

<b>Committee(s)</b> Education Board	<b>Dated:</b> 17/10/2023
<b>Subject:</b> Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills Update and Wren 300 update	Public
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	3, 8, 9 & 10
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N/A
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
<b>Report author(s):</b> Georgie Stewart-Smith, Business Administrator and Events Apprentice	

### Summary

This report updates Members on recent events and activities delivered across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education; Cultural and Creative Learning; and Skills. A calendar of meetings, forums and events for the 2023-24 academic year is included in Appendix 1.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the update on events and activities across the three strategy areas; and
- Note the calendar of forums and events over the 2023-24 academic year in Appendix 1

### Main Report

#### Background

1. The Education Board has oversight of three strategies: Education; Cultural and Creative Learning; and Skills (2019-23).

#### Current Position

2. London Careers Festival

Between 27 June – 06 July London Careers Festival took place online, at the Guildhall and off-site workshops. Over the course of the two weeks, over 12,000 pupils across the country attend all different sessions. On the final day of LCF,

some pupils had the opportunity to attend some workshops off-site at law firm Paul Hastings, Museum of London Docklands, Introduction to Construction with Mace and an IT session held at Natilik. Sessions held at Paul Hastings and Natilik were put on as a part of Generation Success' programme of initiatives. More to follow from Lead Projects Officer.

### 3. Wren300

To celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, a year-long project has taken place in collaboration with City of London Corporation, Diocese, City of London School and St. Paul's Cathedral. This project involved music, visual art and creative writing, bringing together pupils from across the Family of Schools (and extended) to sing a new composition inspired by Wren's architecture and his achievements.

Phase One of the project took place on Wednesday 28 September 2022 where teachers were invited to St Stephen Walbrook church to officially launch the project. Phase Two was delivered with full day workshops at St Stephen Walbrook & St James Garlickhythe on Monday 13 and 20 March 2023. Eight schools with over 200 pupils travelled between both sites for sessions which included: singing as part of a choir, creating paper-cuttings of the Walbrook dome and writing poetry inspired by the Garlickhythe architecture. During these two phases, feedback from the pupils highlighted how both the architecture from the churches and the atmosphere contributed to them feeling inspired and interested in knowing more about the history of Wren. Many pupils also stated that they wanted to revisit St Pauls Cathedral with their family members.

On Monday 18 September, the rehearsal for the final Wren300 concert took place at the City of London School. 230 pupils attended the rehearsal. To close the project, on Thursday 21 September, 230 pupils came together at the Guildhall to have a full day of final rehearsals prior to the final concert in the Great Hall, Guildhall that evening. Pupils performed to over 430 of their family members in the evening – a celebratory showcase of their artwork and singing. The specially composed Wren-inspired music was created by Richard Quesnel, Director of Music at the City of London School and the City of London School for Girls – as a collection, these compositions formed what was called 'Raising the Roof', a cycle of compositions grouped together to celebrate Wren's achievements with lyrics drawing on historical facts, street names and famous London landmarks designed by Wren. Richard also especially wrote the libretto for the concert. To summarise, the concert was a huge success with positive feedback being received from parents/ carers, guests, staff and pupils.

## **Upcoming**

### 4. London Compact 2030 – Bridge The Gap.

On the morning of Thursday 16 November 2023 at the Guildhall, the annual City Schools Conference will take place. The conference this year aims to improve social cohesion through the connection of disadvantaged young people to a wide range of opportunities across London, increase engagement in education and training to reduce participation and achievement gaps between advantaged and disadvantaged young people and to secure long-term economic prosperity through employers accessing and providing supported pathways for a large and diverse pool of local talent. This is being delivered in partnership between the City of London Academy Trust and the City Corporation's Education Strategy Unit.

### **Options**

N/A

### **Key Data**

N/A

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

N/A. This report is for information only.

### **Conclusion**

Members of the Education Board have been updated on recent events and activities across their three strategy areas as well as upcoming events and activities over the 2023-24 academic year.

### **Appendix 1 – Calendar of Forums and Events over the 2023-24 Academic Year**

#### **Georgie Stewart-Smith**

#### **Business Administrator and Events Apprentice**

Department of Community and Children's Services

T: 07706991121

E: [Georgie.stewart-smith@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Georgie.stewart-smith@cityoflondon.gov.uk)