



Welcome to our second Breathe newsletter! We hope to provide a short update on the Breathe project for our supporters and friends. Here is the latest from the Breathe artists and team.

January project progress

After the festive break the lead Breathe artists were straight back to work on 5th January with a visioning day at the RSA in London. The day was a balance between looking at the practicalities of the performance site and developing the artistic vision/narrative for the show. Our Creative Producer Jenny Gordon (from JAM) updated artists on the site plan in Weymouth and talked through many of the logistics that will need to be taken into consideration. Our artistic team talked through the vision for the narrative covering the Breathe companies involvement in the Battle for the Winds programme on Thursday 26th and Saturday 28th July. Writer Alex Bulmer is in the process of producing a scene-by-scene story board for the Breathe show which will be a great tool to help our team develop elements of sound, dance, circus and theatre.

Update on the company residencies



Jude Christian, Breathe's Musical Director, led our January residency weekend for the Breathe cast (made up of The Remix and Double Act community performance companies) on 21-22nd Jan at Poole High School theatre.

"My first weekend working with the Breathe company was a magical experience. We made musical instruments from household rubbish, sounds of the sea using only our voices, and a brand new song from thin air and the creativity of this brilliantly talented and enthusiastic cast. Can't wait to see where this journey takes us, and I'm looking forward to the next few months!" Jude Christian, Musical Director

Dance will be the focus of the February half term residency which is being planned and led by choreographers Dave Toole, Deborah Badoo and Louise Katerega. The 4 day dance residency will also include a SKYPE workshop (coordinated by Breathe's international lead Tony Horitz and translator Bia Viana) with APAE integrated community dance company in Florianopolis, Brazil.

Fundraising update

December and January have been really busy months for fundraising as we still have some way to go to raise the total funds needed for the project. Breathe funding applications have been submitted to:

- Grants for the Arts
- BBC Children in Need
- Rayne Foundation
- Dorset Community Fund
- Lankelly Chase Foundation
- True Colours Trust

In addition to the funding applications we have established a parent/carer fundraising group made up of parents and carers of participants from The Remix and Double Act who will be helping to raise funds for costume and support workers. They are organising a Zumbathon on 25th February at King's Park Primary School (Bournemouth) – more info to follow. Company members from The Remix and Double Act are also looking to raise funds through sponsored activities such as non-school uniform days, sponsored silences etc.

We are pleased to announce that we raised £1150 on the Breathe Crowdfunder campaign and promise to bring you more positive news on some of the above efforts in our February newsletter!

Costume and design update



The Breathe team are delighted to be working with 3 design students (Lois, Grace and Kate) who are in the final year at Arts University College Bournemouth. These designers will be responsible for creating the costume for the Breathe cast. They have been experimenting with fabulous materials and head dresses for the

performers and creating a portfolio of costume designs. In February all members of the cast will be bringing in white trousers and long sleeve tops for the design students to take away and dye as the base costume for each performer. Some examples of the head dress designs are shown above.

Breathe online and social media

And finally, we invite you to “follow” and “like” the Diverse City social media sites – this is the best way to keep up to date with all the latest information on the Breathe project.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/diversecity1>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DiverseCity#!/pages/Diverse-City/178315086828>

Diverse City website: http://www.diversecitylondon.org/current_projects.html

Visit the Maritime Mix website: <http://www.maritimemix2012.com/>

Visit the London 2012 Festival website: <http://festival.london2012.com>

Thank you for your continued support!

With thanks Kevin Clifford and Grace Mortlock for the photographs.