Principals Teaching Award Interim Report
Project Title: Art-Beat: Art and Anatomy Edinburgh

Principal Investigator: Miss Victoria McCulloch (2017 – Present), Dr Nichola Robertson (2015 – 2017)
School/ Department: Anatomy, Biomedical Teaching Organisation, College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, University of Edinburgh
Team members: Mrs Kimmie Dunlop, Founder (Non- University team member), Professor Gordon Findlater (Emeritus Professor of Translational Anatomy).

Art and Anatomy Edinburgh were awarded a PTAS grant in March 2015 with the ambition and aims to aid Medical students understanding of Human Anatomy through arts-based methods. Over the past four years we have built up an excellent reputation, not only with the Medical students at the University of Edinburgh, but with new colleagues from around the University and wider afield in Edinburgh, Midlothian, London and our work has even reached Canada!

We have created and run clinically oriented anatomy workshops for Medical students, collaborating with clinicians to bridge the gap in anatomy teaching between pre-clinical and clinical years, thus complimenting the Medical curriculum. Alongside workshops for Medical students we have run numerous public engagement events for all ages. Our main method of teaching has been body painting, using the surface anatomy to identify the underlying musculature and skeletal components, an excellent way to aid Medical students gain an appreciation for the anatomy and to aid the public’s understanding of the human body. Over the four years we have expanded our artistic materials to now include clay modelling and drawing in a variety of ways to aid the students learning and to provide them with transferrable skills between practising art and clinical practice.

Through our workshops for Medical students, we found that the students thoroughly enjoyed the mix of using art to revise their anatomy whilst learning the clinical relevance of the anatomy from clinicians. The use of art creates a relaxed environment, allowing for optimum
learning with students commenting that they felt relaxed and found learning more enjoyable in an interactive environment. As our workshops were such a success we started to run public engagement events, which just like the workshops created a relaxed and creative environment for the public to learn about their own anatomy.

![Festival of Creative Learning 2018, Art-Beat Presents Clay Hearts, 20th February 2018](image)

In 2018 we decided to bring Medical students and Art students from Edinburgh College of Art together to form a group of Art-Beat student volunteers. We believed this would be an excellent way for the students to get involved in the project, allow for them to gain teaching experience through teaching fellow students or the public the anatomy, equipping the Medical students with transferrable skills for clinical practice, and enhancing their communication skills. This also gave the Art students the chance to learn more about the human body, whilst bringing an artistic element to our events. We believe that creating a group of student volunteers, running successful events and building up an excellent reputation within and out with the University, we have created a sustainable project which bridges the gap between Art and Anatomy.

The initial project outcomes have been presented locally within the University of Edinburgh and Nationally at two conferences: ASME and ASGBI. The abstract from ASGBI was published in the British Journal of Surgery (Anderson M, Robertson N, Harrison E.M. & Wigmore S.J. Inspiring Future Surgeons - the Art of Anatomy), with a full journal article in the process of being written for publication. Photographs of body painting were used to illustrate information in the Oxford Handbook of Clinical Specialities, 2016.

Other means of disseminating our findings and successes have been through the Anatomy@Edinburgh News page, the Art-Beat Twitter and Facebook page, and through our Instagram account. We are also looking at other ways to disseminate our findings from this project to enhance a wider audience’s appreciation for the use of arts-based learning in Anatomy and Medicine.

The benefits to student learning are vast; transferrable skills between practicing art and clinical practice, enhanced communication skills for the student volunteers, encouraging empathy an essential element for any Medical student, creating new relationships and
collaborations between Medical and Art students, and giving the students a relaxed environment to enjoy their learning of anatomy in a fun and interactive manner.

Night at the Museum, University of Edinburgh, 15th January 2019

We believe that our project already benefits other parts of the University, working with the Medical School and the Anatomical Museum, to getting Art students from Edinburgh College of Art involved in helping at our events. We have worked with the University of Glasgow for the past two years at their public engagement events, and have worked with Medisthai in London, a company working with diversely talented individuals across three units; Education, Clinical and Enterprise, who awarded us the STEAM Education Award in 2017. We will continue to grow our network of collaborators to enhance our workshops and events, and to extend our project to reach more of the University to enhance peoples understanding of the Human body through Art, and the clinical importance of knowing our own Anatomy.
Financial statement

This project has utilised the funding awarded to it by the PTAS adjudication committee and the Principal Investigator or School Administrator appropriate can provide financial statements showing the funding usage as and when required by the UoE Development Trusts who may require it for auditing purposes.
Appendix 1 Art-Beat: Art and Anatomy Events

2015

Art and Anatomy Edinburgh presents: Danny Quirk - Living Lectures
2-nd June 2015
A large public engagement event consisting of: lectures, workshops (clay-modelling and body-painting); a live demonstration from world-renowned artist Danny Quirk; tours of the historic resident Artist’s flat and a demonstration of the ‘Anatomage’ table.

2016

Art & Anatomy Edinburgh Student Course
Session I. Abdomen Tue 22nd March & Mon 18th April 2016
Session II. Thorax Thurs 24th March & Wed 20th April 2016
Session III. Musculoskeletal Mon 4th April & Monday 25th April 2016

2017

Science Saturday at the National Museum of Scotland
18th February 2017
Body painting with children and the public

Pint of Science 2017, Identify & Identification: Crossing the Great Divides
16th May 2017
Body painting live and interactive demonstration

BBC Edinburgh Festival, The Human Body, University of Edinburgh joint event
15th August 2017
Body painting with children and the public

Anatomical Museum Doors Open Day
23rd September 2017
Anatomical body painting with the public

Midlothian Zombiology Night, part of Midlothian Science Festival
19th October 2017
Anatomical body painting with children

Halloween at the Caves, University of Edinburgh
31st October 2017
Anatomical body painting with Medical students
Medesthai STEAM Education Award 2017, London
3rd November 2017
Body painting live demonstration for Q&A as part of our acceptance of the STEAM Education Award 2017

2018

Cardiovascular Society
5th February 2018
Colour in hearts

Neurology to Neuroscience Conference, Clay brains
10th February 2018
Clay brain modelling with student members of

Festival of Creative Learning 2018, Art-Beat Presents Clay Hearts
20th February 2018
Clay hearts with staff and students at the University of Edinburgh

MBChB Open Day, University of Edinburgh
6th June 2018
Body painting demonstrations for prospective students

Hampstead Art Fair with Medesthai, London
23rd June 2018
Body painting with the public

Night at the Museum, University of Glasgow
27th September 2018
Body painting with the public

Halloween at the Caves, University of Edinburgh
31st October 2018
Anatomical body painting with Medical students

Art-Beat & Anatomy Society Clay Brains
1st November 2018
Clay brains with Medical students

Trauma CASE (The Clinical Anatomy Scheme of Edinburgh)
29th November 2018
Body painting of the abdomen for trauma teaching

2019

Night at the Museum, University of Edinburgh
15th January 2019
Anatomical body painting with Year 5 Medical students

Night at the Museum 2, University of Glasgow
January 2020

31st January 2019
Anatomical body painting as a teaching and revision method for the public and prospective students

AIM & Art-Beat Year 1 Medical Students Revision Workshop 1 Cardiovascular
11th February 2019
Body painting, arterial pipe cleaners and clay modelling

Neurotheatre Event
14th March 2019
Stand showing the work we do with live demonstration from Kimmie of clay modelling of the heart as an arts-based learning method.

AIM & Art-Beat Year 1 Medical Students Revision Workshop 2 Respiration
25th March 2019
Clay lungs, body painting

AIM & Art-Beat Year 1 Medical Students Revision Workshop 3 Locomotor
6th May 2019
Body painting, play-dough modelling

Body Parts event
4th June 2019
Anatomical body painting with primary school children

Night at the Museum 2, University of Glasgow
28th November 2019
Anatomical body painting as a teaching and revision method for the public and prospective students.


