Support for working with communities

Age of Creativity
Age of Creativity is an online platform to share, celebrate work in the field of arts and older people. It provides a wealth of resources, case studies and tips of working with older audiences, joining is free and you can sign up here.

Digital Learning Network (DLNET)
DLNET is for those interested in how digital technology can support creative and inspiring educational experiences. It aims to encourage practitioners to talk about technology and learning in museums, archives and libraries. It is a free annual individual membership (there is a fee for organisational membership), which gives you access to their training events, a blog and an active community email discussion list about cultural learning where you can ask for advice, post job opportunities and share publications.

Diversity in Heritage Group
The Diversity in Heritage Group champions practice in diversity and equality, audience development, social justice, community engagement, and participation. They bring practitioners, policy makers and academics together to develop practice to enable the arts and cultural heritage sectors to better serve, represent and participate with, all parts of society. They run regional training events for London museums and have a dedicated resources page, which signposts you to organisations that have newsletters, journals, publications and services to support you.

Group for Education in Museums (GEM) London
GEM London is GEM's regional area network group for London. GEM champions excellence in heritage learning to improve the education, health and well-being of the general public. GEM London runs a number of twilight sessions and social events throughout the year. The twilight sessions aim to share best practice in an aspect of museum learning practice and will include interesting case studies. The social events are an opportunity to meet other learning professionals in an informal networking opportunity. You can sign up to the free email discussion list to find out about upcoming events.

Practitioner Networks
Across London there are a number of specific practitioner network groups for working with the community, which support the work of staff in specific areas of engagement. This includes an early years, secondary, young people programmes manager, special educational needs (SEN), access as well as a health and wellbeing alliance network. Details of these networks and who to contact to join can be found on the Skills sharing page.

Toolkits, Publications and Resources
There are many toolkits, publications and resources to support your audience/community engagement work. Many can be used when thinking about developing new audience programmes, such as early years, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), young people's programmes and older people programmes as they provide case studies and tips on working with these audiences. You can find more information on our Publications and Resources pages.