



NatWest Island Games 2011

25 June – 1 July

PRESS RELEASE

15 NOVEMBER 2010

STUDENTS START DESIGN PROCESS FOR OPENING CEREMONY PARADE

On Thursday 18th November over 1150 students from Island schools - Oakfield Primary, Arreton Primary, Binstead Primary and Ryde School – will be attending the Carnival Learning Centre at Westridge to start designing the different chapters of the Opening Ceremony Parade for the NatWest Island Games.

The students will learn about the different style of carnival costume making, what to consider when designing costumes before using a variety of mixed media to create a range of design ideas relevant to their entry in the Opening Parade. The parade will depict various historic and folkloric episodes in the history of the Island. . Designs will then be developed into working drawings that will form the basis of their final costume

This design session forms part of a 14-month creative arts programme, funded by the National Lottery, that will engage over 1000 young students in the creation of a spectacular Opening Ceremony for the Games, comprising a high quality themed and choreographed carnival parade through the streets of Ryde and a special performance on the seafront where the official Opening Ceremony will take place

Additionally thirty students from Medina High School will also be present on Thursday in their role as the 'documentary project team' who, working with Jonathan Ward (photography) and Stratcat Films (DVD), will learn about the process of making a documentary, in readiness for working as part of the documentary team for the Opening Ceremony on 25 June next year.

As part of their first assignment on Thursday, they will record the activities of the students involved in the design process and their work will be critiqued by the lead artists.

An Arts Council grant of £94,099 funded by the National Lottery has been awarded to the Island Games Association (IW) for the Opening Ceremony of the NatWest Island Games 2011.

The IW Council's Carnival Learning Centre will manage this large scale outdoor project which will engage a wide range of organisations and individuals in carnival arts and street arts training.

The outline plan for the Opening Ceremony project was formulated following consultation with schoolteachers and community leaders, and representatives from the Island Games Association, Extended Schools Service, Carnival Groups and the Carnival Learning Centre.

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NOTE TO EDITOR

1. **You are invited to come along to the Carnival Learning Centre at Westridge on Thursday 18 November to view the design process and speak with the students,** Please contact Chris Slann on 01983 817283 to organise. Sessions are 9.30 – 11.30, 12.30 – 2.30 and 3.30 – 5.30.
2. Could you please refer to the event as the 'NatWest Island Games' (not "Island Games" or "The Games") at the start of articles and in headlines, and the 'Games' mid copy, as appropriate. Thank you.

3. Background :

- The International Island Games were established in the Isle of Man in 1985 and today include 25 member islands in, or associated with, the nine sovereign nations of Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK plus the Caribbean :

Aland	Alderney	Bermuda
Cayman Islands	Falkland Islands	Faroe Islands
Froya Islands	Gibraltar	Gotland
Greenland	Guernsey	Hitra Islands
Isle of Man	Isle of Wight	Jersey
Menorca	Orkney	Prince Edward Island
Rhodes	Saaremaa	Sark
Shetlands Islands	St Helena	Western Isles

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- In 1999, NatWest became the title sponsor of the Island Games which has become one of the largest participation events in the world behind the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.
- The NatWest Island Games 2011 are being run by the Island Games Association (Isle of Wight) supported by the IW Council, which is also a sponsor.
- The 25 member islands compete every two years around the world in a range of up to 14 sports chosen by the host island from a list of 18.
- Sports chosen for 2011 are :
Archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling, football, golf, sailing inc. windsurfing, squash, swimming, shooting, table tennis, tennis, volleyball
- The NatWest Island Games were last held on the Isle of Wight in 1993.

- Further information is available at www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk and www.islandgames.net

For further information please contact either :

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