

Helen Ward

- Co-director of Jack Drum Arts a rural media and performing arts co-op based in NE England
- Commissioned artist, project co-ordinator, trainer and workshop leader on a wide range of film and media projects since 1994
- Work experience with professional arts and media companies, local authorities, charities, education providers and health professionals producing high quality projects.
- strong networking with other film educators around the world through her active promotion of films made by children and young people in County Durham at national and international film festivals and through a cultural leadership exchange working at Listen Up! a youth media network based in the United States.

■ SELECTED PROJECTS

March 09 - May 09 Visiting Arts Cultural Leadership Exchange in New York Cooperation with international youth media organisation Listen Up in New York as part of a UK government Cultural Leadership Programme. The project gave her the opportunity to 'learn through doing' and develop my intercultural skills in a youth media environment. She led on a number of projects for my host organisation which included managing a website project designed to inspire young people to enter the creative industries workforce, creating a series of youth film screenings for a high profile media conference, working in partnership with award-winning Reel Works on the development of an international film project for young people in the USA and the UK to be launched in 2010.

Jan 09 up to now Kids for Kids Children and Young Peoples Film Festival She is currently managing the UK Kids for Kids Film Festival for CIFEJ (International Center of Film for Children and Young People) which will take place in the city of Durham in 2009. The festival will include a competition section, film-related workshops and be a place for young people to be inspired by their peers.

Nov 06- Dec 09 Cultural Sector Development Initiative/Creativity Works Project manager for Jack Drum Arts' ACE North East ERDF project 'Creativity Works' mentoring young aspiring artists in the creative industries. Her role has been to lead on the financial organisation, administration and strategic development of medium scale projects within the programme including the promotion of work regionally, nationally and internationally.

April 07- March 08 First Light Movies / Master Builders Fundraiser, co-ordinator, lead filmmaker, promoter and evaluator for a studio of filmmaking projects funded by the UK Film Council and working with children under 12 in isolated rural areas of County Durham. The project was inspired by architecture and the films have gone on to win numerous awards in the region and overseas.

Biography

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