

## E-update for London's Museums | 12 Jan 2023

 Museum Development London
  Museum of London



Wishing everyone a Happy New Year from the MD team!

- Copy can be sent to Helen at [Museum Development](#), headed 'EUpdate'.

**Copy deadlines:** Tues 24 Jan by 11 am for 26 Jan 2023 issue, then fortnightly.

### MD at a glance

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**Assessing your museum's digital capacity****Tuesdays 17, 24 & 31 January 2023 (3 sessions of 2 hrs each), 10 am - 12 md****Trainer:** Alec Ward, Culture 24

For museums to be able to take full advantage of everything digital can offer, they must first understand how and where digital sits within their organisation. **The Digital Culture Compass** is a powerful tool which can help a museum to evaluate how digital relates to their organisation. This course helps smaller museums understand how to use the toolkit before applying it to their own organisations. This course is aimed at people in senior leadership roles, and/or those with digital responsibilities in their museum - this includes chief executives, directors, board members and senior leaders.

In this three-part workshop, participants will be guided through using parts of the Digital Culture Compass to complete an assessment of some of their museum's digital activities. They will leave with the confidence, tools and resources needed to complete the full toolkit within their own organisation, involving their staff, volunteers and trustees in the process.

Please make sure you're able to attend all three sessions. Two members from each participating museum should attend to ensure that they are able to enact and embed change more effectively within their organisation.

Download a **full course outline** here (151 Kb downloads as a pdf)

To register your interest for this session please email **our Training Inbox**.

**'Winter has Come!'****Wednesday 18 January 2023, 10.00 am – 12.00****ONLINE****Course leader:** Jane Thompson Webb, Conservation Team Leader, Birmingham Museum Trust

Winter has come! With the cost of everything going up it's very tempting to turn everything off, shut the doors and hope for the best. We have a duty of care towards our collections and to our teams, no matter how much things cost or what the weather is doing – how can we look after objects and people and still have some money in the bank to pay the bills?

This course aims to give you simple solutions to help you to maintain a collection and people-friendly environment whilst saving some money. It will also show why turning everything off may not be such a good idea!

**Details and to book:** If you would like a booking form or any further information about this course please **email Libby Finney** with your details.

**Climate Responsibility for Museum and Archive Managers: Network Event****Thursday 19 January 2023, 10.30 am – 1.00 pm****London Metropolitan Archive, Huntley Room**

This is a networking lunch event presented by Museum Development London & The National Archives Programme for London's Local Authority funded Museum and Archive Services.

Climate Change is affecting us all – both as individuals and as organisations. The effects of the climatic changes are already impacting on us all and heritage organisations have a perhaps unique role to play in raising



awareness and offering places within which to explore issues related to the climate crisis.

This event will give delegates a chance to network and share experiences of working to increase climate responsibility within their organisations. We'll have presentations from colleagues who are directly engaged in tackling issues around climate responsibility and communication. There will also be plenty of time for you to share information and experiences and to network in person over lunch.

**Confirmed Speakers:**

- Liz Power, Director, London Museum of Water and Steam
- Carole Destre, Climate & Ecology Co-ord, Horniman Museum & Gardens
- Siemma Fazal, Community Engagement Coord, Horniman Mus & Gdns
- Helen Wilson, Conservation Scientist, The National Archives

Refreshments and a vegetarian sandwich lunch will be available for all.

**To book:** by [email to Yvette Shepherd](#), indicating any dietary requirements.



**Mentoring museums to offer support & challenge**

**Accreditation Mentors' workshop**

**Tuesday 7 February 2023, 10.30 am – 12.30 pm**

**Online**

This workshop is aimed at all current and prospective Accreditation Mentors working or living in the South East and London. It offers the opportunity to learn about how to offer museums support and challenge and will enable you to meet others actively involved in mentoring. We'll have presentations from 4 mentors, all currently working with museums in London and the SE who will share their experiences and insights and take part in group discussion:

- Sarah Corn, Director of Old Operating Theatre, is mentor for Deal Museum
- Rachel Tait, Curator at Carisbrook Museum, is mentor for the Isle of Wight Bus and Coach Museum
- Roz Currie, Director of Wycombe Museum, is mentor for the Museum of the Royal Philatelic Society London
- Emma Shepley, Curator & Museum Consultant, is mentor for Royal London Hospital Archives & Museum and for St Bartholomew's Hospital Museum

**This session will cover:**

- What do we mean by 'support' and 'challenge'?
- Case study presentations from mentors in London and the South East
- What would you do? Interactive session (fictional case studies)
- Next steps for mentors.

**To book a place:** use our [booking form here](#).



**Intro to Security & Risk Management at Cultural Venues \* BOOKINGS OPEN! \***

**Wednesday 8 February 2023, 9:45 am – 5:00 pm (times to be confirmed)**

**Museum of London Docklands, No.1 Warehouse, W India Quay, E14 4AL**

**Trainer:** Andy Davis, [Trident Manor Limited](#)

This workshop has been developed for those cultural venues who do not have specialist security knowledge or resources. It is designed to enable non-security people to understand the security threats that exist and undertake a risk assessment process to help reduce and better manage them. Templates

are provided for future use and practical sessions will enable practical based learning to take place.

Participants will gain first-hand experience in conducting risk, threat, and vulnerability assessments at a museum, which they can then apply to their own work environment, supporting their organisation in being prepared against risks of loss, harm or damage.

**The course will cover:**

- Understanding threats to the cultural and heritage sector
- The attack cycle
- Introduction to risk assessing
- Understanding security in depth
- Identifying and assessing vulnerabilities
- Introducing effective security operations
- Education and training.

**Details:** Download a [full course outline here](#) (509Kb, downloads as a pdf).

For an accessible version of course outline, email [training programme inbox](#).

**To book:** Use our [online booking form](#) to secure your place.

**ACE NL PG for Museums, with Unlocking Collections: Presentation and Q&A**  
**16 February 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

**ONLINE**

National Lottery Project Grants (NL PG) is Arts Council England's (ACE) open access programme for arts, libraries, and museums projects. Museums no longer require Accreditation to apply. Grants are available in two streams: applications for under £30,000 which receive a decision in 8 weeks, and applications for over £30,000 which receive a decision in 12 weeks.

If you are interested in applying or to find out more, we'd like to welcome you to a presentation led by ACE London's Museum Relationship Managers. The presentation will cover eligible types of museum and collections projects, our strategy Let's Create, the application and decision-making process, tips for good applications, including a Q&A session.

The presentation slides with follow-up resources will be sent afterwards.

**To book:** If you are interested in attending, [email the Arts Council](#) for booking information. A booking link will be in the 26 Jan e-update.



**Fund the Future Programme – online training in 2023**

Consultant David Burgess of [Apollo Fundraising](#) has been working with 4 London museums through our *Fund the Future Programme* to create a bespoke action plan for each. He brings considerable experience and his learning from the recent consultancies together to provide 2 training sessions for any staff, volunteers or trustees, engaged in fundraising for their museums:

**1. Increasing your success from grants**

**\* BOOKINGS OPEN! \***

**Thu 23 February 2023, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**

Competition for grants and funding is getting tougher, so it's never been more important to make sure your application is as strong as possible. This session will share some of the ways you can make your funding applications stand out from the crowd.

**Details:** Find a full [course outline here](#) (90 Kb, downloads as a pdf)

**Booking:** To reserve your place please [use our booking form](#) here.

## 2. Encouraging more people to give

**\* BOOKINGS OPEN! \***

**Thu 2 March 2023, 10.00 am – 12.30 pm**

With 43 % of private support for arts and culture coming from individual donors, it's vital that museums know how to ask for donations in the most effective way. This session will help you to improve how, when and where you ask for individual donations to support your work.

**Details:** Find a full [course outline here](#) (256 Kb, downloads as a pdf)

**To book:** please [use our MDL booking form](#).



### **An introduction to Spectrum Rights Management**

**Thurs 9 March, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**ONLINE**

**Trainer:** Sarah Brown, Collections Trust

Managing intellectual property rights is an important aspect of collections management. In this bitesize session we will review the Spectrum [Rights Management](#) procedure, which can help your museum manage and document information about rights identified in your collection.

There will be opportunities to ask questions during the session as well as join discussions with other attendees. Before the session, participants are asked to do the following preparation tasks:

- Read the Spectrum [Rights management](#) procedure
- Think about how you do things in your museum, referring to your relevant in-house policy and procedure if you have access to them
- You might also find it useful to have these available to refer to during the session.

**How to book:** download a [full course outline](#) here as a pdf (703 Kb, opens in new window). Use our [online booking form](#) to secure your place.



### **In the Frame – an introduction to art handling**

**Tuesday 14 & Wednesday 15 March 2023, 9.30 am – 4.30 pm**

**At The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London**

**Course Tutors:** All from the Art Handling department, National Gallery, London: Patrick O'Sullivan, Mark Slattery, Alan Brooks, Dan Metcalf and with other technicians from the National Gallery's Art Handling Team.

This comprehensive two day course, provided by the art handling department at the National Gallery, will encompass the many aspects of art handling from basic handling, wrapping and packing of art works, to moving and hanging large works of art. The principles and practical issues involved in planning, moving and hanging two-dimensional works of art will be covered in depth during this course.

**Suitable for:** Staff and volunteers who work with art works and are involved in or responsible for moving and / or hanging them.

**Aims and Objectives:** At the end of this course participants will:

- Be aware of basic handling techniques for two dimensional works
- Be aware of the processes involved in preparing for installations, including measuring, laying out and fixture options
- Be familiar with soft wrapping and casing
- Be familiar with equipment options

- Have considered “working at height” and common health and safety concerns within art handling
- Have considered options for large or complex moves.

Please note this is a practical course and will involve some simple lifting of moderate weights, plus the use of hand tools and battery powered drills whilst under instruction.

**Details and to book:** please [email Libby Finney](#).



## Emergency Salvage for Museum & Archive Professionals

**Thursday 16 March 2023, 10.30 am – 4.00 pm**

**Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Rd, London N1 7ED**

**Trainer:** Claire Fry, ACR FIIC, Founder & Director Spencer & Fry

This session will explore how museum and archive professionals should respond in an emergency situation to salvage collections. It will cover all aspects of emergency planning from prevention measures, reviewing your emergency plan and salvage equipment to how to protect and rescue collections.

Accredited by the Institute of Conservation, Spencer & Fry is a team of highly qualified and skilled preventive conservation experts and filming conservators with over 80 years collective experience. Claire was trained in Archaeological Conservation and Care of Collections at Cardiff University and has since enjoyed a 25-year career as a preventive conservator. Claire was accredited by the Institute of Conservation in 2010 and became an assessor for the Institute's accreditation scheme in 2012 and a mentor in 2014.

This is an in-person session for Museum and Archive professionals responsible for collections and managing services.

*Museum and Archive staff working in a local authority service, or one supported by the local authority will be given priority booking for this course.*

**How to book:** download a [full course outline](#) here as a pdf (623 Kb, opens in new window). Use our [online booking form](#) to secure your place.

THE	
NATIONAL	
ARCHIVES	



## Becoming an Accredited Museum

**Tuesday 28 March 2023, 11 am – 1 pm**

**ONLINE**

This event is for all those museums that are interested in finding out whether they are eligible for the Arts Council England's Accreditation Scheme. It will help you to think about the key issues affecting eligibility, the scale of your organisation, what the benefits of Accreditation are and what it covers. Presented by Yvette Shepherd (MDO Organisational Health) and Helen O'Hara (MDO central & east London) of MDL. We'll be covering:

- Overview of the Accreditation Scheme
- Eligibility requirements for Accreditation
- What scale is my museum?
- Finding and working with mentors
- How to use the Accreditation Guidance
- How long will it take?

Download a [full course outline here](#) (254 Kb, opens in a new window)

Use our [online booking form](#) to secure your place.



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## MD opportunities & resources

**Reduce, Recycle, Repurpose!**

**\* APPLICATIONS OPEN THIS WEEK! \***

**21 & 22 March 2023**

**Museum of London, Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road N1 7ED**

**FREE materials and equipment on offer for London region museums!**

The regional collection programme has, over the years it has been running, purchased materials and equipment for training use and free training course kits. Inevitably any unused or spare materials and equipment have accumulated and we no longer have the space to store them.

The Museum of London also has items it no longer requires and so in the spirit of reducing, recycling and repurposing without waste, we are offering all these items free of charge to London region museums. From dataloggers to mannequins and book stands to salvage kits, a wide range of materials and equipment is available. Preference will be given to Accredited non-national London region museums.

**Information:** If you would like a list of what is on offer [please contact Charlotte by email](#). You will be sent the list and a booking form on which you need to list the items you would like together with the quantity required and a brief description of how they will benefit your collection care programme.

**Applications open:** on 16 January 2023 **Closing date:** 24 February 2023

**Decisions:** You'll be advised which items you've been awarded by 9 March.

**Collection dates:** All items MUST be collected from Mortimer Wheeler House on 21 or 22 March, so please note dates if applying. After this, unavailable.

**For further information:** If you have further questions please [email Libby Finney](#)

### We're on YouTube

Don't forget to [subscribe to our YouTube channel](#), where we will be posting recordings of the majority of our sessions, and to click the notification button to be notified of when we release new videos. You can view recordings of our [past training sessions here](#) and our [Tutorial Videos here](#).

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## Updates from the sector (to top)

### Quick links

1. [Sector news](#)
2. [Funding and funding support](#)
3. [Training, advice and resources](#)
4. [Job vacancies](#)
5. [Exhibitions and events](#)
6. [Help needed, offers and events](#)

### **\* NEW \* Museum Development England Annual Survey 2022 – published**

The latest [annual survey results](#) show that museums in London continue to face significant challenges in their recovery from the pandemic. In 2021-22 visitor numbers in London were still 51% down on the pre-covid levels of 2019-20, compared to 45% nationally. Moreover 12% of London museums did not re-open at all, a higher proportion than anywhere else in England. As elsewhere, many of those not re-opening were 'micro' museums, those who in normal times receive under 10,000 visitors per annum. In London's case these were typically services located within larger institutional headquarters, for instance medical museums, with less control over key decisions on opening.

Overall there was a very mixed post-covid picture, with the larger museums recovering better. The one consistent and worrying message arising from the survey is the sustained damage to volunteer capacity, particularly in the capital. Overall volunteer hours were still down 33% on 2019-20 levels, but what is most concerning for London is that the recruitment of new volunteers to replace covid-related losses is still 47% down on 2019-20, compared to 29% in the rest of the country.

There are one or two spots of better news. The digital momentum brought about by lockdown was maintained to a greater extent in London than elsewhere. Digital audience engagement and e-commerce indicators were higher across the board in London than any other region. There may be a correlation between this and the intensive digital skills development programme provided by Museum Development London from 2015 to 2021.

We will be carefully considering these findings as we plan our support programmes for 2023-24. The full London report (available on MDL website after 17 Jan) contains a great amount of further detailed analysis broken down by size and type of museum, and as such provides a very useful tool which museums can use themselves for benchmarking and comparison.

The full context of the national report for 2021-22 is covered in an article by the National Museum Directors Council (NMDC) January 2023 Newsletter, which notes that "What is striking in the survey is the way that key factors such as location and workforce have influenced the severity of the impacts on enforced closures and volunteer and visitor hesitancy for museums across the country."

The London participation in the survey this time around was 54%, up from 43% in 2020-21 and a creditable turnout given the significant dislocation and shocks the sector continued to experience over the course of this year.

***We once again would very much like to thank all those museums who supported this research!***

**Full details:** See [Museum Development UK website](#) for the full national report. London region report will be on the [MDL website here](#) as interactive slide set after 17 January.

**NMDC article:** is in its newsletter and on the [NMDC website here](#).



## \* **NEW** \* **Energy Bill Relief Scheme: Review announcement & Guidance**

Museums have been included among the 'Energy and Trade Intensive Industries' (ETIIs): those businesses which can apply for a higher level of support within the energy bill relief scheme, announced on 9 January for 2023-24. The Government has now **announced** the outcome of the review of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme, and published this **guidance**. A collaboration of sector organisations has advocated as a group to achieve this outcome, including Arts Council England using MDUK data through the Department for Culture Media and Sport, AIM and the Association of Leisure & Visitor Attractions, representing larger organisations (ALVA).

Director of ALVA Bernard Donaghue, who is also Co-Chair of London Tourism Recovery Board and also Mayor of London's Ambassador for Cultural Tourism, writes in the latest ALVA Public affairs and marketing bulletin: "We have been working with BEIS, DCMS and HM Treasury on the inclusion of visitor attractions on the list of eligible businesses and are delighted at their support which will be of enormous benefit to ALVA members. The scheme will provide a discount on high energy costs to give businesses certainty while limiting taxpayers' exposure to volatile energy markets... This will help businesses which were locked into contracts signed before recent substantial falls in the wholesale price to manage their costs, and provide others with reassurance against the risk of prices rising again."

### **There are two elements to the scheme:**

1. Support for all businesses, charities, and public sector organisations, and
2. Support at a higher level for energy and trade intensive industries.

Museums are included in this latter group of **eligible sectors**, as are libraries and archives, historical sites and buildings, and zoos (all under category 91), so will be eligible for the increased level of support, which will begin after the current scheme ends in March 2023 and will end on 31 March 2024.

### **1. Support for all non-domestic customers:**

As per the current scheme, the government will provide a discount on gas and electricity unit prices. Eligible non-domestic consumers will now receive a per-unit discount to their energy bills during the 12-month period from April 2023 to March 2024, subject to a maximum discount. The relative discount will be applied if wholesale prices are above a certain price threshold. For most non-domestic energy users in Great Britain and Northern Ireland these maximum discounts have been set at:

- electricity - £19.61 per megawatt hour (MWh) with a price threshold of £302 per MWh.
- gas - £6.97 per MWh with a price threshold of £107 per MWh

The discount is calculated as the difference between the wholesale price associated with an energy contract and the price threshold. The discount is phased in when the contract's wholesale price exceeds the floor price, until the total discount per MWh reaches the maximum discount for that fuel.

Customers do not need to apply for this discount. As with the current scheme, suppliers will automatically apply reductions to the bills of all eligible non-domestic customers.

## **2. Support at the higher level for ETIs including museums & historic venues:**

Recognising that some non-domestic energy users in Great Britain and Northern Ireland are particularly vulnerable to high energy prices due to their energy intensive and trade exposure, (referred to as 'Energy and Trade Intensive Industries' or ETIs), these sectors will receive a higher level of support, subject to a maximum discount. The maximum discounts and price threshold for these sectors are:

- electricity - £89 per MWh with a price threshold of £185 per MWh
- gas - £40 per MWh with a price threshold of £99 per MWh

Museums and other eligible organisations will need to apply for the higher level of support. Once the mechanics of the scheme have been finalised DCMS will let us know and further information posted in a future e-update.

### **Further information:**

[Guidance](#)

[Press release](#)

[Eligible sectors](#)

[Factsheet](#)

### **\* NEW \* Winter planning advice about possible power outages: energy crisis**

Museums across the UK are advised to plan for the eventuality that energy supply may be reduced at points this winter, although black-outs at planned times are still considered unlikely. There should already be a section for electrical outage included in the Emergency Plans of accredited museums.

#### **1. Security contingency advice for electrical supply shortages**

Arts Council England's (ACE) Manager for Security and Protection Advice, Valentina Sabucco, has shared the following guidance for museums:

"In response to possible concerns for winter blackouts, these are a few key aspects I would advise museums to be aware of:

- Review risk assessments to capture possible consequences of power blackouts on buildings, collections and staff operations, then take action
- Consider possible ways in which resilience can be increased, for example installing multiple power feeds to minimise the likelihood of a power disruption. [UK Power Network Services](#) will be able to advise if installing one is feasible and cost effective or not.
- Ensure that fire and alarm systems have been serviced and where applicable battery backups are stored and available if needed.
- If you have a back-up generator, test it and make sure you are aware of how long it will last in case of a power cut.
- Contact service providers for phone service, security system and fire protection system for information on how systems operate in an outage.
- Know what equipment can and cannot be turned off during an outage. Develop a plan for controlled shut-down if needed.
- Based on the risk assessment conducted, considerations may be given to surrender some parts of a building or site, saving energy for the most key or important areas.
- Think about how communications will be managed, both internally and externally, in case of a power blackout.
- Ensure you have an up to date list of emergency phone contacts nearby.

- If any changes are made to operational procedures, ensure these are reflected in the risk management plan and staff are all aware of these. Being proactive and taking actions now it will help be better prepared should the sector experience power blackouts later on.”

**For template of an emergency plan:** [see SW Museum Development website](#).

## **2. Temporary suspension of the minimum requirement in Government Indemnity Scheme (GIS) for temperature until 31 March 2023 Arts Council England (ACE)**

To support museums borrowing items from other museums with rising energy costs throughout the winter months using the GIS, Arts Council England has agreed with DCMS to suspend the minimum temperature requirement within the Government Indemnity Scheme for the next four months December 2022 – March 2023. This is also practical advice for museums not using the GIS.

- The standard requirement for temperature is: 16 °C – 24 °C with a maximum fluctuation of 4 °C within 24 hours.
- The minimum requirement of 16 °C will be suspended to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. This arrangement is introduced with immediate effect and is not expected to produce negative impact on collections and loan items under indemnity.
- This temporary arrangement requires a planned approach of gradually reducing the temperature at the beginning and restoring at end of the 4 month period, to create a slow and gradual change to the period with no minimum temperature control; and in agreement with owners/lenders.
- This temporary arrangement is supported by the Government Indemnity Scheme Environmental Adviser, who will assess submitted temperature data accordingly.

GIS continues to require environmental conditions to be maintained 24 hours a days, 7 days a week throughout the loan period from the time the indemnified object arrives until it departs from the loan venue in accordance with Annex D of the GIS Guidelines for National and Non National institutions. Relative humidity, temperature, light and UV levels are to be monitored through the loan period in the space within which the indemnified object is contained.

**General information:** about the Government Indemnity Scheme [email GIS](#).

**Details on temporary suspension:** [see ACE website](#) here.

## **3. Environmental control & monitoring contingency advice**

### **From the Government Indemnity Scheme (GIS) Environmental adviser**

It is important to distinguish between rolling black-outs as currently being considered by the National Grid, and power cuts due to adverse weather conditions. The latter are ideally covered by disaster preparedness plans and measures that museums have in place already.

The rolling black-outs if they occur, will be announced in advance and it is therefore possible to prepare for them. The brief periods of a few hours without environmental control may not be a major issue for museum environments, but GIS Environmental Adviser recommends the following:

- Retain as much as possible of the controlled air by keeping internal as well as external doors closed, reducing any air ventilation/ leakage/ draughts, and using blinds, curtains and/or shutters if the museum decides it cannot be open to the public during these blackouts.
- Slow and smooth changes are much less likely to create problems (whether from 'good' to 'bad' conditions, or the other way round). Gradually reduce the amount of environmental control in the day(s) leading up to any planned black-out to create a slow and gradual change to the period without any control. Just as importantly, gradually reintroduce the environmental control and resist the temptation to get conditions back to where they were as quickly as possible.
- Avoid damage to equipment as a result of the brief surge when electricity supply is restored: where possible, switch control and monitoring equipment off manually prior to the blackout period, and switch back on manually after the period has finished.
- Monitor the effect of the first few black-outs on the environments. Most monitoring equipment is battery-operated and will continue to take readings even if there can be no live data. Adjust the need for/amount of preparation accordingly.
- Museums relying on their Building Management System (BMS) for monitoring data may wish to purchase some independent monitoring equipment that can continue to operate during a blackout (unless generators are in place to ensure an uninterrupted power supply).

Resources:

**Power outage generally:** see [guidance from AXA Insurance](#)

**Book onto our training session 'Winter has Come!' – it is next Wednesday 18 January 2023, 10.00 am – 12.00, ONLINE with course leader Jane Thompson Webb, Conservation Team Leader of Birmingham Museum Trust.**

**\* NEW \* Museum of London platform to 'revolutionise digital offer' in 2024**

*Museums + Heritage Adviser* in its 11 January edition features news of the Museum of London's new digital platform set to launch in 2024. This is to include 5,000 newly public oral histories from around London, newly made public to both academics and visitors. Users will be able to search and access them for the first time, and they are part of the project which is designed to allow better access to digital collections for both academics and the general public. The platform will also allow visitors to customise and personalise their journeys around the museum, which will reopen at its new West Smithfield site under a new name - The London Museum - in 2026.

Developed with the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Digital Accelerator for Arts and Culture, the platform will be designed with what it calls a 'stories-first' approach. Trish Thomas, Head of Digital Innovation, Museum of London, said: "As a social history museum we are in a unique position to present our collections' human stories first, offering new ways in – especially for underrepresented audiences who often tell us they find museum collections stuffy and inaccessible. As we move towards the opening of our world-class new museum, we want to revolutionise our digital offer, adding new layers of interpretation, connecting online and offline journeys seamlessly and allowing users to personalise their experiences

wherever possible. I am delighted that this project will enable us to bring London's stories to life for millions more people in the capital and around the world."

**Full article here:** [M + H Adviser website](#).

**The London Museum at West Smithfield:** news items and a video series from our Director is [on MoL website](#).

### \* **NEW** \* **Cornerstones of Culture report published**

#### **Commission on Culture & Local Government**

This publication is the final report of the Commission on Culture and Local Government, exploring the contribution of local culture, the barriers it faces and the four cornerstones that are essential to a healthy local cultural ecosystem. It draws together evidence of the ways in which local culture contributes to: resilient places; inclusive economic recovery; social mobility; and addressing health inequalities.

It concludes that local culture can be important in delivering against these agendas and that councils have a vital role to play - in funding and supporting local cultural infrastructure and as place shapers. The report identifies four 'Cornerstones' of cultural placemaking, which are needed to support a strong local cultural offer:

- **Capacity and resilience in place.** A levelling up of capacity for culture within place, targeting regional inequalities and enabling councils to develop and deliver meaningful place-led strategies for culture.
- **Leadership and power.** A power shift towards place-led approaches that enable a greater diversity of communities, cultural providers and practitioners to shape local decision making.
- **Funding.** A coherent and transparent approach to funding culture in a place that supports the delivery of place-led strategies and addresses the immediate financial fragility of the sector triggered by the pandemic and cost of living crisis.
- **Evidence.** A coordinated approach to developing an effective evidence base for culture and place in order to measure value and shape future investment.

It sets out detailed recommendations about how each of these can be strengthened through collaboration and a commitment to place-led working.

**More information and full report:** see [Local Government Association website](#).

### \* **NEW** \* **Caro Howell appointed as next DG of the Imperial War Museum** **Museums Journal (MJ) article**

We'd like to offer our warmest congratulations to Caro Howell as the new Director-General of Imperial War Museums (IWM), bringing a wealth of experience to the role. She is looking forward to "Developing its reputation for reaching new audiences across all its sites, through bold, inclusive and global storytelling", according to the article in the MJ on 6 December. Caro will take up her role on 1 May 2023, with the institution's outgoing head Diane Lees remaining in post until 1 March 2023.

Caro has been the director of London's Foundling Museum since 2011, leading it to recently become an National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) in the



new ACE funding round. She has helped the museum, which is dedicated to the lives of orphans and their legacies, to build audiences and establish new relationships with care-experienced young people. From 2005, Howell was the head of education and public events at the Whitechapel Gallery, where she oversaw the development of major new education spaces and project galleries.

Prior to that, she was part of the set-up team for Tate Modern and formulated its audience development strategy and developed London's first peer-led museum programmed for 15-23-year olds.

Howell was awarded an MBE in June of this year for her [services to museums](#).  
**For full article:** see [MJ website](#).

### **Millions of records from UK collections to be unlocked by new Museum Data Service Art UK, Collections Trust & University of Leicester, with Bloomberg Philanthropy**

Objects and knowledge from the UK's world-class museums will soon be easier to find and work with, thanks to an ambitious collaboration between Art UK, Collections Trust and the University of Leicester. With generous funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies Digital Accelerator for Arts and Culture, which has since 2021 supported over 100 institutions, work has started on a new Museum Data Service that will launch in autumn 2023. The new three-way partnership will build real world digital infrastructure to transform the way museums share their object records and knowledge:

- Researchers will have access to tens of millions of object records from public collections, including smaller institutions that would otherwise miss out on research collaborations and the resulting data enrichment.
- Art UK will significantly scale up the number of artworks on its platform and share these with its global audience whilst launching a new e-commerce platform to grow collections' commercial income from records added.

The service will pool millions of object records – decades' worth of knowledge from UK institutions large and small – and share them as the raw material for countless public and research uses. The service will also provide high-level information about each collection.

The first major user of data from the new infrastructure will be Art UK and the Museum Data Service will allow it to scale up its operation adding millions more artworks over time. Collections Trust will use its longstanding relationship with hundreds of smaller museums to help them make the most of the new service, and to broker data-based projects that demonstrate the Museum Data Service's game-changing potential for the UK museum sector. The University of Leicester's new Institute for Digital Culture completes the partnership, bringing a research dimension to the design and use of the service, data expertise and technical capacity of a leading university, and a bridge to longer-term infrastructure ambitions for the wider digital humanities.

With guidance from the Open Data Institute on sustainable data stewardship, the three founding partners will set up a new joint organisation by spring 2024 to run the core service beyond the start-up phase and for decades to come. Until then Art UK as the recipient of the two-year funding award from Bloomberg Philanthropies will manage the grant.

**Further details:** see [Collections Trust website](#).



**\* NEW \* Digital Culture Awards - Deadline extended! \* APPLY BY 16 JAN \***

Submissions re now open until 5pm on Monday 16 January, giving you four more days to share how you've been embracing digital tools or technologies with exciting and ground-breaking results.

And entering is easy! Just choose one of the eight categories on the website and then follow these simple steps:

1. Register or log into Zealous
2. Write an attention-grabbing title and project description
3. Upload eye-catching supporting assets
4. Answer a few simple questions about your project

Press 'Submit' and you're officially in the running to be a 2023 Digital Culture Award Winner.

**Details:** see Digital Culture Network (ACE) [website here](#).

**Collections Trust Award – applications now open - \* by 23 January \***

The Collections Trust Award highlights the often-unsung achievements of those who manage the collections that lie at the heart of all museums. This year Collections Trust would like to celebrate recent collections-based work related to their [rethinking cataloguing](#) campaign and [changes within the Spectrum standard](#).

The trust is particularly interested in collections management activities that have encouraged an inclusive approach and considered solutions for increasing access to collections information.

- What have you done differently since Spectrum 5.1 was launched in September 2022?
- Have you been involved in a successful project that influenced the way in which your organisation approaches cataloguing?
- Or perhaps you've worked on a [Use of collections](#) project that has led to enhanced collections information?

If so, Collections Trust wants to hear from you! Your museum could win £1,000 to spend on an agreed collections management activity. There will also be an online celebration event in March 2023.

**Deadline:** is 9am on Monday 23 January 2023

**For information and to apply:** [On CT website here](#).

Share the campaign on social media, using the hashtag #CTAward.

**\* NEW \* Family Learning awards \* ENTRIES BY 31 Jan, FREE TO ENTER \***

**Campaign for Learning**

These awards celebrate imaginative, innovative and inclusive learning opportunities that have taken place across the country over the last year. If you work with families, the awards are a chance to showcase the activities, projects or programmes your museum has delivered. Categories include:

- Family Learning in the Early Years Award
- Family Learning to Support Financial Resilience
- Family Learning to Support Health and Wellbeing
- Family Learning to Support STEM .

Awards are free to enter and close on 31 January 2023.

**Find out more** [On CfL website](#).

**\* NEW \* Museums + Heritage Awards \* ENTRIES CLOSE 1 Feb – APPLY NOW! \***

The [Museums + Heritage Awards](#) will soon be upon us so do get cracking with your entries. We'd love to see more London non-nationals in there in 2023.

- Chosen your category already?
- Still undecided?
- Worried that your project or organisation isn't eligible? Send an [email](#) and they will confirm for you.
- Not sure if it fits within the time frame? Take a look at the [How To Enter](#) guide which gives you the details and includes FAQs, hints and tips.

If you have a few minutes to spare check out the recording of a recent [webinar](#) where M+H Awards guide you through the process of entering and give you the lowdown on what our judges are looking for! Hear also from previous winners about what it means to scoop a Museums + Heritage Award.

**\* NEW \* Friends of the Year Award 2023 \* Applications now open \***

**British Association of Friends of Museums (BAFM)**

BAFM is proud to announce the launch of the *2023 Friends of the Year Award*. This award follows on from last year's BAFM Impact Award, with slight differences. The criteria have been altered so that longer term projects can be included in the application, rather than focussing exclusively on the previous twelve months.

However, the aim of the award remains similar: to recognise excellence amongst its member groups as they continue to support the development of the arts and heritage throughout the UK. This year, it celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the founding of BAFM but the aims remain the same: to support groups throughout the country as they celebrate the rich heritage of Britain.

**Eligibility:** All [members of BAFM](#) can consider making an application.

**Information:** comprehensive guidance notes and application forms are available [on the BAFM website](#)

**Contact:** consider contacting your Regional Coordinator or the Vice Chair [Dave Adgar](#) for advice and for initial short-listing.

**Deadline:** the closing date is 1 July 2023

**Notifications:** Shortlisted applicants will be notified by 31st July and winners will be notified 31st August.

**VisitEngland Covid-19 Domestic Sentiment Tracker**

VisitEngland is in the the fifth phase of its Domestic Sentiment Tracker monthly research about audience behaviour of potential visitors in the UK. The latest report now covers questions about the cost of living crisis as well as covid-19 impact, with fieldwork conducted over the current period.

It addresses: the likelihood of UK and overseas residents to travel; when and where they plan to go; specific trip details such as accommodation type and activities undertaken and the type of reassurances they're seeking from the sector. The most recent report was for 1 to 7 December 2022 and the next update is due on 19 January 2023.

You can find the latest report, along with previous reports, [on their website](#).

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## Funding and funding support (to top)

### Great British School Trip scheme

Museums are invited to create a listing on a new database that will support schools to book funded school trips. Launching in 2023, the Great British School Trip scheme will provide financial support to schools most impacted by the cost of living crisis in order to help them pay for outings they may not otherwise be able to afford. The scheme has been set up by the car manufacturer Hyundai in response to a huge drop in school visits caused by the pandemic and the current energy crisis.

The programme aims to support 25,000 schoolchildren to go on school trips by the end of its first year. If successful, it is hoped that it will become a regular programme for schools.

**Full details of article:** on the [Museums Association website](#)

**Sign up here:** on [Great British School Trips website](#).

### \* NEW \* New Wave, a funded training programme

**\* APPLY NOW! \***

#### Heritage Open Days

Are you looking to co-create events, exhibitions, or activities with local young people? An annual training programme from HODs, New Wave, is still open for applications.

Successful applicants will get £1,000 of funding to run a free event during our festival, tailored support through a series of training sessions and 1-2-1s, and a network of peers from across the sector. This year we are offering 14 places, open to both existing and first-time Heritage Open Days organisers.

**Find out more and download the application pack:** on [HODs website](#)

**Enquiries:** contact [Liam Montgomery](#), HODs Marketing & Projects Manager

**Deadline:** Wednesday 18th January 2022 at 5:00 pm.

### \* NEW \* Climate Action Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players the Climate Action Fund is open for applications. Grants of up to £1.5million are available from the National Lottery Community Fund for projects which demonstrate a deeper connection with nature, change people's behaviour to care for the environment, and bring back nature into communities to adapt or improve climate impacts. This rolling fund is available to support community-led, place-based and UK-wide partnerships. Suitable for community and voluntary organisations, charities, public sector, and those working in partnerships. Grants range in size up to £1.5 million over 2 to 5 years, with most projects between £300,000 and £500,000. Development grants of £50,000 to £150,000 are offered over 12 to 18 months.

**Application deadline:** ongoing

**Information:** [Find out more here](#).

### \* NEW \* ACE Cultural Investment Fund (incl. MEND & LIF) round 3 announced Arts Council England (ACE)

The first details of the next rounds of funding by ACE have been announced, including the Museum Estate and Development (MEND) fund, which is

designed to help in tackling infrastructure and maintenance backlogs, and the Libraries Investment Fund (LIF).

MEND funding is designed to allow museums to undertake vital infrastructure and urgent maintenance backlogs beyond the scope of day-to-day maintenance budgets. Last year, a second round of funding offered grants of between £50,000 & £5 million and in 2023 there will be up to £22.6 million. Another round of MEND will be announced in early 2024.

**Key dates for MEND fund for museums:**

- 6 February 2023: Guidance for 3rd round expected
- Monday 27 February - ACE will [host a webinar](#) to answer questions about the upcoming MEND guidance, criteria & application process for Round 3
- March 2023 - Decisions about Round 2 expected
- From 9 am on 6 March 2023, & closing midday on 21 April - Expressions of Interest for Round 3
- Opening 9 am on 30 May 2023 and closing at 12md on 18 Aug 2023 - Full application forms.

The MEND Fund is one of the three capital funds within the Cultural Investment Fund from ACE, which also includes the Cultural Development Fund (CDF) and Libraries Improvement Fund (LIF). The LIF will have up to £10.5 million allocated in 2023, with Expressions of Interest open 17 April to 19 June, full application forms open 19 July to 18 Sept and a [LIF information session](#) on 13 February.

**Full details here:** On ACE [Cultural Investment Fund website](#).

**\* NEW \* VAT refund scheme to reopen this Autumn \* DEADLINE EXTENDED! \***

The Government announced a new round of the VAT Refund Scheme for museums and galleries which opened this Autumn. The scheme encourages museums and galleries to provide free entry and open up access to works in collections. The [full criteria](#) for a museum and gallery applying are:

- being open to the general public for at least 30 hours per week, without exception (but make sure you email them with the facts if in any doubt!)
- offering free entry without prior appointment
- holding collections in a purpose-built building
- displaying details of free entry & opening hours on the museum website.

Institutions taking part in the scheme are entitled to a refund on VAT incurred on goods and services purchased in order to provide free admission. A total of 159 sites across the UK currently benefit from the scheme.

**The DCMS is especially keen to reach museums who may not have considered or been aware of the scheme in the past.**

Museums and galleries will also be required to complete a strategic business case as part of the application process, which must include:

- Proof of Arts Council England Accredited status (or equivalent)
- Past and/or projected visitor figures
- Information on existing and planned education programmes and community engagement work.

**For more information:** and for a full list of current organisations on the scheme, look on the gov.uk website which [can be found here](#).

**Queries regarding the scheme:** We have had some queries at MDL over interpretation of the 30-hour opening hours rule above. If in any doubt about

eligibility, once you have read through all the guidance applicable to your organisation, your enquiries can be sent to the [email address here](#).

**\*\* Deadline:** has now been extended to Wed 1 March 2023 **\*\*\***

**\*NEW \* Understand. Appeal. Save: Business Rates for your museum webinar  
Association for Independent Museums (AIM)**

**Thursday 19 January, 11 am – 12:30 pm**

**ONLINE**

In Summer 2022, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums won their case against the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) and now only pay nominal Business Rates. Their success follows wins for the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, and the Yorkshire Museum, both of whom have seen significant reductions in the rates they pay.

- Is your museum paying too much for its Business Rates?
- Could you appeal your rating and make significant savings?
- Are you entitled to refunds going back to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017?

Join sector expert Colin Hunter from Lambert Smith Hampton to better understand Business Rates and the appeal process. Colin has more than 35 years' experience dealing with rating appeals and has been advising members of AIM since 2002.

He is the author of AIM's guide on [Successfully Negotiating Business Rates](#) and works in this area advising AIM, NMDC and the MA as well as museums across the UK. This session is ideal for those actively considering the appeal process.

**For details and to book:** see [AIM website](#). Limited to museum AIM members only as places are limited, and there is only one booking per organisation.

**\* NEW \* AIM Arts Scholars Brighter Day Grant Scheme \* OPEN TO APPLY \***

AIM is grateful to the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars Charitable Trust for funding the AIM 'Arts Scholars Brighter Day Grant Scheme'. The fund will support education, training, curation and exhibition projects that address the care and sustainability of historic and decorative arts collections.

The priority is ensuring museums at risk of closure, losing vital skills and knowledge, or unable to provide effective collections care, are supported to ensure future viability. The scheme has a special focus on small museums and others that have found it difficult to access support. Examples of projects that will be considered for support include:

- Work to improve collections care and reduce energy use and costs
- Improvements to gallery or storage areas that enable collections to be displayed or stored appropriately
- Purchase of equipment for storage and display
- Business reviews that consider how collections can be used to increase visitors and income
- Digitisation of collections
- Upskilling and skill sharing for staff and volunteers in ways that will leave a legacy for your organisation

- Creating training opportunities for people from backgrounds under-represented in museums, for example non-university or from culturally diverse backgrounds.

The grant scheme is now open for new applications to AIM members, which do not have to be Accredited but need to meet the eligibility criteria.

Industrial heritage or other collections without artefacts relevant to the Arts Scholars' charitable purposes are not eligible.

**Support available:** minimum of £1,500 and maximum of £8,000, no match funding required, one grant per round.

**Deadline:** 9am on Monday 6 February

**Contact:** email AIM Grants Administrator [Fiona Woolley](#) before applying to the scheme.

**Further information & examples of funded projects:** [see AIM website.](#)

**\* NEW \* Archive Resilience grants**

**\* APPLY BY 31 JAN \***

**The National Archives, sector support**

Applications for TNA Archive Resilience grants will close on Tuesday 31 January. These grants build on the success of the COVID-19 Archives Fund and archives can apply for projects of up to £15,000. The aim of this funding is to increase the sector's ability to safeguard and make collections accessible throughout the UK.

**More information:** [on TNA website.](#)

**\* NEW \* Migration Museum grant from National Lottery Heritage Fund**

Many congratulations to the Migration Museum, based in Lewisham shopping centre, which announced in early December that it has received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for our project 'Connecting Lewisham to its Migration Heritage'.

This will enable it to deliver a programme of events that bring the [Taking Care of Business](#) exhibition to life in new ways. They will train up new volunteers and deliver a host of activities for families and local residents over the next year. The funding will also support a [People's Panel and Network](#), inviting people to work with them to shape the future of the Migration Museum. It will support the front of house team to continue and build on their work welcoming audiences and offering opportunities for people to learn about local heritage and connect with others through sharing migration stories. [Family Fun Days](#) for young people will be run, with stimulating arts and heritage activities and a wide range of activities for families dropping in at any time.

This funding will also enable them to work with a range of community partners, artists, heritage experts and universities to co-create and deliver events that draw on the themes explored in *Taking Care of Business* and provide people from Lewisham with brand new ways to explore the borough's rich heritage and their own stories and backgrounds.

On its website, the museums states, "We are proud to have extremely dedicated and talented [volunteers](#) at the Migration Museum and through this project will also support them to build up their skills in giving tours and



engaging with our visitors to create a space where absolutely everyone can feel that they belong. Thanks to National Lottery players for making this funding and these activities possible.”

**Further details:** See [MM website](#).

### **\* NEW \* Hackney Museum project receives Heritage Fund grant**

Many congratulations to Hackney Council, which has been awarded a £266,782 grant by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to update [Hackney Museum](#)'s permanent exhibition and improve how the history of the borough is reflected. The 'Reimagining Hackney Museum: Connecting Communities with Collections' project aims to create a new permanent display at the museum, updating the stories it tells of migration and settlement from prehistory to modern day, for all visitors to enjoy and engage with.

Cllr Chris Kennedy, Cabinet member for health, adult social care, voluntary sector and culture, stated: “Since being established in 1986, Hackney Museum has used its collections to create a trusted space to engage and empower local communities to tell their stories, share their concerns about local issues rooted in a historical context, and understand how their experiences fit alongside others. The collections represent the lives of people in the borough, many of whom have migrated from different parts of the world, and encourage under-represented voices to share their own stories and memories. We're delighted to receive this support thanks to National Lottery players, which will help to preserve and share the rich local histories at this valued Hackney museum and continue to reflect the experiences of residents past, present and future.”

The grant will also fund:

- a digital programme to allow more people to access Hackney's rich histories
- a redeveloped community room
- an improved shop
- enhanced support for local schools, community groups, families and young people
- continued offer to residents of access to fantastic temporary exhibitions, educational and engagement programmes
- reduced environmental impact of the museum and
- additional storage facilities for objects which represent the everyday lives of people in the borough for future generations.

**Further details:** [Hackney Council website](#).

### **\* NEW \* Cultural Gifts Scheme and Acceptance in Lieu 2022 Annual Report Arts Council England (ACE)**

In early December, ACE published its annual list of allocations for the AIL scheme and cultural gifts. It's important to note that some of these works have been placed with institutions on a temporary basis (in red and marked temporary allocation on the spreadsheet). These works can be applied for, with the AIL/CGS Panel deciding their permanent allocation at its meeting on 16th March 2023. The institutions that have been allocated these items on a

temporary basis have been invited to apply for permanent allocation, but other museums interested in these items are welcome to apply also. A particularly exciting case is the Balakjian collection: 475 prints, drawings and plates relating to Studio Prints – formerly one of the most important print studios in London. The studio worked with the likes of Lucian Freud, Frank Auerbach, Stephen Conroy & Leon Kossoff – all included here

The following museums have shown an interest in acquiring works from this collection. We encourage applications from museums looking to grow their print collections, so do flag this opportunity with anyone who might be interested:

- Walsall Art Gallery
- The Fitzwilliam
- Victoria Gallery & Museum, Liverpool
- Victoria Art Gallery, Bath
- Cooper Gallery, Barnsley
- Northern Print, Newcastle
- Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- The Atkinson, Southport
- British Museum
- Courtauld Gallery

**Full report and allocations:** [see ACE website here.](#)

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## **Training, advice and resources (to top)**

### **\*NEW \* Introduction to AIM - Free webinar**

**Wednesday 18 January, 2:00 – 3:30 pm, ONLINE**

Are you new to AIM or have you just renewed your membership? Want to find out more about what AIM does and how you can maximise your membership benefits?

Join AIM Director Lisa Ollerhead and the rest of the AIM team online to hear an overview of the core membership benefits along with AIM's plans for 2023. Details and how to book: [see AIM website.](#)

### **\*NEW \* How to audit your ecommerce site & improve your customer journey:**

**Thurs 19 January, 2:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Digital Culture Network, ONLINE webinar**

Katherine Brown, Tech Champion for eCommerce & Merchandising at Digital Culture Network, is running a FREE webinar which is relevant to many museums. This webinar is suitable for arts and culture organisations who already have an eCommerce site selling products online. We will be focusing on the customer journey for physical products (i.e. books, clothing, homeware etc) rather than tickets.

In this session, you will learn how to:

- Understand the stages in a typical customer journey
- Identify the key customer needs on each page of your site
- Learn how your website compares to best practice and identify opportunities for improvement.

**Details and to book:** [see DCN website here.](#)

**\* NEW \* Heritage Dot conference (Heritage + digital): \* Proposals by 22 Jan \*  
22 March 2023, all day**

**ONLINE**

The University of Lincoln is hosting the second Heritage Dot Conference with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund and other partners, exploring digital horizons in relation to cultural heritage. Heritage Dot will offer a platform for sharing, challenging, disrupting and interrogating what digital heritage is and does across professional, academic and community sectors with interests in heritage.

**How to take part:** Respond now to the [call for participation](#) and apply with your proposal for your opportunity to present your project, share your experiences, or outline your research for a wide audience of heritage and digital sector professionals, researchers, volunteers and supporters.

If you'd like to attend the conference, then register your interest for news and updates about Heritage Dot including registration announcements.

**Details:**

- [Register now](#) for conference news and updates
- [Apply now](#) with your proposal – open until **22nd January 2023**
- Find out more: [on website](#) or contact [email here](#). Opens soon for tickets.

**\* NEW \* Making the most of Gift Aid in 2023 - Seminar**

**Charity Finance Group**

**Thursday 26 January, 1.30pm - 3.45pm**

**Online**

How can you make the most of Gift Aid in 2023 to maximise revenue? Our Gift Aid event will be a perfect opportunity to learn about updates around Gift Aid, and how to manage the process effectively to positively impact your charity. For accountants, finance directors and finance managers.

Join CFG, Elizabeth Day, Assistant Manager at Buzzacott and Rachelle Rowbottom, Partner at BHP to cover:

- Gift Aid updates and management
- How to maximise Gift Aid with your charity or organisation.

**Find out more and book a place:** [see CFG website](#).

Membership of CFG is free to AIM member organisations: [information here](#).

**\* NEW \* Board recruitment, skills and diversity – online training**

**Charities Finance Group (CFG)**

**Tuesday 31 January**

**ONLINE**

A diverse board with a mix of trustees with different lives experience, expertise and skills are invaluable. For many organisations, the process of recruiting a diverse, skilled board has not been as straightforward as someone might think. This training will give you the tools to recognise and implement the recruitment practices work, and that your trustees possess the skills and knowledge relevant to your organisation.

We will explore how to identify and recruit the right trustees for your charity and ensuring representation and effective governance. We will

see how to nurture and retain our trustees ensuring continuity to a diverse board. Suitable for: Heads of Finance, Finance Directors, Trustees and those involved in organisational governance.

Board recruitment, skills and diversity is part of the three *Good Governance training series* that will help you acquire a set of skills that will help you guide your team effectively and with confidence.

You can attend just this one or join us for all three of them to gain a well-rounded set of skills for good governance in your organisation.

**Cost:** Members £75, non-members £110. **AIM members** get free membership.

**How to book:** for this session [see website link](#). For all 3 sessions, [email CFG](#).

## **Volunteering training sessions**

**\* BOOK SOON! \***

### **Museum of London**

Our colleague Lucy Rivers at Museum of London will be holding a number of training sessions in February as part of the museum's own Volunteer Management Training Programme. Find more information and register by following the Eventbrite links below.

**Mentoring and Coaching (1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Feb):** [Booking on Eventbrite](#)

**Recruitment and Selection (21<sup>st</sup> Feb):** [Booking on Eventbrite](#)

**Support and Supervision (23<sup>rd</sup> Feb):** [Booking on Eventbrite](#)

**Information and access queries:** Please [get in touch with Lucy](#) by email if you have any questions.

## **Family Feb half term activities**

### **Montgomery Bonbon: Museum Mystery Trail!**

#### **Kids in Museums (KiM) & Walker Books**

KiM has joined with Walker Books to create a fun museum trail for families, celebrating the release of a new children's book from comedian Alasdair Beckett-King, *Montgomery Bonbon: Murder at the Museum!* – [Text © 2023 by Alasdair Beckett-King. Illustrations © 2023 by Claire Powell. Published by [Walker Books Ltd](#). All rights reserved.]

Following the success of our *Where's Wally?* Trails with Walker Books in 2019 and 2020, they have created a fun activity to attract families to your venue over the February half term:

*Do you ever get the feeling that a mystery is about to unfold?  
Meet Montgomery Bonbon, aka Bonnie Montgomery, the world's  
greatest ten-year-old secret super sleuth! All Bonnie needs is her trusty  
beret, an old raincoat and a sticky false moustache and "Voila!"-  
Montgomery Bonbon is here to crack the case.*

In the activity pack, families are encouraged to test their detective skills, answer questions about what they can see in the museum, solve puzzles and try out some playful prompts. Pick up a free moustache bookmark to get in the mystery-solving mindset and families can also enter a national competition. You'd receive a set amount of printed materials (with no extras):

- an activity sheet for you to print out
- free posters
- moustache bookmarks
- social media assets for you to use to promote the trail.

**Sign up:** places are limited to 50 museums and allocated on a first come, first served basis, taking into account museum size and location. Sign up [on KiM website](#). KiM will then be in touch to confirm, to send over the activity pack and provide further information. Please do not share your participation in the trail publicly until you have been contacted.

**\* NEW \* Reframing Mental Health in Museums and Galleries Symposium  
Dulwich Picture Gallery,  
Monday 27 February 2023, 9.30am -17.00pm**

Join the Dulwich Picture Gallery team with guest practitioners, and cultural institutions for a day of talks, practical case studies and workshops giving an introduction to targeted work engaging people with mental health conditions & space for organisations to reflect on applying it to their context.

The day will aim to explore the benefits and challenges of targeted work to engage people with mental health conditions as opposed to general wellbeing, provide case studies exploring modes of delivery and best practice for collaborating with and working partnership with health providers, clinical settings, and voluntary bodies such as Mind and discuss how we can support staff delivering targeted work in this area.

It aims to offer an introduction to this type of targeted work and the space for organisations to reflect on how they might begin to apply it to their context.

**To book:** see [Eventbrite link](#)

**Queries:** email the [DPG team](#).

**Museum Learning Basics**

**\* Book soon! \***

**Group for Education in Museums**

**Mondays 20, 27 Feb & 6, 13, 20 March 2023, 3:00 – 4:00 pm, in 5 sessions**

**ONLINE and recorded**

**Trainer:** Kara Wescombe Blackman, a museum learning expert with over two decades of experience of working with collections, exhibitions and museums.

This live virtual learning course provides practical examples of preparing and delivering museum learning programmes and is ideal for pre-career and early career museum professionals interested in delivering learning. Gain confidence in museum learning basics by sharing challenges and practical solutions with peers from other organisations and the course leader.

**Who it is for?** For pre-career and early career museum professionals such as:

- students and early career professionals, trainees and apprentices
- museum professionals working outside of learning teams
- professionals working in archives, libraries, community centres and other cultural organisations. This course provides a great introduction to all aspects of museum learning
- refresher for museum learning professionals.

**Fees:** £125 GEM members, £160 non-members, a £25 cancellation fee applies

**How to book:** Book your place [on GEM website](#).

## **Publications:**

### **\* NEW \* Creating Meaningful Museums: A Model for Museum Exhibition User Experience – publication by Taylor & Francis Online**

**Ellie King, M. Paul Smith, Paul F. Wilson, Janet Stott \* Mark A. Williams**

Ellie King, an Evaluation and Visitor Experience Consultant and Doctoral Researcher of Visitor Experience Evaluation, University of Warwick and Oxford University Museum of Natural History, has now published a collaborative article. Her research is based on conceptualising and evaluating visitor experience of museum exhibits and exhibitions.

You may remember having taken part in a short survey about museum exhibitions back in October 2021. She thanks everyone who contributed to the survey and is now pleased to say that her research on developing a model of Museum Exhibition User Experience, to which this survey contributed, has been published in Visitor Studies.

She would very much welcome any feedback or questions you have about this research and hopes for the model to act as a useful conceptual framework for museum practitioners. If you'd like to discuss further about how you can use this research in your museum, then please do get in touch.

**To read the full paper:** [See website here.](#)

**Contact:** [LinkedIn for Ellie King](#)

## **ACE Resources on Government and Wider Support**

Arts Council England have a central resource setting out available Government and wider support for [organisations](#) and [individuals](#) relevant to the cultural sector. These pages are continually updated and are produced in consultation with DCMS.

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## **Job vacancies (to top)**

### **Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration – 2 posts, see below.**

We're a small arts charity on an exciting journey. We are transforming the industrial heritage site New River Head into the national centre for illustration and a home for Quentin Blake's archive.

We have recently been awarded a Development Grant by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This will fund a programme of work to develop our understanding of costs, resources, timeline and audience needs, enabling us to develop our application to apply for a full grant of £2.5million towards the project:

#### **1. Campaign Lead**

**\* APPLY NOW! \***

**Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration: see above for details.**

We are looking for a brilliant person, or people, to lead the completion of our capital campaign to transform an amazing hidden heritage site into the national centre for illustration. As our Campaign Lead, you will build a community of supporters around our work to sustain our Centre and our exhibition, touring, community and learning programmes long into the future.



**Hours:** We're an inclusive and flexible employer, happy to hear from individuals, job-shares, freelancers and consultants. Quentin Blake Centre champions art that is dynamic and diverse; we want our team to reflect that.  
**Salary:** £48,000 - £61,000 depending on experience and the agreed scope of the role. Open to expressions of interest from people interested in full or part-time salaried or freelance work, consultants and fundraising companies.

**Closing date:** Friday 13 January 2023, 12:00pm GMT

**To apply:** Please [visit our website](#) to download the Job Pack.

## **2. Decolonising New River Head Researcher**

**\* APPLY NOW! \***

**Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration: see above for details.**

We are looking for an experienced researcher to undertake preliminary research on the shareholders of The New River Company. We want to know about the sources of the wealth that enabled them to invest in the company, and where their profits were spent. In particular, we want to know how the prosperity of the New River Company was connected to the transatlantic trade in enslaved people, the East India Company and other imperialist practices.

This knowledge will inform our heritage interpretation plan for New River Head and future collaborations with related heritage sites.

**Hours:** Flexible Part-time.

**Term:** Fixed term, works to be completed January to April 2023.

**Fee:** £5,000 Includes expenses & VAT

**Closing date:** Monday 16 January 2023 09:00 GMT

**To apply:** Please [visit our website](#) to download the Job Pack.

## **Lived Experience and Programme Coordinator**

**University College London, AHRC Health Inequalities Programme**

We are recruiting a new post to support our work leading a national programme of research entitled: [Mobilising community assets to tackle health inequalities](#). The programme is a £26 million investment led by the AHRC in collaboration with NERC, ESRC and MRC. It is supported by a partnership with the [National Centre for Creative Health](#), which champions active engagement with arts, culture and creativity as beneficial for health and wellbeing, and projects are funded across 3 phases, from 2021 to 2027.

We are seeking someone with lived experience and experience of community-based research to help coordinate and manage the Health Inequalities programme and funded projects. We are using the term 'lived experience' to describe someone who has personal knowledge of health and other social and community-based services (such as social prescribing), gained through direct, first-hand involvement either as a patient, participant, carer, support worker or other roles, where lived expertise can help us better understand and value the role of lived experience in research and health:

**Salary:** £31,131 - £36,348

**Hours:** Full Time, Fixed Term until March 2027.

**Closing date:** 15 January 2023

**To apply:** See [UCL website](#) here.

**\* NEW\* Hunterian Museum, Royal Coll. of Surgeons: 4 posts \*APPLY NOW! \***  
**Central London**

In advance of the new Hunterian Museum opening in Spring 2023, the museums team at the Royal College of Surgeons of England is recruiting:

**1. & 2. Museum Supervisor (2 vacancies available)**

Responsible for providing the highest standard of customer care for all visitors to the Hunterian Museum, Anatomy and Pathology Museum, Exhibitions Gallery and guided tours of the College collections around the building. The post holder is responsible for covering the Museums reception desks and shop during Museum opening hours, encouraging the purchase of museum goods and donations, and in undertaking Museum audience evaluation and other administrative tasks.

**Salary:** £24,494

**Contract type:** Permanent

**Closing date:** 16 January 2023

**To apply::** Download [the job description](#) (PDF)

Application by CV and cover letter (max. 2 sides of A4) detailing your interest in this post and relevant experience, [by email](#).

**3. Museums Operations & Shop Manager**

The post holder is responsible for the operational management of the museum spaces within the College, including the Hunterian Museum, the Anatomy and Pathology Museum and Exhibitions Gallery and management of the Hunterian Museum Shop.

**Salary:** £30,784

**Contract type:** Permanent

**Closing date:** 16 January 2023

**To apply:** Download [the job description](#) (PDF)

Application by CV and cover letter (max. 2 sides of A4) detailing your interest in this post and relevant experience, [by email](#).

**4. Senior Manager Museums Audience Engagement**

This post is a member of the Museums' senior leadership team, and will be required to actively contribute to the strategic and business planning activities for the team. The post holder is the main advocate for the public and professional audiences engaging with the College's Museums (c. 100,000 visitors pa).

The main responsibilities include overseeing:

- Operational management of the museums within the College, including the Hunterian Museum, the Anatomy and Pathology Museum, the Exhibition Gallery and College wide special collections tours
- Promotion and marketing of Hunterian Museum, and college museums services including the museum shop
- Inspiring museum audiences both onsite and online
- Talks and events
- Encouraging public donations.

**Salary:** £35,244

**Contract type:** Permanent

**Location:** Central London with option for one day per week remote working

**Closing date:** 22 January 2023 \continued

**To apply:** Download [the job description](#) (PDF)  
Application by CV and cover letter (max. 2 sides of A4) detailing your interest in this post and relevant experience, [by email](#).

**\* NEW \* Development Manager – Individual Giving**

**Foundling Museum**

To work closely with the Museum's Director, Chair and Board of Trustees to develop the Museum's income generation potential, in order to deliver its ambitious strategy and programmes. For full list of duties see job description.

**Salary:** £40,000-£45,000 depending on experience

**Hours:** Full Time, temporary (15 month contract)

We would consider a part-time position of 4 days per week (0.8fte) for the right candidate.

**Closing Date:** Wednesday 18 January 2023

**Interviews:** W/C 13 February 2023

We may close the post early if we receive a significant number of applications.

**\* NEW \* Chair of Advisory Group**

**Stanley Picker Gallery & Dorich House Museum, Kingston University**

Following the successful tenure of Catherine Ince (Chief Curator, V&A East), we are now looking for a dynamic new Chair to lead our Advisory Group for an initial four-year term to support our future growth and the delivery of an ambitious strategic plan.

[Stanley Picker Gallery](#) is dedicated to commissioning, producing and presenting innovative new practice across Art and Design. [Dorich House Museum](#) is the 1930s former studio-home of the sculptor, artist and designer Dora Gordine and her husband the Hon. Richard Hare.

**Salary:** Voluntary (c.6 hours a month)

**Closing date:** 10 February 2023

**To apply:** For further details and to apply, [see website](#).

**\* NEW \* Design Team, Activity Planner and Evaluator**

**Hackney Museum**

Hackney Council has secured funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to develop ambitious plans to transform and reimagine Hackney Museum. These plans for major improvements include a new permanent exhibition sharing stories of migration and settlement from prehistory to modern day, a redeveloped community room, an improved shop, additional storage space for collections and enhanced digital activities so more people can access Hackney's rich histories. We are seeking specialist consultants for the development phase. See the individual briefs for more information.

**Closing date:** Monday 13 February 2023, midday BST

**To apply:** See the tender portal links below

[Design Agency Brief](#)

[Activity Planner Brief](#)

[Evaluator Brief](#)

**\* NEW \* Various roles – 5 in total**

**Autograph, Hoxton, London**

Autograph is a place to see things differently. Since 1988, we have championed photography that explores issues of race, identity, representation, human rights and social justice, sharing how photographs reflect lived experiences and shape our understanding of ourselves and others. See [Autograph's website](#) for background.

**1. Curator: Touring & Loans**

Autograph is looking for an experienced curator to work on our contemporary exhibition programme which focuses strongly on photographic practice and to take lead responsibility for project managing touring and collection loans in the UK and abroad.

**Salary:** £35,000 - £40,000 p.a. subject to experience and skills

**Terms:** Flexible hybrid working by negotiation. In the probationary period, Autograph would require people on site for more of the time.

**Closing date:** Apply to join us by 5pm (GMT) on Friday 27 January 2023.

**To apply:** For full details, [download the job pack](#) on Autograph's website.

**2. Engagement Curator: Schools & Young People**

Autograph is looking for an exceptional and imaginative person to join our team in a new role designed to lead our work with schools and young people. You will need to be a resourceful person and a strong communicator comfortable working with a wide range of partners, artists and interest groups, to deliver the responsibilities set out in this role as part of a small professional team.

**Salary:** £40,000 - £45,000 p.a subject to experience and skills

**Terms:** Flexible hybrid working by negotiation. In the probationary period, Autograph would require people on site for more of the time.

**Closing date:** Apply to join us by 5pm (GMT) on Friday 27 January 2023.

**To apply:** For full details, [download the job pack](#) on Autograph's website.

**3. Operations Manager**

Autograph is looking for an experienced and energetic person to join our team in the new role of Group Operations Manager, delivering operational management to our well-established contemporary visual arts charity and our trading subsidiary Sense of Place Ltd.

**Salary:** £42,000 - £45,000 p.a. subject to experience and skills

**Terms:** Postholder is required on site only

**Closing date:** Apply by 12pm (GMT) on Monday 30 January 2023.

**To apply:** For full details, [download the job pack](#) on Autograph's website.

**4. Team Assistant**

Autograph is looking for an enthusiastic and creative person to join us as a Team Assistant to take care of day to day administration and to support our programming team with project delivery. This is a role perfect for someone with a strong interest in visual arts and photography in particular, who wants

to start or restart a fulfilling career in the arts and to develop a good appreciation for how a small scale visual arts charity functions.

**Salary:** £24,000 - £25,000 p.a. subject to experience and skills

**Terms:** Flexible hybrid working by negotiation. In the probationary period, Autograph would require people on site for more of the time.

**Closing date:** Apply to join us by 12 noon (GMT) Monday 23 January 2023.

**To apply:** For full details, [download the job pack](#) on Autograph's website.

### **5. Finance Assistant – Part-time**

Autograph are looking for a skilled Finance Assistant, to record all financial transactions, for a small, well established visual arts charity specialising in photography, with a busy exhibitions, artist commission, events and learning programme as well as a unique photography collection. This is a part-time role, based at Autograph's gallery in the heart of London's exciting Shoreditch district.

**Salary:** £20,000 - £22,000 p.a. based on experience and skills

**Hours:** Part time 21 hours per week, salary stated is for the part time hours

**Terms:** Flexible hybrid working by negotiation (Monday to Friday). In the probationary period, Autograph would require on site for more of the time.

**Closing date:** Apply to join us by 5pm (GMT) on Friday 27 January 2023.

**To apply:** For full details, [download the job pack](#) on Autograph's website.

### **Outreach Officer (maternity cover, fixed term)**

#### **Collections Trust**

We are looking for a UK-based Outreach Officer (maternity cover) to be part of the team responsible for delivering our 3-year Arts Council England activity plan 2023-2026. Working with the Deputy Director, the Outreach Officer delivers a programme of training and advice in response to local needs identified by the museum development network and acts as an ambassador for the Spectrum standard at grassroots level.

The post is supported by grant funding from Arts Council England. During 2020 the outreach programme successfully moved to online delivery and now offers a blended approach, with at least 50% of sessions delivered online annually.

**Salary:** £33,500

**Contract:** fixed term, 6 months initially. Home-based in UK, some travel in England. We would welcome applicants seeking a secondment opportunity and would be happy to speak to potential applicant's managers about how this might work.

**Closing date:** Midday, Monday 13 February. **Interviews:** online Wed 1 March

**To apply:** [Visit our website](#) for further details.

### **Collections Use Officer (Part-time)**

#### **Collections Trust**

We are looking for a part-time, UK-based, Collections Use Officer to be part of the team responsible for delivering our 3-year Arts Council England activity plan 2023-2026. The aim of the role is to deliver collaborative projects with museums in Levelling Up Culture (LUC) Places that put the new inclusive

Spectrum guidance into practice, connecting audiences & collections meaningfully, to demonstrate the benefits of Museum Data Service (MDS).

This is an exciting time to join Collections Trust, as we and our partners begin to develop the MDS that will transform the way UK museums and their users work with the nation's collections.

**Salary:** £19,200 (full time equivalent £32,000)

**Hours:** Part-time, 3 days per week (0.6 FTE)

**Closing date:** midday, Monday 13 February, **Interviews:** online Fri 3 March

**To apply:** to find out more about the role and to apply [click here](#).

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## Exhibitions and events (to top)

**\* NEW \* Music, Mobility and Migration: Workshop study day – \* Apply now! \***

**Royal College of Music**

**27 January 2023**

Academic researchers and practitioners still have an opportunity to attend a workshop 'study day' on the theme of exhibiting the life and movement of migrant musicians. This workshop centres around the new Music, Migration and Mobility exhibition launching at the Royal College of Music from January 2023. The exhibition follows from an AHRC-funded project on the musical lives of mobile and migrant musicians who escaped Nazi occupied Europe to Britain in the 1930s and 1940s. These individuals navigated musical culture and institutions in Britain, and at times faced prejudice, exclusion and even detention (find out [more about the project here](#)).

The workshop goes behind the scenes of the exhibition and explores its narrative, spatial and material construction. It will raise crucial ethical, political and social issues around how we tell stories of migration and mobility, especially how memory, objects, narrative and audience come together.

Activities will include:

- talks
- informal discussions
- visiting and interpreting the museum
- a special panel with museum and collections curators on the topic of music and migration.

Panellists include representatives from the Horniman Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the Museum of London, the Royal College of Music and the Museum of Geography at the University of Padua.

**Suitable for:** academics in fields such as musicology, cultural geography, mobility and migration studies, and museum studies, as well as museum, collections and heritage practitioners. Priority to applications from early career, fixed term and postgraduate staff and researchers whose travel costs can be met by funding from a UKRI Connecting Mobilities research grant

**Numbers:** limited to 20, Lunch and refreshments will also be provided.

**To apply:** to [Peter Adey](#) with a very short biography (no more than 150 words) or a link to their webpage, an indication as to how their interests align to the aims of the day (in a few sentences), and an estimation of travel costs.

**Deadline:** extended to Friday 13th January.



## **'Unfamiliar'**

**23 January to 28 July 2023**

### **Royal College of Physicians Museum**

The RCP museum is delighted to introduce photographer Theo Deproost and physician associate Debbie Jegede. Together, Theo and Debbie identified objects from within the depths of the museum stores which intrigue, surprise and delight them. Debbie's clinical curiosity and Theo's creative eye bring together the worlds of medicine and art, as they reinterpret items from the RCP medical and fine art collections.

The stunning results are displayed in the exhibition, alongside the original objects to highlight their hidden richness and beauty. Theo's photographs offer new, altered perspectives that challenge our understanding and impression of supposedly inert museum objects. Theo and Debbie invite us to approach these objects and images with a curious mind, to experience them in unexpected ways, and reinterpret them through the lens of our own experiences.

**Details:** [See RCP website.](#)

### **\* NEW \* We Are All Connected – exhibition of works by six Ukrainian artists Migration Museum, Lewisham Shopping Centre SE13 7HB**

**Until 12 February 2023, Free – no booking**

The latest Artist Showcase in the window display at the Migration Museum is an exhibition of works by six Ukrainian artists: Anna Dovhan, Illya Turyhin, Ivanna Bahriyчук, Yuliya Yeromina, Sofia Melnyk and Yaryna Shumska.

**Further information:** [see Migration Museum website.](#)

### **\* NEW \* Unleash your inner child at a 'Permission to Play' Museum Late! London Transport Museum**

**Friday 24 February 2023, 6:45 to 10:00 pm**

London Transport Museum is inviting you to throw off your inhibitions for a playful fun-packed evening of games, challenges, talks and workshops at its 'Permission to Play' Museum Late at their central London location in the heart of Covent Garden.

'Kidults' will have the chance to explore the Museum galleries on a scavenger hunt, climb aboard historic buses, Tube trains and trams, play transport board games and dress up in vintage uniforms and props, all to a back-drop of music and drinks.

**Tickets:** Adults only, tickets £15, concessions £12 [from LTM website.](#)

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**Help needed, offers & donations (to top)**

### **Call for submission – book & exhibition reviews \*By 13 January 2023\***

#### **Social History Curators Group**

Try something new in the new year and write a review of a recent book, podcast or exhibition for the 2023 edition of the SHCG Journal, Social History in Museums. The theme for the next issue is:

*Museum and Activism: how can social history play its part?*

If you've read a book, heard a podcast or seen an exhibition that you feel showcases how social history plays a part in the activism of museums, please get in touch with the Journal Editor. You do not have to be a curator or a member of the SHCG to write a review for the Journal.

SHCG can support you in the purchase of books or exhibition tickets for review and reviews should be written by someone outside of the organisation being reviewed.

**To submit reviews:** Please email [the Journal Editor](#) Kirsty Parsons by Friday 13 January 2023 with details of what you propose to review and how it's relevant to the Journal.

### **University of Leicester, School of Museum Studies \* LAST CHANCE TO APPLY! \* Call for Placement Hosts in 2023**

The School of Museum Studies at the University of Leicester is looking for Museum and Gallery placement hosts for its students for summer 2023. Placements are eight weeks long, full time and will run from 17 July to 8 September 2023.

**To discuss your proposal:** please [contact Sarah and Ginny by email](#).

**Deadline:** to offer a placement, details should then be shared [via the online form](#) by Monday 16 January 2023.

### **Call for papers & contributions – Conference 2023 \* BY 27 JAN 2023 \***

#### ***Activism & Professional Practice in the Changing World: 9 June, Birmingham*** **Social History Curators Group (SHCG)**

We are intending to hold SHCG conference 2023 in the Birmingham area, in-person with the option for pre-recorded contributions/papers. SHCG would like to receive proposals of presentations, case studies, round table discussions, activities and workshops on the theme of activism in social history.

How are museums and other cultural and heritage-based venues addressing and encouraging action on activist issues like: • Decolonisation • Anti-racism • Environmentalism • Sustainability • Accessibility • LGBTQ+ inclusion • Cost of living crisis and • Disability rights?

**Guidance on topics:** Museums are not neutral. With the exposure of recent events across the world, many institutions have had to stop and think about the implications of colonial legacy, institutional racism, environmentalism, cost of living, and other topics linked to accessibility, ethical practice and inclusion. Cultural and heritage organisations have often been at the forefront with these challenges, and these institutions are in a unique position to encourage change.

Through this conference, we hope to create a discussion which puts these ideas into action. SHCG Conference 2023 would like to hear from organisations who have recently been, or are currently, involved in activism projects to share and discuss how social history can be at the heart of a changing world.

**Challenging questions & varied perspectives:** The more thought provoking, unusual, practical and insightful, the better. We welcome contributions which pose difficult questions and are keen to hear from projects which might not have gone as planned or were considered unsuccessful in their outcomes. In addition, we are keen to hear from a wide range of organisations, not just

museums but other cultural or heritage-based venues, cultural consortiums, local authorities, independent practitioners and any other groups who are working to tackle these ongoing issues.

**Interactive sessions:** We are also encouraging people to suggest interactive sessions for Conference 2023. These could be facilitated group discussions, sharing of ideas or smallscale practical activities. Interactive sessions should include an introduction by a speaker, followed by an activity that creates active dialogue with involvement from all members of the audience.

**Contributors:** SHCG wants to create a space for honest dialogue and problem solving. We are keen to hear from:

- Anyone working within social history in museums and heritage sites, not only those in curatorial positions.
- We particularly encourage discussions from diverse voices in the sector, such as from ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ communities and those who identify as disabled
- Speakers will **not** be asked to disclose these characteristics
- Members and non-members of SHCG can submit a paper or workshop.

**Submission form deadline:** by 27 January 2023

**Decisions by:** 24 February 2023

**Conference date:** 9 June 2023 (provisional) confirmed to applicants later on

**Further details and to apply:** [See SHCG website.](#)

### **Mapping London's Sporting Heritage Survey - \*Reply by 30 Jan 2023\***

Our colleagues at The National Archive's Sector Support team have asked us to pass on the following request. *Sporting Heritage*, the Subject Specialist Network for sport across the UK, has been commissioned by The Museum of London to help inform the development of the [new London Museum](#). As part of that work, they are aiming to map collections which tell the story of London's sporting past.

They are asking organisations and individuals who own or look after sporting collections, tangible and intangible, which tell stories of the history of sport in London, to help by filling in a short survey.

**Respond by:** 30 Jan on website [Mapping London's sporting heritage survey.](#)

### **\* NEW \* Help to guide the development of the ACE Resource Hub**

From hands-on toolkits to measure the environmental impact of your organisation, to inspiring case studies on producing ambitious and high quality work, the Arts Council England *Resource Hub* aims to offer support to understand and embed the Principles.

Whether you've actively used these resources, or have yet to explore the Hub fully, the ACE team are looking for feedback from across the creative and cultural sector that can guide its future development. ACE would especially like to hear from a diverse range of individuals across your organisation, from junior staff members and freelancers you work with to board members and trustees. Complete [their survey here.](#)

They are also looking for a small group of people to act as a representative 'Reference Group' or sounding board with their independent

research from 'always possible' between February and March 2023, committing to taking part in four one-hour sessions. Further details on what this entails and how to apply can be found in this [short video](#).

**Further details:** see [Investment Principles Resource Hub webpages](#)

**Apply:** to be in Reference group [on website here](#).

### \* **NEW** \* **FREE EXHIBITION FRAMES**

#### **Westminster City Archives**

The archive has a number of brown wooden exhibition frames which no longer needed. We would like to offer them to a good home. There are about 70 - 100 frames in a range of sizes. The frames are free, but they need to be collected from our central London location.

If anyone is interested, or wants more information / pictures, please email [Georgia Vossou](#) or phone 020 7641 5162.

### \* **NEW** \* **Feedback: technical qualifications, creative & cultural sector Creative and Cultural Skills (CCS)**

A training provider for one of our MDL Inclusive Museums sessions, CCS are delighted to be supporting IfATE, The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education with [#TheBigConversation](#) (LinkedIn link). This is a chance for you as employers, providers, business representative bodies, apprentices or anyone else who uses or is affected by technical qualifications to give your views and help shape the skills system. We need your feedback!

We're asking about all aspects of technical education for creative and cultural sectors. We want to hear what's working, what isn't – and how the system supports your business, sector or education.

The themes in The Big Conversation include:

- **Qualifications:** Breadth and range of qualifications.
- **National System:** How far the skills system supports national priorities, such as the levelling up agenda.
- **Progression:** How far the system allows you, your organisation, or your region to progress.
- **Confidence:** How confident you feel that the system can deliver what your business or region needs.
- **Quality:** Quality of the system and the qualifications which support it.

We will analyse all your views and use them to contribute our sector response to the Big Conversation report in March 2023. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, and we would be very grateful for your time and invaluable feedback.

**Please respond:** a link to the survey can be found on [SurveyMonkey here](#).

 [@LondonMusDev](#)



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