

Editor's Note

Sharing good practice

The importance of sharing the good work we all do is something that keeps cropping up in my discussions with colleagues and partners. I've been involved recently in discussions about both the development of the MediaNet project and a number of other arts and media networks regionally and nationally. The thing everyone is keen for it seems is examples of the good work that their peers are delivering and sharing their own ideas. It's something we hope will feature strongly in MediaNet for the remainder of this year and even more so in year 2 of the project. We've already seen some really interesting examples of good practice presented at MediaNet Forums – thanks to all those who have contributed. The case study section of the website is now poised and ready to be filled so do get in touch if you have an example of good practice you would like to include on the website. Throughout this bulletin you will see there are a number of events and opportunities for sharing good work – both as a practitioner and also competitions for students to enter to showcase their work. I hope you find it useful and inspiring.

All the best, Lou

Project News

MediaNet registration form

Apologies to those of you who have had problems filling in the MediaNet registration form on the website. There have been some technical difficulties creating a form that can be filled in electronically. To resolve this an email version of the form has now been set up. If you would like to receive this please click [here](#) or follow the link on the joining page of the website. Thanks for your patience!

New Forum and Events dates coming soon!

The dates for next years' MediaNet Forums, the Media Literacy Seminar and Careers Roadshows will be available soon. We hope to have these available by the end of the summer term so they can go into your diary ready for next academic year. If anyone knows of dates that would be best avoided do please contact Lou! Details of the dates will appear in subsequent issues of MediaNet News and on the website.

Case Studies needed!

The case study submission form is now available for anyone who would like to submit a good practice case study to the MediaNet website. The form is designed to be simple to fill in with scope to submit additional documents and photographs to support your case study.

We are looking for any examples which can help to reflect the diverse range of media education projects taking place here in the region across all forms of media, all age ranges and both in and out of school.

For more information or to get a copy of the form please contact Lou on 01432 344039 on email info@medianetonline.org.

National News

Skillset Consultation on 14-19 Diploma underway

Skillset, the sector skills council for the audio visual industries is currently consulting on the next stage of the development of the 14-19 Creative and Media diploma. The diploma will be one of 14 new vocational qualifications being developed by the government. The first five, which includes Creative and Media, will be available to teach from 2008. The current consultation outlines the structure and indicative content for the diploma. Feedback is requested by 20th June, more details about the diploma can be found on the [Skillset website](#).

New Youth Arts Network for England

A new network for youth arts organisations will launch on 12th June 2006, at the Unicorn Theatre, London. ENYAN will be a 'network within networks' to link together youth arts organisations regionally and nationally. The network will offer two levels of membership to anyone involved or interested in youth arts – a free basic membership and a paid full membership. The network will provide a website, professional development opportunities, a national forum for advocacy and lobbying and regional development. ENYAN is being coordinated by Artsworld, the national youth arts development agency. More information can be found at www.artsworld.org.uk

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BFI Media Studies Conference

Bookings are now being taken for the BFI Media Studies conference, which takes place from the 5-7th July at the National Film Theatre and King's College in London. The conference is for all 16+ Media and Film Studies teachers and offers workshops, seminars, talks from industry professionals and plenary sessions. A full place at the conference costs £250 and discounts are available for two or more teachers attending from the same institution. The full conference programme and booking form can be downloaded from the [BFI website](#).

Film For Youth – call for entries

Film For Youth, a new young peoples' film festival run by UK Youth and supported by film director Guy Ritchie is calling for entries. The competition is open to 2-6 minute films in 4 categories (documentary, drama, comedy, animation) made by young people aged 12-25. All entrants receive a free DVD made by Guy Ritchie with advice on film making. Shortlisted filmmakers will have the opportunity to take part in film masterclasses and workshops with Guy Ritchie and other film professionals. The best entries will then be premiered at the Urban Arts Festival at The Waterfront, Belfast later in the year. For more details visit www.filmforyouth.org. The closing date for entries is 23rd June 2006.

Young Film Critic of the Year 2006

The Film Education Young Film Critic competition is open for entries. The competition which encourages groups or individuals aged 11-14 and 15-18 to write a 250 word film review which will be judged by top film critics and could win the student and their school great prizes. The deadline for entries is 28th September, see the [film education website](#) for more details.

Media Education Association Update

The Media Education Association held its first regional meetings to discuss the form a new national association for those working in media education will take. This will be fed into a national planning conference on the 17th June. MediaNet is working closely with the local convenor, Julian McDougall from Newman College, and we will have more on the latest developments in the next edition of MediaNet News.

Film Street Launches!

www.filmstreet.co.uk, a new website for 6-9 year olds has now gone live. Film Street is a free website that allows children to learn about film making in a fun and creative way. The website also contains a section for teachers and parents, including lesson and activity plans and downloadable resources which can be related to the curriculum. Film Street was commissioned by Culture Online and developed by First Light.

Regional News

Flip Animation Festival

The Flip Animation Festival, based at The Light House Media Centre, Wolverhampton is seeking entries for this year's festival in October. The festival will consider short animated films in any category. Films must be submitted by 15th September to be considered. See www.flipfestival.co.uk for more details and to download an entry form. There will also be a special competition for young people's animation. Look out for more details in the next edition of MediaNet news.

Blitz Games opens its doors

Blitz Games, one of the UK's leading computer game development studios will be opening its doors to teachers, lecturers and educators. Following high take up of two open days for students planned for June and July Blitz have announced they will offer an open day to those involved in educating the potential games developers of the future to show what goes on inside the videogame industry. The lecturers and teachers day will take place on the 20th July. Places are limited and must be applied for on the Blitz Games website www.blitzgames.com/openday

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MediaNet is UK Film Council funded through the Screen West Midlands Access Fund.

Grants For The Arts Roadshows

The Arts Council England are running a series of roadshows around the West Midlands for individual artists, and for voluntary, small and community organisations to highlight the funding opportunities available. The events will explain the range of arts activities you can apply for funding for and a presentation and question and answer session from Arts Council England Officers.

The events take place in Wolverhampton, Stratford, Stoke and Coventry. The Coventry event will have a focus on education related activities. For dates see the diary section. If you would like to book a place contact Sarah Herbert on 0121 6315721 or email

sarah.Herbert@artscouncil.org.uk

Writing it Right!

First Light Movies and NFTS Short Course Factory have teamed up to offer a one day workshop for filmmakers who work with young people. The workshop will be led by experienced script consultants and tutors and will give participants the opportunity to improve their script writing skills. They will learn how to write an effective short screenplay ensuring that the full potential of a film idea is developed and dramatised in the best way.

The workshop takes place on Monday 12th June at Arts Council West Midlands in Birmingham. The course costs just £10 but places are limited. To apply for a space on the course contact Light Thomas on 0121 693 2091 or email

leigh@firstlightmovies.com.

Events and Dates for your diary

7th June Co-op Young Film Makers Festival submission deadline. See www.film-makers.co-op.co.uk for details and entry form.

7th June Project Management For Beginners, Arts and Media Training, Coventry, £50. For more info or to book visit www.amtcc.org.uk or call 024 7622 7563

12th June Writing it Right! Story & Script Development workshop, Arts Council West Midlands, Birmingham. £10.

12th June ENYAN launch, Unicorn Theatre, London. See www.artswork.org.uk for details.

20th June Skillset 14-19 Creative and Media Diploma consultation deadline.

23 June Film For Youth, submission deadline. For more details visit www.filmforyouth.org

29th June Skillset IAG workshop, Manchester, free. To book contact Moira Stewart –

moira.stewart@blueyonder.co.uk or for more info contact Ann Mason – annm@skillset.org

4th July Grants For The Arts Education Roadshow, The Herbert, Coventry. 4pm – 6pm

5th, 6th, 7th July Thomas Adams Media Arts Fair, Wem. For more info contact Frances Ayres: 01939

237069, media@thomasadams.net

5th, 6th, 7th July BFI Media Studies Conference, London. Full places cost £250. For more details or to book visit the BFI website.

10th July Grants For The Arts Roadshow, Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton. 11am – 1pm.

11th July Skillset IAG workshop, Brighton, free. To book contact Moira Stewart –

moira.stewart@blueyonder.co.uk or for more info contact Ann Mason – annm@skillset.org

20th July Grants For The Arts Roadshow, Cox's Yard, Stratford. 11am – 1pm.

20th July Blitz Games Open day for teachers. Lecturers and educators, Leamington Spa.

15th Sept Flip Animation Festival submission deadline. See www.flipfestival.co.uk for info.

21st Sept Grants For The Arts Roadshow, Britannia Suite, Regent Theatre, Stoke On Trent. 1–3pm.

26th Sept First Light Funding deadline. For more info see www.firstlightmovies.com/funding.php

28th Sept Young Film Critic of The Year 2006 deadline. For details see www.filmeducation.org

5th Oct Creative Facilitation Course, Belmont Arts Centre, Shrewsbury, 10am – 4pm. For more details see the ALISS website.

13th–14th Oct Co-op Young Film Makers Festival, National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, Bradford.

26th–29th Oct Flip Animation Festival, Light House Wolverhampton.

Next issue

The next issue of MediaNet News will come out on Friday 30th June. If you have news stories or events you would like to submit for this issue please send details to info@medianetonline.org by Monday 26th June.

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