

The Art of Stimulating Conversations



East Lancashire Hospice are looking for groups of young people to participate in the Art of Stimulating Conversations Project from JANUARY 2018.

Talking about illness, death and bereavement is healthy. Such conversations enhances choice and wellbeing and supports us in expressing ourselves when we live through these events. The use of the arts as an excellent method for expressing and stimulating thoughts, feelings and views about difficult topics in a non-threatening, gentle way.

We would like participants to use their creativity to produce art; paintings, photography, sculpture, poetry, short stories, film, drama, song etc. that relate to illness, death and bereavement in some way. The results of their creativity will be exhibited during Dying Matters week (May 2018)

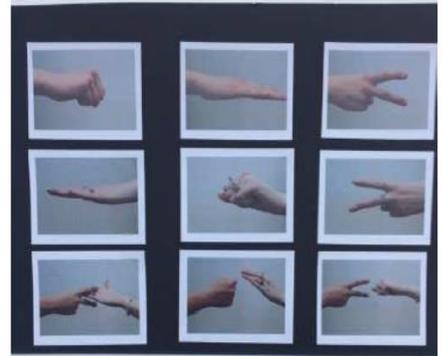
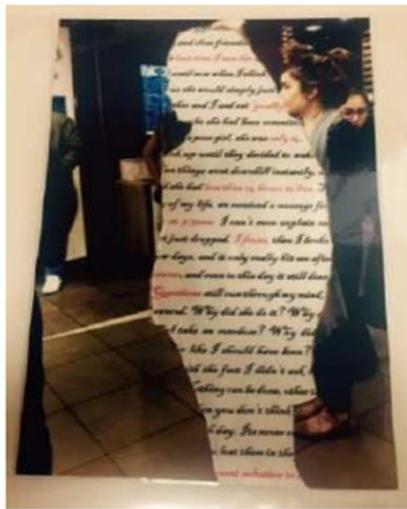
We will provide:

- An interactive workshop that explains the aims of the project, explores society's views on illness, death and bereavement and outlines the benefits of talking about these topics as part of everyday life.**
- A gift box of art supplies**
- Support visits during the project**
- Exhibition space**

The impact of the 2017 project has been amazing! We have successfully stimulated conversations about illness, death and bereavement, we have exhibited awesome art and made great mutually beneficial partnerships and despite initial anxiety all participants found the project thought provoking, inspiring and reported that it opened up conversations in a supportive and gentle way

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS EXCITING INITIATIVE in 2018 contact Rachel Shovelton
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Artwork from the 2017 project



Comments from those involved in the 2017 project

"I have previously found talking about death to be unpleasant and have tried to avoid it as much as I can, this event has allowed me to see the positive".

Student

"Participating in the project promoted discussion about death and dying, but also about family and mortality. Some students also took the opportunity to open up about loss and grief that they had personally experienced. We were also able to challenge some of the Taboos and I feel that some students that previously felt uncomfortable discussing death had become more open and less frightened about the prospect of Dying"

Tutor

"All of the students enjoyed the creative process, although many found producing a completed piece challenging and daunting. Participants had to overcome the fear that what they were creating was 'not good enough' and understand the point of the artwork was to stimulate further discussion and could be any personal response to the theme. I feel this action in itself helped students build confidence and develop as learners"

Tutor

"Anybody who has not seen tonight's performances has truly missed out, what a unique way of raising awareness about a difficult subject." Member of the public