

## The Roche Court Educational Trust wins the Betty Williams Award 2016



(left and right) The Roche Court Educational Trust's South Wilts Mencap Summer Sculpture Spectacular, August 2016 (middle) Emma Kerr, Head of Education, receiving the Betty Williams Award 2016 from Ann Vine © The Roche Court Educational Trust

We are thrilled to announce that the Roche Court Educational Trust has been awarded the Betty Williams Award 2016 in recognition of our work with members of South Wilts Mencap. Each year, the award is presented by Mencap to an organisation that has 'travelled that extra mile' to help people with learning disabilities to enjoy life more or develop their abilities, demonstrating an outstanding commitment through the activities provided.

The Roche Court Educational Trust works with South Wilts Mencap on creative projects both at Roche Court and as part of their regular club nights to introduce members to modern and contemporary art. Every Summer, members take part in our two-day project which focuses on artists exhibited within the grounds of the sculpture park. Young people have the opportunity to make their own sculptures, as well as new performances and drawings. Often these artworks are then exhibited as part of *The Multi-Sensory Art Project*.

The Trust was nominated and won the award because 'the Roche Court team have been excellent at going that extra mile in ensuring activities at the sculpture park are, interesting, thought provoking, inclusive and educational. Emma and her team would be worthy winners'.

**For any press enquiries please contact: [emma@sculpture.uk.com](mailto:emma@sculpture.uk.com) + 44 (0)1980 862802**

## **Notes to the Editors**

### **South Wilts Mencap**

South Wilts Mencap supports people with learning disabilities; inspiring them to achieve their full potential and enabling them and their families to lead fuller lives.

For further information visit: [www.southwiltsmencap.org.uk](http://www.southwiltsmencap.org.uk) or contact Emma Harper, Secretary for South Wilts Mencap: [secretary@southwiltsmencap.org.uk](mailto:secretary@southwiltsmencap.org.uk)

### **The Roche Court Educational Trust and the New Art Centre**

The Roche Court Educational Trust is a resource based at the New Art Centre Sculpture Park and Gallery for schools, colleges, universities, adults and specialist groups from across the country. Experienced staff work closely with all visitors and provide guided and interactive tours and workshops. Planned events and artist led projects are a key aspect of the educational programme and are designed to encourage and promote the enjoyment of looking at artworks and learning through discussion, observation and expression.

The New Art Centre, Roche Court, is a sculpture park and gallery set in the spectacular Wiltshire landscape. The New Art Centre specialises in late 20<sup>th</sup>-century and contemporary art and includes works by Barbara Hepworth, Anthony Caro, Antony Gormley and Richard Long.

For further information about RCET please visit the website: [rochecourteducationaltrust.co.uk](http://rochecourteducationaltrust.co.uk) or contact Emma Kerr, Head of Education: [emma@sculpture.uk.com](mailto:emma@sculpture.uk.com) or 01980 862802

For further information about the New Art Centre please visit the website: [sculpture.uk.com](http://sculpture.uk.com) or contact Chris Sullivan, Gallery Manager: [chris@sculpture.uk.com](mailto:chris@sculpture.uk.com) or 01980 862244

### **The Multi-Sensory Art Project**

The Multi-Sensory Art Project is a collaboration between The Roche Court Educational Trust and Larkrise School, Trowbridge to provide creative and sensory experiences for children with profound and multiple learning disabilities. Art installations are created in the school and are an opportunity for the students and staff to experience, react and respond within these environments, allowing individual expression, communication and very early play skills. The installation also travels to Exeter House School, Salisbury.

For further information please visit [www.themultisensoryartproject.co.uk](http://www.themultisensoryartproject.co.uk) or contact Emma Kerr: [emma@sculpture.uk.com](mailto:emma@sculpture.uk.com) or 01980 862802