

Culture 2008 - Engaging the Community

It's Not OK!

It's Not OK! is Liverpool Culture Company's violence prevention education programme. It's Not OK! works with young people using creativity as a vehicle to tackle issues. At the heart of creative activity is film and radio drama production and the resulting high-quality, hard hitting products are rolled out to a local, regional and national audience. Crucially, the young people involved are those closest to the issues covered including young offenders, those on the fringes of the law or those identified as being at risk of offending; helping many individuals to change their behaviour and to understand the choices that are open to them.

Wide ranging partnership working with:

- Merseyside Police
- The Fire and Rescue Service
- Connexions
- Children's Services
- LA Productions
- Ariel Trust
- Healthy Schools
- The Primary Care Trust
- Citysafe

Creative Health workshops; Midsummer Dreams

There have been several initiatives that have contributed to the development of a creative health network bringing together creative partners and the health and social care sector to combine their different experiences and skills to enhance people's well-being. These have included a series of creative health workshops, the development of Midsummer Dreams and the Art of Living events, targeting the community, health and social care workers and people who use health services. The workshops raised awareness of how creativity can enhance health settings, recovery and well-being. Partners include:

- The Ambulance Service
- The Primary Care Trust
- The Libraries Service
- St Nicholas Church
- Neutral Spoon
- Alternative therapy practitioners

Four Corners of the City

Four Corners is a reminiscence arts project reaching out to Liverpool's neighbourhood areas. The initiative's 'dream catcher' theme allowed the memories of ordinary people to be 'caught' and shared through various media – creative writing, visual arts, photography, music and audio. All the areas involved were experiencing major changes through regeneration works. Many residents found living through these upheavals stressful and unsettling, and part of Four Corners' remit was to engage with people and to help them make sense of the change, in both its negative and positive aspects. The project also targeted neighbourhoods that had not been previously involved in Liverpool Culture Company activities; areas that may well have felt unconnected to Capital of Culture programming. Partners in the programme are:

- Neighbourhood Management Services
- The Regeneration portfolio
- Bluecoat Arts Centre
- International Centre for Digital Content (ICDC)
- Arts in Regeneration
- Encounters, Sheffield
- Everyman Playhouse
- Community associations and groups in the five areas ●

