Eagle Radio’s Radio Live

Charles Dickens’ ‘A Christmas Carol”

Project Report
Aims and Objectives
Radio Live was a collaboration with Eagle Radio education team and G Live Creative Learning Department to record an original script of Charles Dickens’ ‘A Christmas Carol’ with a mixed group of 11 – 18 year olds.

“It got better every day, and every day I made new friends and bonded with the people around me.”
Participant comment

Participants
- 23 Enrolled
- 15 paid
- 8 Bursary’s
- Bursary places funded by Guildford College, GlaxoSmithKline, Surrey Street Rodders and TAG Farnborough.
- 1 withdrawal as he had already achieved an Arts Award.
- 6 of the 23 had additional needs (Autism, Cystic Fibrosis and Dyslexia)
- 22 Bronze Arts Awards achieved.
“(She) Liked other students and all the teachers, felt it was intense but got a lot out of it.”

Parent comment

On air Promotion
A promo ran on 96.4 Eagle Radio from 4/9/12 to 28/12/21 having a total of 184 credits (00 – 24)
The same promo on Eagle Extra (27/07/12 – 28/12/12) with a total of 523 credits (00 - 24)
Sponsorship of One Thousand Pound Minute 22/10/12 – 16/10/12 valued £1,000
www.964eagle.co.uk/radiolive received 1,372 pageviews over the promotion.

Broadcast on Eagle Extra 20/12/12, 24/12/12 and 25/12/12. Available to download in full at www.964eagle.co.uk/radiolive
**Student feedback**

“Learnt to work with new set of people and teachers, improved confidence.”

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**Confidence**

All the students were asked to rate how confident they felt with aspects of communication.

After Radio Live all the students felt more confident in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Question</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talking to adults</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working with other young people</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putting forward your ideas</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having a go at new things</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading an activity</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting new people</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking in front of other people</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asking questions</td>
<td>21.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
“Good for confidence and career aspirations”

Parent comment

Below is the key findings based on an in course feedback form.

100% of the students wanted to do more drama activates after Radio Live

Before the course only 36% of the students had ever listened to a radio drama. 100% of the students would choose to listen to radio drama:
Is storytelling a life skill?
Most participants felt storytelling was a life skill by the end of the project.

72% of the participants wanted to read more of Dickens work.
Most participants learnt more about and would consider a career in the creative industries.
What schools did the:

- Collingwood College (x3)
- Priors Field School (x3)
- Heathside (x2)
- Morehouse School
- Woking High School
- St Peters Guildford
- Farnborough 6th Form (x3)
- Samuel Cody School (x2)
- Godalming College
- Kings International
- Winston Churchill
- Christs College
- Tormead School
- Putney High School (x2)

How did they find out about the course?

- G Live Programme (x4)
- Rose Youth Theatre
- After attending a Radio Rockz
- Via School (x6)
- Eagle Radio Promo (x2)
- Eagle Radio Website
- Through a Friend
“As well as being great fun it was well put together and interesting”

Participant comment

Areas of Success

- Building confidence in participants.
- Most participants described the course as ‘fun’.
- Integration of group – many of the participants found they made new friends.
- Making sound effects where very popular.
- Visits to Eagle Radio studios adds something most youth theatre groups cannot offer.
- Interview proved a great way of delivering the Arts Awards portfolio.
- Great work form the creative team. Building on already strong relationships with G Live Creative Learning department.
- Every participant said they would recommend the course to a friend

Improvements for next course

- Look at the games used to deliver workshops. - Possibly less of them, a wider verity and explain why the games we chose where relevant to the project.
- If the future course involves singing review how it’s handled.
- Record more sound effects both in the studio and outside.
- Look at possibility of the group helping with the production.
- The next course should be a devised piece of work.
Team Feedback.

‘It’s great to be able to run such an innovative and interesting course for young people; I can’t think of another instance where two essentially commercial entities could produce such high quality and meaningful community work for young people, and the outcomes for them are enormous. Each young person is able to identify areas in which they would like to learn and grow and our practitioners work hard to tailor the experience to each of them; outcomes are as diverse as improved spoken English, better social skills, experience of working as a team in what constitutes essentially an arts job environment or simply the ability to make new and better friends in a social environment that does not have the same pressures or confines of school.

Working together with Eagle not only strengthens our offer and partnership both practically and professionally, but also gives all the practitioners the opportunity to develop new skills, offering expertise in drama and production to one another as well as the young people concerned. I honestly feel that we don’t operate as representatives of two bodies but as one tight-knit team. The support, professionalism and camaraderie of the team means working together is an absolute pleasure and we’re able to produce a better offer for the young people involved and a stronger product for Eagle’s audience at large. My favourite G Live project to date!’

Jo Wright - Creative Learning Manager, G Live
All Written Feedback
Student Feedback

Why did you want to take part?
Love acting, learning new skills, how to act with your voice. (x2)
To learn more about how radio dramas are produced, to try a new acting role.
The concept of radio is interesting. (x2)
To learn how radio dramas work and how things are recorded.
For the experience, to get a Bronze Arts Award (x2)
**To experience a radio drama** (x5)
My school gave me the opportunity so I took it.
Never done anything like it before (x2)
Would like to be an actor/actress (x2)
Love drama
I love talking and acting.
Considering a career in radio.
A great way to build upon CV

What was your favourite thing about the course?
Making lifelong friends. (x2)
Trying a new role that could be researched and adapted.
**Making the sound effects – really interesting.** (x5)
Playing all the games and recording sound effects
The radio tour, learning about the radio station. (x3)
Teaching games
Read through, going to Eagle. (x2)
Rehearsals
The games and the performance were fun. (x2)
Loved every moment, doing the play itself
Recording sound effects, studio tour and finding out I have a good voice for radio.
Character work, learning different acting techniques.
The people and the activities.

What were your least favourite things about the course?
Wish it could be longer (x2)
Taking part in the quiz- only able to guess.
Playing the same games every day.
**The singing** (x4)
Not getting the chance to record sounds outside.
Variety of games- more games would be better!
Too many games – prefer just a few. Wasted time. (x3)
The writing (Portfolio work)(x3)
The interviews
Making the portfolio and getting up so early.
I don’t have a least favourite thing. (x3)
That it had to end!

**What changes would you make to the course?**
Make it longer. (x2)
Good balance between acting and games, would have liked to know how the show was advertised and edited. More variety.

**No changes. The course is great already. Beyond my expectations.** (x9)
Give everyone the opportunity to record outside and inside.
More variety of games.
More time spent on the final performance.
Write own script
The length of time it goes on, or the time it starts in the morning.
Not playing games for so long, some more contemporary songs.
Longer production.
**NOT AS EARLY IN THE MORNING.**
Just do interviews, no portfolio.

**Would you recommend the course to a friend?**
Yes – great fun, great experience and you make great friends. (x5)
Yes, as well as being great fun it was well put together and interesting.
Yes- a wonderful experience all round.
Yes- everyone would enjoy this! (x4)
Yes, I learnt loads of skills for life. (x3)
Yes, overall great experience. (x3)
Yes, for the life skills.
Yes, it’s fun recording your voice.
Yes, I like working with new people.
Yes, would recommend to fellow students. (x2)

**Any other comments:**
It was nice to see the recording equipment and how it worked.
Very fun, would do it again.
Would like more game time.
I loved the experience, it was a challenge to be given singing parts, but would prefer more contemporary music next time.
It got better every day, and every day I made new friends and bonded with the people around me. I think everything I was unsure on (eg. Leading activities) I improved on and was far better at by the end.
THANK YOU. Loved it.
Enjoyed it so much!
Thank you for a brilliant opportunity.
Parent Feedback

Why did you decide to enrol?
Interested in the arts, writing and radio. (x6)
Great experience putting together radio play, developed team work. Confidence builder, meeting new people etc.
Studying GCSE Drama
Child was keen to do the course. (x2)
Sounded fun, interesting and unique.
Studying GCSE Drama and has a LAMDA qualification.
Opportunity to gain confidence and meet new people.
To emphasise the procedure involved in radio production, performance skills and confidence.
Child was chosen by school to attend and was enthusiastic to start. (x2)

Have they enjoyed the week?
Very much, absolutely loved it. (x12)
Liked other students and all the teachers, felt it was intense but got a lot out of it.
Yes – as per interview. (x3)

Would you like to see more courses like this?
Yes (x13)
Yes – maybe monthly/weekly workshops?
Yes – funds permitting.
Yes – with focus on production.

How important to you is the arts award as part of this course?
A good bonus to the experience. (x6)
Not terribly as doing GCSE Drama, good to have an extra quantifiable stuff for CV. (x2)
VERY important, can be used for UCAS later in life. (x2)
Child aiming to do silver so very important.
Not particularly. (x2)
Very important, child doing GCSE Drama and this supports that.
Fairly, but taking part is more important.
The whole experience is important.

What do you think your child gained out of the course?
Experience, confidence. (x4)
Confidence, knowledge of radio drama. (x3)
Learnt to work with new set of people and teachers, improved confidence. (x5)
Teamwork, meeting new people. (x2)
Good for confidence and career aspirations.
Any other comments:
Fantastic experience, thank you very much!
Wonderful team staff.
Worthwhile use of half term, unique experience all round.
The whole week was great!
Well worth every penny.
Child would love to be involved in future performances.
Lovely team, kind personal interest. Very good communication with parents. Many thanks.
It was a great week and in the child grew in confidence, gained more independence. Good for self-esteem, using initiative and being creative.
Just one improvement: better communication with parents eg. Texting about changes to course/times.

Email feedback
From:
Date: 6 November 2012 15:52:24 GMT
To: Gemma King <gemma.king@964eagle.co.uk>
Subject: Eagle Christmas Carol Radio Drama

Hi Gemma,

Hereby I like to give you and your colleagues a big thank you for the lovely week Emma has enjoyed in your company. She had a great time and can not stop talking about it. We might see back in February for a repeat. Please let me know the details when available.

Many Thanks!

Yolande

From:
Date: 4 November 2012 16:45:01 GMT
To: Gemma King <gemma.king@964eagle.co.uk>
Subject: Re: Radio Live Update...

Hi Gemma

Just to say a big thank you to you and everyone involved in running the course.

It was a great success!

Alicia really loved being involved. We will look forward to hearing the whole production on 20th Dec.

Thanks again

Karen