

ARTiculation Partners' Day: Roche Court Sculpture Park, Wiltshire Friday 30 July 2021



Left to right: Bill Woodrow, *Endeavour*, 1994; Peter Randall-Page, *Fructus*, 2009

We were delighted to welcome partners from Art History in Schools, the National Gallery, the Royal Collection Trust in Windsor and the Watts Gallery – Artists' Village, to the Roche Court Sculpture Park on Friday 30 July as part of our annual ARTiculation Partners' Day.

Laura Joy, Head of Education at the Roche Court Educational Trust, got us off to a great start with an interactive tour of the Sculpture Park, where we experienced works by Peter Randall-Page, Richard Long and Barbara Hepworth, through the Trust's lens of *looking, thinking, speaking*. Activities included consequences and landscape poetry! An introduction from the New Art Centre to Nicholas Pope's *Heavenly Space* exhibition was followed by a delicious lunch prior to the afternoon's group discussions.

ARTiculation Alumna, Marianne Whiting, joined us for the day, sharing with us the trajectory ARTiculation had taken her on and its benefits, from the Discovery Day through to joining the Alumni Network. As a direct result of ARTiculation, Marianne went on to study for a History of Art A-level with Art History Link-Up and has been offered a place to study Art History at The Courtauld Institute of Art. Her recent HENI Talks film on Barbara Hepworth is now available to view [here](#).

Afternoon group discussions centred around the impact of ARTiculation on partner organisations and ambitions for this initiative to grow and thrive. Points included:

- The importance of ARTiculation in giving students the opportunity to unleash new or hidden skills. The fact that it is about personal achievement and not about school / college achievement, and that although it is a competition, it does not feel very competitive: it is about participation and not about winning! It also gives young people the freedom and the space to grow as adults away from the syllabus, to take up space and to find a voice.
- Partners mentioned that being a part of ARTiculation increased relationships with schools and in particular, was a catalyst for working with older-aged students. It allows Learning teams to work with other departments, in particular, with curatorial staff.
- Partners' ambitions included ARTiculation being known in all schools across the country and being used as a vehicle to integrate the Arts into STEM classrooms; having a robust network of local and regional support; and doing more for teachers: to include Discovery Days and evening events, as well as working with PGCE courses.