



Creative Industries faculty in a west coast FE College

During the session 2009–10 we have been running several Units from the NPAs in Music and Sound Production.

We have completed the following Units in the context of our National Certificate provision:

- ◆ Music: Live Performance (F5E5 12)
- ◆ Performing Music on One Instrument or Voice (F3F4 12)
- ◆ Creative Project (F58F 12)
- ◆ Music: Technical Support (F5E2 12)
- ◆ Appreciation of Music (F58M 12)
- ◆ Sound Engineering and Production (F58H 12)
- ◆ Sound: Music Remixing (F5E1 12)

We have just started delivering Music: Promotion in the Music Industry and Sound: Reinforcement.

Both student and staff feedback is very positive on all of these Units and they are all seen as a massive improvement on the materials we had been delivering previously. The students now have the opportunity to utilise skills learned from technical support and live performance within the context of the promotion and sound reinforcement Units.

As for *Creative Project*, we have delivered a few classes now. Projects include:

- ◆ Recording an EP
- ◆ Recording an album using only toy instruments (great fun)
- ◆ Organising a gig for four bands in a local club
- ◆ Organising 'try an instrument sessions' for local primary schools. Students go to schools and set up workshops where each class group comes along and tries out drums, bass, guitars and keyboards. Always great fun and leaves the children highly excited for the rest of the day which gets interesting comments from the school staff who then have to teach them!
- ◆ Organising a schedule of lunchtime gigs (can tie in nicely with promotion)

As far as the NPAs are concerned, I have several ideas for these. I am hoping to run an NPA in Music Business at one of our other campuses next year since our School has no presence there. This will hopefully run from November and will then allow progression to a January start HN or NC program.

We are also hoping to be able to advertise three NPAs during the session 2010-11. These will run over a term each, giving the candidates a more focused approach to courses and ability to then choose the most appropriate HN route. This will be predicated of course by staffing budgets, etc.

I envisage the NPAs as a great opportunity to bring in clients who would not normally approach the college; therefore we will also advertise NPAs as evening classes and see if there is uptake.

I've asked our Marketing Department to put together brochures to suggest partnerships with schools in the area. I am hoping to have discussions with the Education Department soon to see if we can take this forward.

And finally (for now), we are currently putting together a joint bid for major funding for a creative/heritage project. Part of the bid involves a songwriting/recording competition with songs about the Clyde. We are going to include participation in a Music NPA as the educational component of the bid.