

mailout

arts work with people

Guidelines for contributing articles:

mailout is a magazine about participation and good practice which aims to promote the value and range of participation in the arts but also share and inspire.

We include articles on projects and ongoing activity, profiles on participatory artists and companies, good practice information and essays discussing related issues.

This is a professional magazine that is usually read in people's work place while they wait for the kettle to boil, the photocopier to warm up or the phone call to be returned.... It is not a Sunday afternoon coffee table publication.

It is important that the information is 'transferable'. By this we mean engages the reader in a way that supports and inspires their work. We want to celebrate good work but to make it useful and interesting we sometimes need to look back stage too.

A good article asks and answers questions such as:

- Why do we do what we do/did what we did?
- Whose idea was it?
- Who did we plan to work with?
- Who did we end up working with?
- What do we know now that we wished we'd known then?
- What were the unexpected outcomes?
- What didn't work?
- What challenges did we overcome?
- How did we overcome them?
- What did we learn?
- How would we do things differently in the future?

- What issues did we encounter?
- What barriers did we encounter?
- What problems did we foresee that weren't problems?

Another thing we like is to hear partner and participant voice – perhaps with views before and after a project.

- What did the youth worker/teacher/funder/carer/centre staff think?
- What did the participant think?

Factfile

Sometimes we include a strip at the edge of articles with some additional information, jargon busting, contacts or related publications.

Pictures

A picture draws readers into an article. It is what catches our eye as we flick through. Good pictures are essential. Ideally we like digital pictures, as high a resolution as possible with a description and photo credit where appropriate. Even though we are predominately a black and white publication we prefer colour pictures as this allows us to balance the tones more easily.

Size of articles

A single page article is usually between 800 to 1000 words including pictures

A double page is between 1600 and 2000. If your article is longer then we will edit it down

Our “Ear to the ground” section includes short items and pictures up to 500 words.

The editors are always keen to engage with contributors.

Please feel free to contact Rob, Sue or Lyndsey on:

T: 01254 674777 or E: editor@e-mailout.org