

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2005**

#### **CREATIVE MINDS UPDATE**

##### **Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** To update Members of the Education Committee on recent Scottish Arts Council funding awards, this year's Arts Summer School Programme and last session's pupil concert and exhibition opportunities.

#### **2. SCOTTISH ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING AWARDS**

##### **2.1 Youth Music Initiative (Formula Funding)**

An application was made to the Scottish Arts Council for funding to support the Year 3 Programme as outlined in the Committee Paper of 24 May 2005. This application has been successful and an award of the maximum amount of £189,888 has been made to support the Year 3 programme.

##### **2.2 Youth Music Initiative (Strategic Funding)**

East Ayrshire was invited by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to be the lead Local Authority partner in a consortium application to the Youth Music Initiative Strategic Fund. The application was successful and the award of £25,000 will sustain the local development of Masterworks, an initiative designed to support the Standard Grade music curriculum and Higher Still courses.

#### **3. ARTS SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMME 2005**

- 3.1** This year's Arts Summer School programme, which was supported by the Youth Music Initiative, The Big Lottery Fund and Determined to Succeed, included courses in Dance, Arts & Design, Drama, Heritage, Brass, Jazz, Piping, Primary Music, Strings, Vocal and Woodwind.
- 3.2** Over 400 pupils from across the authority participated in the programme and all thoroughly enjoyed the experiences on offer. The end-of-course concerts were also very well supported by parents, relatives and friends.

#### **4. CONCERTS, SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS**

- 4.1** A varied series of performance and exhibition events took place during last session:
- Instrumental Service Gala Concert (number of performers: 356)
  - Primary Schools' Choir with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra – Railway Mania (number of performers: 107)
  - East Ayrshire Schools at Christmas 2004 (number of performers: 264)
  - Annual Schools' Art & Design Exhibition

- East Ayrshire Bands, Choirs & Ensembles Annual Concerts including Big Band, Brass Band, Brass Training Band, Intermediate Choir, Woodwind Ensembles, Senior Choir and Pipe Band (total number of performers: 256).
- XtrArts XtrAvaganza including Primary Schools' Choir, Big Band, Dance Ensembles and Primary Schools' String Orchestra (total number of performers: 312)
- Showcase 2005: (total number of performers: 698 in 18 different acts)
- RSAMD Youth Works Scottish Traditional Music Saturday Morning Centre (total number of participants: 66)

4.2 The 2,059 who participated in the above events were supported by enthusiastic and appreciative audiences totalling over 5500.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Income from the Youth Music Initiative is ring-fenced for the activities mentioned in section 2 above and approved in the Education Committee paper of 24 May 2005.

## 6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Nil.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) note these projects and performance opportunities involving pupils from across East Ayrshire;
- (ii) be kept informed of further initiatives and developments.

John Mulgrew  
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

JLW/ES  
24 August 2005

### LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Education Committee Paper – 24 May 2005: Youth Music Initiative – Update Report

Members requiring further information should contact John Wilson, Links Officer in the Arts and Education, Woodstock Centre, Woodstock Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 2BE. Tel: 01563 555634

**Implementation Officer – John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support**