

Summer 2018

Well our national football team may not have been able to bring home the trophy this year (although it felt they might when our Saturday and Wednesday parents watched the matches in the canteen!), but we can certainly say that our pupils and clients have been winners this year. We've had more incredible exam results, right from pupils very first exams to teacher qualifications for our older students, performance opportunities on a world-wide televised stage in the Lord Mayor's New Year's Day Parade and countless happy students walking in and out of our doors. The end of the academic year culminated in a spectacular showcase at the Churchill Theatre for our College students with a feature for our Saturday morning school celebrating 30 years of exceptional training and achievements. We invite you to share in our wonderful success stories below.

D&B MANAGEMENT

D&B Management have been extremely busy over the last 6 months securing lots of featured work in all genres of the industry. Only this week, we welcomed the EastEnders, Holby City and Casualty casting teams to private auditions here at our studios, thanks to our long-standing reputation as a provider of leads for the BBC. Our clients have worked enormously hard and we are very proud to shout about all of their credits!

THEATRE

- Joining Broadway stars Kelli O'Hara and Ken Watanabe - Jabez Cheeseman and Shiyi Guo are performing in **'The King and I'** at the London Palladium this Summer. Jabez will be playing the role of Louis and Shiyi will be part of the Royal Children's chorus. A huge congratulations to both of them and we cannot wait to see them in the show. Set in Bangkok (1860) the musical tells the story of the relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna (a British schoolteacher) who the King brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children. With well-known songs such as Getting To Know You, Shall We Dance and Whistle a Happy Tune; Rodger's and Hammerstein's King and I is an absolute triumph! Ashleigh-Louise and Philip who work on the Agency at D&B were lucky enough to attend press night and see this magnificent production! We cannot wait to head back and see both Jabez and Shiyi over the next few months!
- While Jabez was busy rehearsing for the 'King and I' he was also lucky enough to play 'Tommy Stubbins' in a rehearsed reading of new musical **'Doctor Dolittle.'**
- Jaydah Bell-Ricketts, Isabelle Burnham and Phoebe Farnham all took to the stage at London's Southbank Centre as part of the choir for the UK Premiere of **'A Little Princess.'** Along with full-time students Lauren Bowry, Elle Crees, Anja Gibbs-Bell, Josh Nkemdilim and Chanel Rennie who formed part of the dance ensemble working alongside Andrew Lippa, Arlene Phillips and our very own Jo Goodwin.
- Congratulations to Rio Myers and Nicholas Seal who have just finished their theatre stints in **Motown** (West End) and **Matilda** (UK Tour) respectively.

Television

- Congratulations to Zack Morris who has showcased his wonderful acting talent yet again on **EastEnders**. Heavily featured in the recent knifecrime storyline, Zack has contributed to some of the highest viewing figures in the last few years. No surprise that he has been nominated for Best Actor and Best Young Actor at the **International Achievement Recognitions Awards**. You can continue to watch Tilly Keeper as Louise Mitchell and Zack Morris as Keegan Baker most weeknights on BBC1!
- Carma Hylton continues to film for the next series of CBBC's popular TV show **'The Dumping Ground'** playing the wonderful 'Candi-Rose.'
- Luke Amis and a group of our boys will be able to be seen when Amazon's new series **'The Romanoffs'** airs! Luke secured a feature role playing one of the school bullies and our other boys can



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be seen as school pupils.

- You can now catch Dominic Boyle on Netflix in the new series ‘**The Alienist.**’ Dominic started with a small role filming in Budapest for a few days and ended up having several more trips and extending his role to appear in 4 episodes. Dominic got to work alongside Dakota Fanning and Luke Evans.
- Our youngest client Alayna Wahid secured her first job at the end of May filming for UKTV’s new comedy drama ‘**Flack**’ in which she plays the role of Penny. Alayna had a fab time working alongside Anna Paquin.
- Kitty Slack (Clarice Twigg) and Ynez Williams (Beatrice Bunch) joined the students at Cackle’s Academy for Series 2 of the ‘**Worst Witch**’ last year. The new series is shown on CBBC and is the fifth adaptation of the Worst Witch books by Jill Murphy. Based on young witch in training Mildred Hubble and friends; the series explores the trials and tribulations of the girls as they learn to harness their incredible powers and the mischief it can cause. This is Kitty’s first job with D&B Management and Ynez’s first TV role. Both girls had an absolutely fabulous time filming and have enjoyed seeing themselves on the TV. We are excited to announce that Kelsey Calladine-Smith has also joined the girls who are now filming for series 3. Kelsey will be playing the role of Indie
- Shanu Hazzan filmed for a new pilot episode for a TV show called ‘**Defending the Guilty**’, playing the role of Sarne. This credit adds to Shanu’s already impressive CV.
- Hitting our screens on ITV towards the end of 2018, ‘**Vanity Fair**’ sees client Niamh Durkin play the role of Rose Crawley. Based on William Makepeace Thackeray’s 1848 novel, this will be one not to miss!



FILM

- Phoebe Farnham secured the role of ‘Mary Steele’ in Feature Film ‘**Amundsen**’ based on the fascinating story of the Norwegian explorer, Roald Amundsen. He was the first person to sail around the entire Arctic Ocean and to conquer both poles. Phoebe got to spend 3 days in Prague filming for the role and really enjoyed filming abroad and seeing a new city!

EDUCATIONAL FILMS

- After filming for the pilot episode in February - Shiven was asked back to take part in the full version of The National Geographic’s Learning ‘Look’ video. These videos are part of an exciting global primary course that teaches English (as a foreign language) to children between the ages of 5 and 12 all over the world. Each video is a talking head interview that is interspersed with fantastic footage from **The National Geographic Society**. Sixteen children from different countries around the world were chosen to be part of these videos. Shiven discussed his Indian heritage talking about different types of food, celebrations and everyday life. Shiven also shared his family photos that will become part of the film. The video will be a celebration of how diverse, colourful and interesting all of our lives are. We cannot wait to see the video and learn more about our client Shiven.
- Aubrey tackled a very powerful educational video earlier in the year. ‘**Breck’s Last Game**’ is the educational video that Leicestershire Police will be using to campaign and educate children on the dangers of online grooming through gaming. Based on the true story of Breck Bednar this is the latest film forming part of the Leicestershire police’s campaign to tackle and prevent abuse.

SHORT FILMS

- Now going into his second year of full time training our client Vincent Finch secured a Short Film, called ‘**Londonstani**’ playing the role of Matt. The film is a story about the second generation of the Asian community in the 90’s with themes of friendship, tradition, money and meaning as it played out on the fringes of immigrant society in ‘90s Britain. Based on the cult novel of the same name by Gautam Malkani, it was made for the BFI (British Films Institute.) If commissioned, this short film will be made into a full length feature.
- Vincent Finch also filmed a Charity Short Film for the **National Autistic Society**; directed by BAFTA nominated Director Charlotte Regan. The film follows Sarah an Autistic woman on her journey to work. The film aims to give an insight into Sarah’s world and challenge views and judgements of Autism.
- Jamila Ajadi, Jaiden Edwards-Scott and Poppy Labrosse are filming for a Short Film called ‘**Parklife**’,



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based on a true story of 5 friends who head from their parents' house at night to explore Hyde Park! Filming takes place in July and we cannot wait to see the project! This will be Jaiden's professional debut!

MUSIC VIDEO

- Client Bertie Newman landed the role of Brad in Banfi's music video for the song 'Never Really Cared.' He really enjoyed his first taste of being in front of the camera and being a fan of the band, he was extremely excited to be part of the project. With over 19,000 views in one month (as of the end of April 2018) the video shows poor Bertie's character get dumped by his girlfriend showing she 'Never Really Cared.' Take a look at the music video on Youtube!

VOICEOVERS

- Huey Hares and Luke Amis took to the Mic when they recorded some extra voices for popular BBC 1 Series 'Poldark'
- Jamie Schneider lent his voice to the pilot of a new DreamWorks Animated series called 'Rhyme Time Town'

COMMERCIALS

Our clients have also been busy filming for commercials on TV and the Internet and have been popping up all over our screens!

- Malaika Kasombo and Rayane Farah filmed for Vodafone's International Women's Day Ad
- Keira Langley can be seen on Asda's Easter George commercial
- Lily-Sue Bennett was spotted on Co-op's Easter Commercial
- Maci Hughes can be seen dressed up as Disney Princess' in the Disney Rubies Princess advert.

Along with commercials, a couple of our clients took part in Still Photography shoots.

- Heidi Williams for TFL
- Hallie and Harlie Barthram for Rebif
- Bertie Newman for Amazon Music!!

As always, there are a few ongoing projects that we are not allowed to talk about until official press releases have been announced, but watch this space for some really exciting news about our clients appearing in feature films!

Congratulations agency clients for all of your hard work and successes this year. Our next set of agency auditions will be in October so please contact the Agency mid-September to book your place on the auditions!

D&B THEATRE SCHOOL

- The Theatre School kicked started its 30th Year with a performance in the **Mayor of London's New Year Day Parade** on 1st January 2018. D&B were honoured to be representing the London Borough of Lewisham this year at the televised event. A team of students from our Saturday schools braved the early start and cold weather to perform to the hundreds of thousands of people who lined the streets. We are incredibly proud and delighted to have won £4000.00 for The Lavender Trust (Breast cancer care); Lewisham's chosen charity this year with our performance in 'CIRQUE DU LEWISHAM' – I'm sure it helped that we were the only entry with a dancing mayor!
- The January – April term 2018 was one of our busiest exam terms ever! We had **LCM singing, ISTD Tap, Ballet and Modern, UDO Street Dance and Lamda** exams all going ahead. We are always extremely delighted with how dedicated, hardworking and driven our Theatre School pupils are. This really showed in our exam results this year. We had a whopping 40 pupils achieve Merit or Distinctions in LAMDA exams, 100% pass rate in ISTD Ballet, Tap and Modern exams and our Lucky UDO street Dance exam students were watched and examined by the legendary Hip-Hop and locking



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choreographer CALVIN FRANCIS. We are waiting on our final batch of LCM singing exam results and wish luck to all pupils taking ISTD Tap and Modern at the end of the Summer term!

- D&B's **LAMDA** students have had a very busy 2018 so far. Pupils took LAMDA acting and verse and prose exams in February with wonderful results. It's worth mentioning that there was an unbelievable **TEN** students entered at the **GRADE 8 – GOLD MEDAL** level this year (LAMDA'S highest grade) and it's such a pleasure to see students succeeding through to such high level grades. LAMDA pupils also entered the Sevenoaks Three Arts festival in the Summer Term, a competitive platform for students to perform their scenes on stage and get feedback from industry professionals. All pupils represented D&B wonderfully in both their professional conduct at the festival and also in the results achieved! D&B proved they were a force to be reckoned with gaining many merits, distinctions and first places at the festival, but special mention must go to Arjaan Amos Miah (14) who achieved a 92% distinction result and was awarded a cup for an overall high score. Well Done Arjaan!
- A newly re-structured **TV Technique Drama class** for primary school children ages 8+ has started on Wednesdays at 4:30pm. This class uses both real scripts from TV shows and scripts written especially for the kids who will learn what it takes to be an actor for the screen. Children will get the opportunity to work with a professional camera from time to time and watch back their performances on the big screen! The classes are also designed to help children brush up on their improvisation skills, gain confidence and have lots of fun! If you are interested please call us.
- Wednesday and Thursday night Drama students also had a very successful watching week at the end of this term and performed magnificently to parents who were keen to see what they had been working on. It was lovely to see so many of you there (especially the Wednesday evening when England was playing in that semi-final!) and we thank the parents for their support over the last academic year.
- We are thrilled to be welcoming **Vicky Alcock** to our regular drama faculty in September. Vicky has just finished filming 'People Just do Nothing' for the BBC. Parents may recognise her as one of the iconic Julie's in the 90's classic TV show Bad Girls, set in a women's prison! She brings with her a wealth of industry expertise and she's really excited to get to work with our pupils in September.
- We have 3 very talented **street crews** competing during 2018. All teams were auditioned in December and started rehearsing in January this year and it soon became clear that their talent and dedication would ensure that they have a successful run. At the first competition in June - the 101 event in Essex, we were delighted that ALL three teams qualified for the National finals later this year with a first place win! The trophies continued to roll in with another successful competition in July at the Summer Slam in Swanley where we had first and second placed teams, duo and solo entries. We are extremely excited to see what the rest of the year will bring for the crews.
- The Saturday Morning School were invited to perform a special section in the college graduation



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showcase. Well done to all pupils involved who sang and performed brilliantly in front of the casting directors and VIP's that attended our College showcase at the **Churchill Theatre Bromley**.

- Our **Mini combination classes** for 4-6yr olds put on a dazzling display for parents with another themed display earlier this year. Our **CARIBBEAN** themed performance had a packed audience dancing in their seats! Children had a glitter make-over and professional photo shoot in tailor-made costumes before entertaining family members with their performance. It was such a fun morning and so thrilling for our youngest students, many of whom for which it was their first time on stage. We are sure it will be the start of many D&B performances in the future! Singing, Dancing and Acting classes (Mini Combination lessons) for 4-6 year olds run on Thursdays 4.30pm– 5.30pm and Saturdays 8.55am – 9.55am and 1.15pm – 2.15pm. Please call if you have a little one ready to perform in our next display at Christmas time.



To celebrate turning **30 years** old D&B will be introducing a fabulously sparkly version of our D&B T-shirts that will be available from September 2018! Please order at reception from Monday 10th September when classes return.

We are looking forward to an exciting time ahead for the theatre school. Saturday schools will be working hard towards our big 30 year anniversary show at the Langley performing arts centre during the October half term for an evening show on Friday 26th and a matinee and evening performance on Saturday 27th October. Tickets will go on sale on Wednesday 1st August 2018 – more details on how to get them will be available soon.

We have limited spaces left in our Summer school on offer this year running throughout July and August; including TV and Film school, Disney Day camp and Pop School! - Please get in touch at reception for more information

D&B SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

We can't quite believe how quickly this term and year have gone! It seems only yesterday that we were auditioning this year's graduates and it feels so strange to be sending them off into their next stages so soon! We hope that you all managed to come along to the showcase at the Churchill Theatre, which was truly a magnificent send off and a fantastic end to this academic year.

Showcase

The showcase process started for us in January, when we started to select material based on the current students, and come up with a plan to show them off, whilst giving the audience an incredible show! As a selective college we are fortunate enough to tailor our shows to our students, ensuring they are featured and shown off to agents and casting directors. The students auditioned for features just before we broke up for Easter, giving us ample time to share out all of the roles and give the students time to practice and get on top of their scripts and preparation before we returned for the all-important 'showcase term'.



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As always, we have been blessed with an incredible faculty and creative team, whose input to the show is hugely cherished. The students started off their rehearsal process with a section from 'The Witches of Eastwick', selected to show off their comedic skills. This section was directed and choreographed by David O'Reilly who played Elder Cunningham in The Book of Mormon, West End as well as more recently appearing in Lady Windermere's Fan and as a lead in ITV's hit TV sitcom Benidorm. Second on our list was Paul Morrissey's reworking of Wicked. With no green paint in sight, we hope that the audience was suitably fooled by some clever green lighting. As always, the vocals in Paul's section were truly outstanding. We were blessed that Lewis Easter (who has just started a stint in Wicked, following touring with Wonderland) choreographed a



stunning, sultry number for a select group of lyrical dancers with exceptional vocals by graduate Alex Jamieson. Next we tackled a monster plant (or not!) in our wonderful 'Little Shop of Horrors' section, directed and choreographed by our fantastic husband and wife team of Jon Emmanuel and Alison Pollard. Jon and Ali have been with the college for many years now, and come with a wealth of industry contacts and experience, Jon who is UK Associate Director on Jersey Boys

and Ali, currently resident director on Book of Mormon and Dreamgirls, West End. Next our head of Jazz Jo Goodwin headed back to the studios following a stint as resident choreographer on the UK tour of Sunset Boulevard, to get cracking on a fantastic 'Greatest Showman/Barnum' opening number and the fast paced 'Tain't Nobody's Bizness' tap number. Rounding up the half term, Simon Hardwick took a break from assisting Drew McOnie and heading up the creative team for Strictly Ballroom to set a creative 'Heathers' section. We'll never look at our silver tables and red trays in the same way again! The message of inclusion, friendship and growing up seemed so apt at the end of the show!

During half term, a selected group of students came in to record all of the backing vocals for the showcase, gaining valuable microphone and harmony skills. After half term the students returned and were thrown into intense dance rehearsals with Genevieve to learn the Fosse section. They were certainly put through their paces and working with Gen who has played Velma in Chicago in UK Tours and all over the world was a real treat. Kirsten Wheeler, one of our core commercial jazz teachers then started work on her Rhianna masterpiece which called for a late night rehearsal to get all of the intricate choreography learnt- time well spent when you looked at the finished result! Finally, our showcase director Matt Flint came in to set his epic 'Prom Night' section which was full of fun, energy and lots of set on wheels (which is always a challenge!).

Throughout the rehearsal process, the students worked exceptionally hard and pulled together as a team to put on a spectacular show. We couldn't be more proud of the finished result and thank you all for coming along to watch and for your lovely messages of support.

- The Summer term also saw us finish our **Can You Dance** circuit for this academic year, with visits to Liverpool, Norwich and finally (and a little closer to home!), Essex. Our team of performers represented the school beautifully at all of the venues and we are thankful to them for giving up their Sundays to represent our D&B Family. Thank you Alice, Hannah, Elle, Chanel, Jordan, Anja, Josh and Olly. Thanks also to Kirsten Wheeler for more fantastic choreography.
- We were thrilled as always to have a large number of agents in attendance at the showcase, as well as organising an agent week here at the College, giving the 3rd years the opportunity to be seen by many different agents and casting directors. Throughout the term there have also been auditions for P&O, Celebrity Cruises, EastEnders, Belinda King, Grayboy and Les Miserables UK Tour.





- Having staff that are so heavily involved in the industry means that from time to time, wonderful opportunities present themselves to the college and this term was no exception. Jo Goodwin, our head of Jazz, was assistant to Arlene Phillips on the critically acclaimed production of 'A Little Princess', performed at the Royal Festival Hall last month. She was able to get Chanel Rennie, Lauren Bowry, Joshua Nkemdilim, Anja Gibbs-Bell and Elle Crees into the ensemble, giving them an incredible experience of a full scale professional production.
- We are extremely proud to announce our new **Head Boy and Head Girl** for 2018-2019! Megan Elsegood and Aaron Ramsden will be taking the torch from Chloe Hare and Mac Rathmill and have lots to live up to! We're sure they will be wonderful ambassadors to the college and make our new 1st years feel extremely welcome.
- A huge congratulations to 1st year Olly Hosier who won our '**most improved**' award for this year- thoroughly well deserved Olly!
- Congratulations to graduate Lydia Buckley who is currently starring in Milton Morrissey's production of **Toys** in Dubai! Also a big well done to our other graduates who are also doing wonderful things including (*graduates please keep us up to date so that we can shout about you!*)
 - Dan Walter who went on to play the youngest ever Elder Price in **Book of Mormon** this month- hopefully he'll be doing that lots more now!
 - Justin Thomas who has just gone into the ensemble of **Aladdin**, West End
 - Alfie Browne who has just been signed to Rudeye commercial agency having finished a cruise in Australia for **Grayboy** and is set to sail again for them in October. Leah Bauckham is also currently out in Oz working for Grayboy.
 - Beverley Norton who has just completed her final stages of her **DDI/DDE teacher training** following employment with **Disneyland Paris** and **Warner Village**
 - Hannah Jacobs who is working onboard **Carnival Cruises**
 - Jacob McIntosh who has just finished appearing as a swing/ Drifter in the UK Tour of **Beautiful** and is about to start rehearsals as ensemble and cover Lola in the UK Tour of **Kinky Boots**
 - Joshua Harwood who is now working for the esteemed **agent Shane Collins**
 - Mohammed Mansaray who's just finished a contract in '**One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest**' at the **Leicester Curve**
 - Holly-Jane Crowter who's just finished performing in '**South Pacific**' for Milton Morrissey productions
 - Annalise Liard Bailey who is rounding up her tour of **Hairspray** playing Penny. In these last few months of the tour, her Mum is now being played by our jazz tutor Genevieve!
 - Sydnie Christmas who is about to finish playing Rizzo in **Grease** for Royal Caribbean.
 - Our overseas workers, who are currently having an absolute ball doing what they love with a pool nearby! **Natasha Caulfield, Abigail Tucker, Charlotte Morris, Hannah Glencross, Will Bracey, Hannah Gordon**
 - Luke Higgins who has just finished filming for **Holby City** and is currently writing a project for the **BBC**
 - Durone Stokes appeared playing CC on **West End Live** with the cast of **Dreamgirls**, whilst graduate Jayme-Lee Zanoncelli appeared with **Motown**, as well as Matt Terry singing material from the brand new musical **Madagascar** which he will be starring in very shortly!
- We look forward to welcoming our new 1st years to the College in September and are pleased to announce that the receivers of the scholarships for 2018 are Brandon Knight, Connor Cox and Courtney Donnelly. They join an exceptionally talented year and we really look forward to welcoming them all to the D&B family from all corners of the world! Over the summer we will be honing an exciting new timetable with longer college classes, more streaming, regular voice and speech classes, teaching qualifications and an exciting development to our technical jazz syllabus.
- There's no rest for the wicked though, and many of our College students are about to start rehearsals for this years Comic Relief event where they will be performing in a song and dance spectacular.... Watch this space!

We are now excitedly looking forward to September when we hope to be able to announce lots of exciting news for our recent graduates. We would like to say a huge well done to our class of 2018 who have worked exceptionally hard and progressed so much in what feels like such a short time! We wish you all the very best!



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As you have seen, there's been so much to shout about over the last two terms and we have no intentions of slowing down. We've got fantastic summer workshops over the break and our offices will still be open on weekdays, working hard to secure work for our agency clients and preparing for the return of our students and pupils in September. We've got a really exciting term coming up with plenty of performance opportunities and celebrations to mark our 30 year anniversary and we look forward to sharing these events with you.

Our offices are opening throughout the Summer holidays (excluding bank holidays) Monday to Friday 9-5. The Theatre school returns on Monday 10th September and the college returns on Monday 17th September.

Have a lovely Summer,

Donna and Bonnie



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