it Right & new premises – performance & exhibition •Annual General Meeting •<i>Facing Today</i> – launch of web site •Complete visual material (State & national) for Disability Awareness Training; refine modules; train presenters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Training Week: Disability Awareness Training – artists •Master-classes: drama – theatre-sports – music – improvisation •Disability Awareness Training: Australia Council – fund members | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Newsletter Issue 2 •Refine <i>Facing Today</i> web site |