



# School Performances and Workshops

## Dear Headteacher

This is our **32nd** year of providing exciting workshop opportunities for every child in the Henley and district schools as part of the Henley Youth Festival.

We are offering some great performances and workshop opportunities for you to book.

Please **review the details below** and **complete the separate Application Form** which gives detailed performance times.

As previously, we would like you to tell us which sessions you do NOT want to attend in addition to those you would be able to attend, as this makes the distribution of places easier. Please email the completed application form to [schools@hyf.org.uk](mailto:schools@hyf.org.uk) by **the deadline of 6 February 2026**.

The theme this year is **'Amazing Animals'**. We hope that the workshops will fuel creativity and spark imaginations. Please encourage the students to enter the Writing, Art and Film Competitions, as well as taking part in the Performing Arts events too.

If you have any queries after you have read the information please contact: **Daniel Sadler** by email: [schools@hyf.org.uk](mailto:schools@hyf.org.uk) (Tel: 07776 303858).

*The Henley Youth Festival is extremely grateful for the generous sponsorship by local businesses and organisations, without which the Festival would not be able to take place.*



## School Performances

**Performances\* Charged at £4 per child**

### The Globe Players “What You Will’



This fascinating introduction to Shakespeare for Key Stage 2 follows the development of Shakespeare’s career and features many of his most famous scenes along the way. We include extracts from A Midsummer Nights Dream, Twelfth Night, The Tempest, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet and more, all designed to intrigue and entertain your students.

Our actors play multiple roles in this exciting and dynamic production covering comedy, tragedy and history and including audience participation, and lots of fun. The perfect introduction to Shakespeare for young audiences, which will even have adults laughing, and learning about the world’s most popular playwright.

**The performances are for years 5 and 6. Venues TBC.**

**4 x 2 hour performances in schools 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025.**

### Shooting Stars Circus

### Circus Science Skills Show



The Shooting Stars team will be in school to perform a show and/or deliver workshops to several classes.

Our fast-paced Circus Science Show lasts for one hour and fully engages your pupils to explore the concepts required for KS1 and/or KS2 Physical Processes.

By watching amazing circus and magic tricks, together with a splash of comedy, we bring forces and motion alive with practical examples and fun experiments, encouraging pupils to give their own observations and conclusions. It’s the perfect mix of education and entertainment.

Our unique Circus Science Workshops then give your budding scientists the chance to put their observations into practice and also improve their balance and co-ordination. We offer a KS1 Circus Science Show followed by Workshops, or a KS2 Circus Science Show followed by Workshops, or the two Shows with a fewer number of Workshops.

[info@shootingstarscircus.co.uk](mailto:info@shootingstarscircus.co.uk)



## School Workshops

**Workshops Free to schools**

**Berkshire Birds A day in school with up to 4 class workshops**



During our sessions, students are treated to an exciting blend of education, entertainment and up-close interactions with our birds. Our visit begins with an informative talk about the birds where participants discover fascinating facts about their behaviour, diet, unique characteristics and their natural habitat.

With a selection of 3 to 15 feathered companions present, students have the opportunity to dive into the world of these magnificent creatures. This hands-on educational encounter offers the opportunity for everyone to hold and interact with the birds under the supervision of our staff.

The duration of our sessions, ranging from 1 to 2 hours, is adjustable to accommodate your schedule and specific requirements. A minimum of 2 staff members up to 8 will guide the experience and guarantee all students get the same opportunity in participating. Depending on the available space, we may also offer the experience of birds flying to the glove, adding an extra layer of excitement to the event.

# School Workshops

## African Djemba Drums and Percussion workshop . KS1 and KS2



The drummers will spend a day in school delivering several class workshops.

Big surdo drums, Djembé drums, agogos, cowbells, shakers, tamborims and group participation combine in this high-energy and multilayered performance spectacle. We lead everyone through a series of rhythmical exercises and challenges, teaching them the rhythms and sounds of this multi-cultural genre. Subgroups take ownership of different Latin percussion hand instruments and drums, combining as a whole to make up the full sound of an Afro-Brazilian Samba band. We close the session with a final performance. It's loud, impressive and high energy. It's a carnival and everyone has an important role to play.

## African Dance Workshops. KS1 and KS2



Host a professional dancer in school for the day with workshops and performance opportunities for several classes/groups

Enrich your curriculum with one of our fun and educational African Dance Workshops for Schools. . African dance is one of our most popular workshops with schools. Your pupils will thoroughly enjoy this lively and joyous workshop. It is also a wonderful way to learn about this rich and vibrant culture.



# School Workshops

## Workshops

### Artist: Michaela Clarke

**Workshop Name:** Create 'n Make – artwork on our “Amazing Animals” theme

**Workshop Description:**

Michaela has a knack for pitching her art at the younger pupils producing wonderful original individual and collaborative artworks. In her 1 hour workshops children will create artwork on our ‘Amazing Animals’ theme.

Years 1-2 will make a 3D animal and Years 3-4 will make a 3D animal picture. Each one hour workshop will be based in your school.

**Years: 1 - 4**

**Requirements from the school:** Class teacher and support teacher, classroom space, aprons. **Artist provides:** all materials

Please see some of Michaela’s fantastic art at <http://www.createnmake.com>

## Workshops

### Artist: Emily Cooling

**Workshop name:** Artwork/Display on our ‘Amazing Animals’ theme

**Workshop description**

Emily Cooling is the heart and soul of Creating ART. She is an artist above all, but she is also something more unique – a born educator. She works with people of all ages and literally all walks of life, delivering amazing workshops, installations and events throughout Oxfordshire and beyond.

Emily is an accomplished artist who will visit schools delivering workshops aimed at producing artwork for display based on our ‘Growing’ theme.

**Years: 3 - 6**

**Requirements of school:** 2 support teachers, classroom space, tables, chairs, aprons, sink and water, electric point.

**Artist provides:** all materials

Please see Emily’s fantastic website [www.creatingart.co.uk/](http://www.creatingart.co.uk/)

## Workshops

### Artist: Kathryn Fell, Photography

**Workshop name:** Digital Animal Photography

A 50 minute workshop that will teach children the basics of taking digital photographs. **It should be noted no photographs of children will be taken or used in this workshop.**

**Years:** 5/6

**Artist provides:** will use props available in normal school environment.

**Requirements of school:** Minimum of 2 support staff. **School to ensure that children to have bring in a smart phone or tablet per two children.** Access to school internet.

Kathryn Fell is a local Professional photographer, specialising in Family portraits, Weddings, Food, Events, Commercial photography as well as teaching Digital SLR photography workshops and Smart Phone Photography for Business Social media.

[www.kathrynfellphotography.co.uk](http://www.kathrynfellphotography.co.uk) Instagram [www.instagram.com/kathrynfellphotography](https://www.instagram.com/kathrynfellphotography)

### Artist Daniella Yglesia

#### Workshop; Fun Flamenco Fusion: Amazing Animals! (Reception & Year 1)

Get ready to dance, explore, and move like amazing animals in our Fun Flamenco Fusion workshop! Specially designed for Reception and Year 1 children, this energetic and imaginative session blends the excitement of flamenco with the magic of the animal world.

Children will stomp like proud horses, flutter like birds, and swish their tails like cheeky cats as they learn simple flamenco-inspired steps. Using colourful scarves, click-clack castanets, and beautiful fans, pupils will develop rhythm, coordination, and confidence through playful movement and storytelling.

This inclusive workshop encourages creativity, listening skills, and self-expression while introducing children to Spanish culture in a joyful, age-appropriate way.

