

ARTICULATE!

Welcome to The Courtyard's education newsletter: **ARTICULATE!**
 In this newsletter you'll find information on forthcoming productions and projects that may be of interest to your Drama and English students.



THE CARETAKER

By Harold Pinter

Davies, an elderly drifter, is given shelter by the kindly but vulnerable Aston. He quickly makes himself at home in the squalid, junk-filled attic, but an uneasy peace is fractured by the arrival of Mick, Aston's quick-witted, streetwise younger brother. As the shadows lengthen and the three men reveal more about the past and themselves, a battle of wits begins that will have irrevocable consequences for them all.

A landmark of twentieth century theatre, *The Caretaker* was first performed at The Arts Theatre, London in 1960. Fifty years on, Pinter's compelling study of loneliness and power games still has the capacity to amuse, to shock and to fascinate.

Thursday 6 May, 7:30pm
 Tickets: £8 schools

For further information on any of the productions call the Education Team on **01432 346526**

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The Courtyard provides a space for innovation, creativity and participation for the whole community

BOX OFFICE

01432 340 555



CRIME OF THE CENTURY



"I shanked him.

D'ya hear what I'm saying?

I shanked him."

Chickenshed's explosive dance theatre company turns its attention to the proliferation of knife crime amongst young people.

Portraying a stark journey about the build up and repercussion of one fatal moment, **Crime of the Century** uses words, movement and projection, alongside a contemporary score of hip hop and dance music, to pack a frightening punch.

Following three separate tragic deaths of teenagers associated with the company, Chickenshed embarked on producing a piece of theatre that could be used as a positive tool in the fight against knife crime. Based on interviews with victims, perpetrators, families, surgeons, police officers and ex-offenders, the resulting critically-acclaimed show, **Crime of the Century**, is a must-see production for our times.

Friday 7 May, 7:30pm

Schools: £10 + free coach

To book tickets call our Box Office on 01432 340555



GRANT'S THOUGHT:

Having seen this production at Edinburgh Fringe Festival, I was compelled to bring this to Hereford. It's good to see raw talent in these young people being used to explore what many of us are unable to comprehend.

Not only are they tackling an issue that is becoming an ever-growing reality, it's a performance style that young people need to see.

Viewing these images still sends shivers down my spine.



FROM D TO C: GET YOUR ENGLISH STUDENTS THE GRADE THEY NEED

All students strive to get a 'C' grade in their core subjects and some students may not respond to traditional teaching methods. We've noticed those students that may be slightly falling behind benefit from a more hands on approach when studying their set text. Teachers often comment on the benefit of having an external practitioner doing this work as a fresh face reinforces the work already done in the classroom.

The project we've devised will help your students achieve the grades they deserve by studying the themes, characters and plot using drama. In 5 x 1 hour slots, which fit into your existing time table, we are able to cover the text you are studying to narrow the gap for those students falling behind. However, these workshops will also benefit those students who have a good grasp on the text and will enable them to achieve a higher grade – it's a win/win situation!

The cost for 5 x 1hour workshops is £300 + travel @ 40p per mile. However, we are able to offer a considerable discount for any schools that would like to run this project with multiple classes.

For further information and to book your workshop times, please contact David Durant on 01432 346526 or david.durant@courtyard.org.uk

THE COURTYARD STUDENT COMPANY 2010

Last year saw the first ever Courtyard Student Company. Nineteen students from ten county high schools took part and created three separate theatre companies each performing their own devised piece. They learned about arts marketing and directing as well as gaining a greater insight into the workings of the theatrical world. It was a tough week (it was the hottest week of the year) but a thoroughly enjoyable and productive one.

This year we want to run the project again, but this time running it across 2 weeks; half the schools in week one and the other half in week two. This will allow us to work with more students and will increase the opportunity to around 40 students. The commitment the students showed last year during the application and audition process was admirable and they all grasped the opportunity with both hands, but sadly capacity stopped us from taking them all.

The two weeks we have chosen are w/c 5 July and w/c 12 July. Later this term Kate Ganderton will send letters to you all which will detail all the information that you need and the opportunity for you to state which week you would prefer.

The fee for the week will be £45 per student and this can either be charged to the school or to the individual student. We'll need to know which schools will be paying for their students so that we can inform the participants before the audition. That way their families can decide whether this is something that they can afford. The Courtyard may be able to provide bursaries for one or two students but this is subject to external funding.

"I THINK THIS EXPERIENCE IS A ONE-AND-ONLY CHANCE AND I FEEL THIS IS A REALLY GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR ME. I HOPE IN THE FUTURE TO BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS. I REALLY ENJOYED IT LOADS."