

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTEGRATED DANCE PREMIER AT YEOVIL COLLEGE

Thursday 27th November 2008 will be an evening of firsts as Yeovil College presents its first ever evening of integrated dance, including new performances by professional group the StopGAP Dance Company and New Rhythms, Somerset's first integrated youth dance group. Tickets are free.

The evening is presented by Yeovil College with Take Art and the StopGAP Dance Company. The dance on display is 'integrated' because the performers include those with and without disabilities. The show is on the theme of 'statues' and includes new work by both students and professionals.

Nearly 30 students are performing, including 16 second year BNA Dance students, who will be attending workshops with members of the StopGAP Dance Company in the week leading up to Thursday 27th November.

5 Feat Dance Company, Yeovil College's own student dance group, will also perform, along with New Rhythms, Somerset's first integrated youth dance group.

Chris Pavia, founder member of the StopGAP Dance Company, will be premiering a brand new work reflecting on one of the most iconic images from the second Iraq war - the pulling down of Saddam Hussein's statue by Iraqi citizens.

Emma Westerman, Head of Dance at Yeovil College, said "*We are all very excited about this event. The students have worked really hard and really engaged with the concept of integrated dance. They've got to grips with the idea that people can be creative and express themselves physically through dance to some degree regardless of disabilities. They've really broadened their concept of what constitutes 'dance' and I have high hopes for the forthcoming performance.*"

For more information and tickets, please contact Sarah Nutland on 01935 845312.

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Notes to Editors

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StopGAP Dance Company is the UK's premier integrated dance company. This will be their fifth residency in Somerset and they will be working with young people from the Yeovil area over this week leading to a sharing of work on Thursday 27th November 7:00pm at Yeovil College, which will also feature a solo performance by StopGAP founder member Chris Pavia.

Take Art is the arts development agency for Somerset. It has brought the company to Yeovil subsidising workshops in schools and colleges for a week from 23rd-27th November 2008.