



DELIVERED BY



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

WMMD Newsletter **January 2018**

Contents:

- West Midlands Museum Development Update
- West Midlands Museum Development Events
- News
- Other Events
- Opportunities

West Midlands Museum Development Update



15 March - Solve to Evolve Conference

9.30am – 7.30pm, Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Coalbrookdale TF8 7DQ

West Midlands Museum Development's third annual conference, funded by Arts Council England, will be a jam packed day focusing on overcoming challenges to make organisations more resilient and appealing to audiences.

We are delighted to welcome Gordon Seabright, *CEO, Eden Project*, who will deliver the Opening Address.

For more details about the conference see the [WMMD Events](#) section.

The conference is FREE and includes, refreshments, lunch and dinner. The conference is FREE and includes refreshments, lunch and dinner. Places will be prioritised for staff, volunteers and trustees of museums and art galleries based in the West Midlands.

[Book now](#)

Ready to Borrow Capital Grant Scheme

If you have already expressed an interest in the Ready to Borrow Capital Grant Scheme, don't forget to complete the application form and submit by **5pm, Wednesday 24 January** to wmmd@ironbridge.org.uk. Please contact us if you require a copy of the guidance notes or the application form.

Your museum could join the 11 museums from the region which have already benefitted from this scheme. £56.3k is available and typically museums bid for between £12k and £50k.

Successful applicants will be notified by 14 February.

WMMD Events

See the [WMMD events section](#) below for information about all our events.

West Midlands Museum Development Events



All WMMD events are free

25 January - Need to Know: GDPR and Finance

10am – 4.30pm, Birmingham Hippodrome B5 4TB

A day of essential learning suitable for all museum staff, trustees and volunteers of Accredited Museums and those officially Working Towards Accreditation in the West Midlands.

GDPR

The [General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) will come into effect this year on 25 May to replace the current Data Protection Act. It's the biggest overhaul of data protection legislation for over 25 years, and will introduce new requirements for how organisations process personal data. Every organisation, no matter their scale, handles data and employees and volunteers alike must be equipped to protect data.

Alan Owen, ICARIS Ltd will give an introduction to GDPR, its impact and implications and how to prepare your organisation to comply with the new legislation. Essential information for staff, trustees and volunteers alike.

Magic Numbers

Richard Hemmings, Insight Training will help delegates gain a better understanding of financial statements, budgets, how to prepare for audit or independent examination and how to spot and prevent discrepancies. An essential afternoon for everyone, from those handling admission fees, managing a budget or even reporting back to the Charity Commission.

Lunch and refreshments are included at this free event.

Partnership project with the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy Programme.

[Book now](#)

30 January - Influencing for Results

9.30am – 4.30pm, Birmingham Voluntary Service Council, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham B5 6DR

Last year's **Snapshot Skills Survey** identified 'influencing' as an area where many respondents wanted to feel more confident.

The workshop will be presented by Jules Bellingham, Senior Partner Consultant at the Management Centre (=mc) and Deputy Director of the National Arts Fundraising School. She's highly experienced in communication and influencing skills. Jules is also a Trustee of Moor Pool Heritage Trust, Birmingham.

This workshop is for individuals who want to boost their ability to persuade and convince others, including team members, stakeholders and trustees.

The techniques explored will help you influence in a formal or informal situation and help you think about how you can adapt your own communication style to be more effective.

Overall, it will help you be a more confident and convincing influencer and communicator.

At the end of the workshop you will be able to:

- Ensure a good outcome for you and your organisation
- Choose an appropriate communication style to influence others
- Build rapport with a wide range of individuals
- Win others over to your point of view
- Handle challenges from others
- Present ideas effectively

Lunch and refreshments are included at this FREE event.

[Book now](#)

8 February - Setting the Standard: Managing Equality and Diversity in the Workplace

10am - 4pm, The Hive, Worcester WR1 3PD

Roots HR CIC will explore the role of museums to embed Equality and Diversity within their workplace, including their legal responsibilities.

Roots HR specialise in working with social sector organisations such as charities and voluntary organisations. This event is suitable for anyone involved in the management of staff.

Through this workshop delegates will gain greater understanding of how they can effectively support all members of their team, throughout their employment in relation to Equality and Diversity. The workshop will explore many aspects of employment including professional development, pay and benefits, performance management, disputes, bullying, harassment and retirement.

By the end of this workshop delegates will:

- Understand the case for equality, diversity and inclusion in the workplace
- Understand the impact of management actions and decisions:
 - Pre-employment: terms and conditions and pre-employment checks
 - During employment including, working hours, flexible working and time off; pay and benefits; training development, promotion and transfers; managing performance or disputes
 - Ending employment: retirement and dismissal reference
- The risk of non-compliance
- What to do if it goes wrong
 - e.g. bullying and harassment

In addition you will receive access to free online resources published after the training including:

- Session guidance notes
- Terms and conditions of employment factsheet
- Bullying and harassment factsheet
- Template reference letter for an ex-employee

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

[Book now](#)

28 February - Setting the Standard: Recruitment and Selection

10am - 4pm, Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery SY1 1LH

Roots HR CIC will be exploring the role of museums to embed Equality and Diversity within their workplace, including their legal responsibilities.

Roots HR specialise in working with social sector organisations such as charities and voluntary organisations. These events are suitable for anyone involved in the management or recruitment of paid staff or volunteers.

This workshop from 10am - 4pm at Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery will explore best practice in recruitment and selection processes to ensure that your organisation appoints the best applicants.

By the end of this workshop delegates will:

- Understand what is meant by merit-based recruitment and selection
- Understand the benefits of merit-based selection including for equality, diversity and inclusion
- Understand the law relating to recruitment and selection, and what this means in practice
- Receive practical tips and guidance on attraction and selection including: attracting a more diverse range of candidates; how to prepare for interviews (including questioning techniques); an awareness of types of selection tests; how to deliver interviews; how to assess candidates in selection situations

In addition you will receive access to free online resources published after the training including:

- Guidance notes
- Template outline policy that can be tailored for your museum
- Template application form that can be tailored for your museum
- Template job description and person specification
- Do's and don'ts of recruitment and selection document

Refreshments and lunch will be provided at this free event.

[Book now](#)

15 March - Solve to Evolve Conference

Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, Coalbrookdale TF8 7DQ

Join the West Midlands Museum Development team for our third conference. Funded by Arts Council England (ACE), we've a jam-packed day focusing on overcoming challenges to make organisations more resilient and appealing to audiences.

We are delighted to welcome Gordon Seabright, *CEO, Eden Project*, who will deliver the Opening Address. The day will be hosted by broadcaster Adam Kirtley.

Plenaries:

- Graham Garnett, *Senior Access Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council*. Competing with cities across Europe, Chester won the Access City Award 2017. Graham will share how historic Chester has been able to balance visitor access needs, heritage assets and local authority budgets.
- York Archaeological Trust will discuss the effectiveness of the emergency plan at the Jorvik Viking Centre in responding to the Boxing Day flood of 2015, exploring the challenges, triumphs and changes needed post recovery.

New for 2018 - The afternoon will feature bite-sized seminars linking to a broad range of topics including collections, audiences, resilience, equality and diversity, workforce development and children and young people. These will focus on overcoming challenges, finding solutions and sharing experiences in small groups. Details will be available soon.

Late afternoon will see a change of venue as we head over to Blists Hill Victorian Town for a choice of exclusive after-hours tours of the site followed by dinner and a performance. The day will conclude at 7.30pm.

With plenty of opportunities to network, surgeries available with sector partners including ACE, HLF, Collections Trust, Accreditation, Audience Agency and Kids in Museums this is a key date for your 2018 diary.

A limited number of travel bursaries will be available, further information to follow later this month.

The conference is FREE and includes refreshments, lunch and dinner. Places will be prioritised for staff, volunteers and trustees of museums and art galleries based in the West Midlands.

[Book now](#)

Other Events



17 January - AIM Preparing to Prosper

11.30am - 4pm, Fazeley Studios, 191 Fazeley Street, Birmingham B5 5SE

What makes a prospering museum and how can you use the AIM Hallmarks to inspire new ideas and to help you to face the future with confidence?

This winter, AIM is launching 'Preparing to Prosper': a new publication that will show museums how to use the AIM Hallmarks to benefit their organisation at a series of seminars taking place in including Birmingham. Tickets cost £25 and you can apply for an AIM travel bursary to help you attend.

The seminars will feature guest speakers and case studies from AIM member museums. There will also be an opportunity to take part in informal and friendly discussions and workshops to help museums share ideas and experiences.

Attendees will be the first to receive this new hard copy publication which includes case studies, new insights and questions to help museum staff, trustees and volunteers think about the way they work.

Distilling the very best ideas from museums that have used the AIM Hallmarks, the new publication can be used by museums immediately to see fast and positive results.

[For more information and to book](#)

21 and 22 February - Why Exhibitions? Strategies, audiences, and future directions

Tate Britain, the National Portrait Gallery, and National Gallery

Three Subject Specialist Network are collaborating to offer a two-day conference, free to museum colleagues and researchers. The conference examines aspects of temporary exhibitions – audience engagement, partnership models, online exhibitions and digital tools, and other issues related to the future of exhibitions. Click [here](#) for the full programme and booking details.

The logo for the Museums Association, featuring the words "MUSEUMS" and "ASSOCIATION" stacked vertically in white, uppercase letters on a teal square background.

26 February - Moving on Up: Building a Dynamic Museum Career

Amgueddfa Genedlaethol Caerdydd (National Museum Cardiff)

The Museums Association's popular early careers conference returns for a fifth year, with the writer Nikesh Shukla confirmed as the keynote speaker.

Moving on Up is the essential conference aimed at people in the first five years of their career who want to get practical advice on standing out from the crowd, developing their networks and having a positive impact in the sector.

This one-day event is an opportunity to hear from inspirational speakers, network with peers and senior museum professionals, and participate in practical workshops and discussions.

Delegates attending the event will discover how to navigate the challenges of the current jobs market, how to raise their profile and how to ensure they are developing the necessary skills to benefit their future career progression.

To find out more and to book click [here](#).

13 March - Museums for Health and Wellbeing Conference

Thinktank, Birmingham Science Museum, Birmingham

The line-up includes speakers Emma Hanson, Head of Strategic Commissioning Adult Community Support from Kent County Council and Jane Povey, GP and Founding Director of Creative Inspiration Shropshire. Workshop sessions will explore green wellbeing, evaluation, embedding wellbeing as an organisation, working with learning disabled artists to design and deliver arts activities for children and families and much more!

For more information about the conference and to book tickets click [here](#).

The new Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance will be officially launched at the conference. To find out more about the new Alliance please see [here](#).

20 March - Future of Museums: Collections

10.30am - 5pm, Wellcome Collection, London

Collections lie at the heart of museums, and provide a unique opportunity to engage, inform and inspire audiences in a way that can have a positive impact on society as a whole.

The potential to use collections in exciting and socially-impactful ways is huge, but museums continue to be held back by several long-standing challenges including a lack of space to store material and a lack of skills, funds and resources to manage, care and interpret artefacts.

This conference, part of the Museums Association's Future of Museum's series, will offer an opportunity to debate these issues and discuss what the future holds for our collections and how they can be used to engage audiences and change people's lives.

For more information and to book click [here](#).

23 March - Money and Medals Network Conference

British Museum

To mark three years of funding from Arts Council England and to celebrate the work conducted so far, the Money and Medals Network (MMN) will be holding a conference.

The content of the day will cover the work of MMN over the past three years, outlining its key achievements and demonstrating to a wider audience how the Network has been active all over the UK with the collections mapping project and the provision of training. It will represent an opportunity to learn more about MMN and the approaches that are being taken to different aspects of numismatics by a number of key participating institutions.

It will also be a chance to meet colleagues from other UK public institutions to share knowledge and ideas about museum numismatic collections. In addition, there will be a chance for delegates to see the British Museum's exhibition about the Money and Medals Network which will be on display in Room 69a from 22 March until 30 September 2018.

This conference is open to anyone working or volunteering with numismatic collections in UK museums. Attendance is free, but booking is essential. Lunch will be provided and a limited number of travel bursaries are available.

Further details, including how to book, will be available soon.

News



Success Guide on the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Museums and other cultural organisations that want to understand how they should be responding to current and forthcoming General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) can benefit from a free [Success Guide](#) from AIM.

Dementia Friendly Heritage Guide

The Heritage Lottery Fund and Alzheimer's UK have joined forces with a number of leading heritage organisations to launch a guide to creating dementia friendly heritage experiences. It includes practical advice from sites across the country who have been experimenting with innovative ways to engage visitors with dementia. It acknowledges that heritage sites can be intimidating places for the 850,000 people in the UK currently living with dementia. They can be unpredictable spaces, which are disorientating and complicated to navigate. The complex history and timelines they explore can prove challenging for people with memory problems.

The guide highlights a number of creative ways heritage organisations have been responding to this challenge. It notes that heritage sites often rely on older audiences, who generate 20% of the sector's income. People living with dementia want to be able to continue to do things they enjoy doing. Failing to adapt to their needs could prove costly: the more accessible the experience for people living with dementia, the more likely heritage sites are to retain existing visitors, and reach new ones.

Find out more and download the guide at: www.alzheimers.org.uk.



Call for Papers

The call for papers for the 2018 Social History Curators' Group conference is now open. This year's theme is *Displays, Interpretation and Exhibitions in Social History Museums* and you are invited to share your innovative ideas, experiences of trying to do things in new ways, successes, opportunities and failures.

Further details can be found [here](#). To submit a proposal, ask a question or run an idea past the committee, please email Becca and Nick at conferenceshcg@gmail.com.

The deadline for proposals is **31 January**.

Call for Partners: New Partnership Spotlight Loan

The golden age of satire? Late-Georgian satirical prints has been developed to complement the themes explored in the major British Museum exhibition, *I, Object* (title tbc), which will be on show in London from the 6 September 2018 – 20 January 2019. Through a selection of 8-10 satirical prints, this partnership Spotlight loan will explore the complex relationship between those in power and those who sought – through ridicule – to puncture their authority. The British Museum is seeking three partners to host the exhibition between February – November 2019. Further details are [attached](#). If you are interested in hosting the exhibition, please complete the [Expression of Interest](#) form and return to [Eleanor Chant](#) by **Friday 12 January**.

Save the Date: British Museum National Programmes Conference

British Museum National Programmes Conference, will be held on **3 September** thanks to the generous support of the Vivmar Foundation. Developed in partnership with the Digital Preservation Coalition, this free one-day conference will explore best practice in how we as a sector create, curate and preserve digital content – looking at both the exciting, outward-facing opportunities it can bring for our audiences and professional communities, and the back-of-house work that makes it possible. Central to the day will be the question: if we are memory institutions, how are we ensuring that we retain all the digital memory that we're creating?

Research Project: Interpreting Sensitive and Challenging Subjects in Museums for Children and Young People

A Merrie Noyse Music and Heritage is undertaking a research project on behalf of the Heritage Education Leaders Group West Midlands (UK) to gather people's experience about working with and presenting sensitive information about difficult or challenging subjects to their audience. Their aim is to collect as much information as they can about how people feel and work with sensitive information, particularly the delivery to young people up to age 19 and their parents or guardians.

They are looking to make recommendations at the end of this research that will lead to greater understanding of how we all deal with sensitive information and its presentation to the public. Most organisations are already working with sensitive information; some individuals feel confident in the delivery of challenging material, others would rather avoid the issues because

they do not feel confident in delivery. Therefore, they want to develop recommendations that will help people feel more skilled and confident in their roles.

Complete the questionnaire: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QX68MBL>

If you would like to find out more please contact Sue Pope directly by emailing: merrienoyse@btinternet.com

Coin Identification Training Sessions

The Portable Antiquities Scheme's Dr Sam Moorhead has very kindly offered to once again open up his 2018 coin identification training sessions to the Money and Medals Network (MMN). These events will all be held in the British Museum's Department of Coins and Medals.

- 16 March Introduction to Roman Coins
- 23 March Introduction to Iron Age Coins
- 15 June Republican and Early Roman Coins
- 22 June Third Century Radiates
- 28 September Fourth Century Nummi
- 5 October Introduction to Roman Coins
- 16 November Third Century Radiates
- 23 November Fourth Century Nummi

To book a place on one or more of these free training events, and for further details, please email [Sam Moorhead](mailto:Sam.Moorhead@britishmuseum.org) directly, copying in [MMN](http://www.moneyandmedalsnetwork.org).



Museums + Heritage Awards 2018

The annual Museums + Heritage Awards, now in its sixteenth year, recognises projects of excellence - innovative and ground-breaking exhibitions from galleries and visitor attractions across the UK and Europe. These range from remarkable achievements of national institutions to projects crafted with limited resources and those championing their staff and volunteers who work hard to deliver inspiring visitor experiences.

The Awards are judged by a panel of the sector's leading lights. There are 11 categories to choose from, including the new Best Shop Award. The highly anticipated Temporary or Touring Exhibition, sponsored by Displayways, will once again be championing the incredible achievements in design and interpretation of teams across the UK. Also returning for 2018 is the ever popular and free to enter Volunteer(s) of the Year Award, in partnership with AIM.

With these Awards open to all museums, galleries, cultural and heritage visitor attractions and their suppliers, no matter what size or budget, this is an unrivalled opportunity for everyone!

To find out more visit the Awards page on their [website](#).

Collections Skills Sharing Sessions

Organised by the British Museum the sessions are designed for people working or volunteering within the museum and heritage sector, there are travel bursaries available thanks to the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Tickets are free, but booking is essential via Eventbrite using the link below:

Storage of Ethnographic Collections Material: Challenges and Solutions – 25 January 2018.

BBC Civilisations Festival

The festival runs from Friday 2 March to Sunday 11 March. Sign up your organisation as a Civilisations Festival Partner. It'll give you access to the Civilisations branding so that you can tell your visitors and audiences about events that will be part of the Festival.

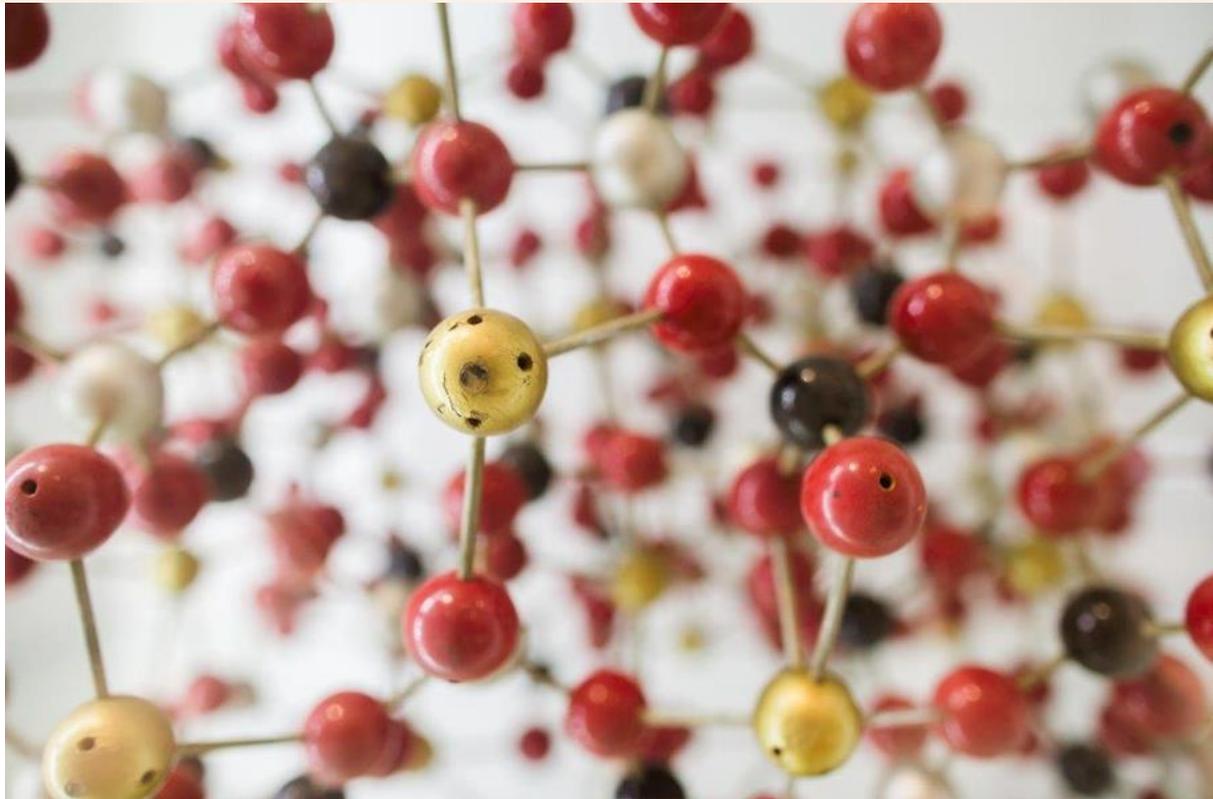
Being a Civilisations Festival Partner will also unlock exciting opportunities using digital tools and the BBC's archive.

Sign-up [here](#) to become a Civilisations Festival Partner and to receive newsletters.

Subject Specialist Networks

The new Subject Specialist Networks website can be found at <https://subjectspecialistnetworks.org.uk/>.

Opportunities



Art Fund_

Art Fund has launched the fourth round of New Collecting Awards

Through the New Collecting Awards programme Art Fund aim to support curators across the UK to build critical professional skills by pursuing new avenues of collecting for their museums. Offering 100% funding for focused collecting projects of the highest quality, the scheme enables curators to expand museum collections of fine art, design or visual culture into exciting new areas, or to deepen existing holdings in imaginative ways. Each awardee also receives a generous funding allocation towards research, travel and training costs to facilitate their proposed collecting plans and professional development.

Over the last two years 17 awards totalling £1million has been given for acquisition projects ranging from Modernist jewellery to cartographic material. Typical grant awards fall between £50,000 and £80,000 and applications from curators who are in the early stages of their career or have had limited opportunities to collect are welcomed.

Please see [here](#) for further information on aims, eligibility and how to apply. The deadline for applications is **13 February 2018**.

Museums Resilient Leadership 2018-2019

Applications are now open for the Museums and Resilient Leadership Programme (MRL) - a unique year-long development course fully funded by Arts Council England.

Described as 'life changing', it is designed to help you become a cultural leader for the 21st Century, resilient and entrepreneurial.

Participants receive £7,500 worth of leadership training, comprising:

- a 5 day overseas study visit to cultural organisations in a country of your choice
- 2 x 3 day residential workshops
- 8 workshops and masterclasses on leadership, governance, finance, skills and models
- an online leadership resource bank
- a personal mentor and coach

The Programme draws on a wealth of knowledge and insight about leadership in the cultural and commercial sectors. It puts this learning at your disposal in inspirational settings.

Go to the [MRL website](#) to find out more and follow the link to apply for the Programme.

Applications are open until **5pm, 31 January 2018**.

British Association of Friends of Museums Travel Award Bursary 2018

British Association of Friends of Museums (BAFM) is an independent organisation established in 1973 for friends, volunteers and supporters in museums, galleries and heritage sites representing more than 200,000 friends and volunteers across the UK.

BAFM is again offering its bi-annual Travel Award. The winner may be either totally committed volunteers of any age (who devote many hours supporting their museum or gallery) or a young professional who is starting their career in the museum world.

Funded travel could be within the UK or abroad and the winner would spend time at their chosen destination working behind the scenes, in order to extend their experience and make contacts for the future. Alternatively the travel could be in the form of a short duration internship, or the chance to work alongside a respected specialist.

For more details, including how to apply please visit their [website](#).

Deadline for submissions: **30 April**

Apply for a greater Europe travel grant

The ICOM UK – HWB Travel Grant scheme enables staff from non-national museums to undertake an international visit to meet with international museum colleagues and mutually share skills, expertise and experience. Mutually beneficial projects and partnerships can include all aspects of museum work. For inspiration, read the case studies from previous grant recipients on the [ICOM UK website](#).

Applications will be considered for grants of up to £700 per organisation. The full list of EU and greater Europe countries that applicants are eligible to visit can be found on the Travel Grant Scheme Application Form. For further information and to download the application form click [here](#).

Deadline for applications: **Monday 5 February 2018**

Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund - Round 15

The Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund, run by the Museums Association, funds projects which develop collections to achieve social impact.

Museums, galleries and heritage organisations from across the UK can apply for a grant of between £20,000 and £120,000 for a project lasting up to three years.

There are two application rounds each year with a short initial application form. The deadline for the current round is **5pm, 28 February 2018**. To find out more and how to apply [click here](#).

Shortlisted applicants are then invited to make a full application. The [guidance](#) for applicants has changed substantially, and all potential applicants should read it carefully before applying.

Art Fund

Jonathan Ruffer Curatorial Grants 2018 deadlines

This funding scheme through Art Fund is open to curators and other professionals working with public collections. It aims to help individuals realise their curatorial ambitions, through offering

grants for collections-based research and curatorial development opportunities. £75,000 is available annually. Over 320 museum professionals have been helped with 294 projects since the programme launched in 2012. Full details of the grants, how to apply and previous awards can be found [here](#).

Small grant applications can be made at any point throughout the year, while applications over £1,500 are considered at committee meetings three times a year. The deadlines for 2018 are as follows:

Application deadline	Date of meeting
19 February	23 March
7 May	4 June
17 September	15 October

Archives Revealed

'Archives Revealed' is a partnership programme between The National Archives and The Pilgrim Trust. It is the only funding stream available in the UK dedicated to cataloguing and unlocking archives.

The fund is comprised of two funding strands: Cataloguing grants (up to £40,000) and Scoping Grants (up to £3,000).

Please visit [their website](#) for closing dates and further information.

The Idlewild Trust – Conservation Grants

The Idlewild Trust supports the conservation of important works of art and objects that are being lost through the lack of funds to look after these works. Works must be in museums, galleries, places of worship, and historic buildings or their grounds, and be accessible to the public.

Their average grant is £3,147 and the next closing date is 8 February 2018.

See [their website](#) for more information.



Acting Museum Manager, Event, Marketing & Fundraising Officer

Erasmus Darwin House, an independent Museum and registered charity, is looking for an Acting Manager for six months to cover staff absence. This is an exciting opportunity to take a central role in both managing and promoting this busy heritage site. The position requires someone with exceptional interpersonal skills to deal with their volunteers and the general public; someone interested and enthusiastic to work with the small and dedicated team in the day to day running of operations and events and someone focused in planning for their future. For more information click [here](#).

4 days per week (30 hours) - must be available to work weekends and evenings (taken as time in lieu)

Salary: £12 per hour

Applications must be in writing by **19 January 2018**.

Interviews will be held on 26 January 2018 or as soon as practicable thereafter with a view to an immediate start.

Please send applications by post only (no email) to Mrs J Arthur, Erasmus Darwin House, Beacon Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 7AD. Applicants should include a full CV and a detailed covering letter (responding to the job description) outlining how and why they are suitable for the position.

Tender Opportunity: Evaluation of British Museum's Knowledge Exchange Programme

The British Museum National Programmes team is seeking an experienced consultant to undertake an evaluation of the Knowledge Exchange programme, mapping its reach over the 10 years of delivery so far and assessing its impact for participants, their work and their organisations.

Further information is available in [Knowledge Exchange Evaluation Brief](#). Deadline for proposals is **29 January**.

For further details regarding this project please contact: [Georgia Mallin](#), UK Partnerships Co-ordinator, The British Museum by email or call 020 7323 8266.

Storyteller Opportunity

Staffordshire County Museum are looking for a storyteller to prepare and deliver participatory and interactive storytelling sessions inspired by the theme of childhood and Staffordshire County Museum collections, which successfully engage with both people living with dementia and children under five.

This would involve delivering two sessions for people living with dementia and two sessions for young children and, if possible one final session bringing together the two different age groups. This would be the equivalent of three full days, incorporating half a day preparation time with museum staff and the museum collections.

Fee: £300 per day (3 days total)

Closing date: **29 January**

Please contact [Natalie Heidaripour](#), Museum Resilience Project Officer for a copy of the brief or phone 01889 869139. Alternatively by post: Archives & Heritage, Staffordshire County Council, Shugborough, Milford, Stafford, ST17 0XB.

Collections Care Skills Sharing Programme

Do you have a collections management skill that you could share with colleagues from other museums or are you looking for an opportunity to develop a skill in a particular area of collections care? Perhaps you would like to gain experience in collections care work or just find out more about it?

The WMMD Skills Sharing Programme aims to connect staff and volunteers from across the region's museums with opportunities to develop collections care skills through hands on practical experience. Museums are invited to get in touch with offers of potential activities that could be offered to skills seekers. Alternatively if you are looking for an opportunity to work with collections please let us know and we will try to match you up.

If you have a potential **skills sharing opportunity** to offer, or if you are looking to **develop a new collections care skill** please click on the links or contact **Helen Johnson** for more details. Opportunities will be advertised through the WMMD updates and newsletters.

Volunteer Portal

The regional [Volunteer Portal](#) offers Accredited museums and those officially Working Towards Accreditation the opportunity to advertise for volunteers.

Please click below if you would like to register your museum. You don't need to have any current opportunities to register.

[Register your museum for the Volunteer Portal](#)

Resources

www.mdwm.org.uk/resources has a wide range of resources drawn from our programme and workshops which can be accessed by Accredited museums and those officially Working Towards. If you would like to access these resources please email wmmd@ironbridge.org.uk for a password.

Keep up to date with the Leicester University Museum Studies jobs desk site [here](#).

Images © Lee Allen Photography

Lapworth Museum of Geology, Breaking Boundaries Conference, Leamington Spa Museum and Art Gallery, Oak House Museum, Lapworth Museum of Geology

What we need from you.....

There are still many museum staff, volunteers and trustees within the West Midlands who do not receive our newsletter.

PLEASE make sure your colleagues don't miss out and forward this newsletter today!

To sign up for our newsletter visit [our website](#) and submit your email address at the bottom of our home page or at the bottom of all our web pages.

Keep in touch /
E-News

With all the latest news and events from
west midlands museum development team

Helping the museum sector develop, thrive and
collaborate

OR...

Newsletter signup /



West Midlands Museum Development
c/o The Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust
Coalbrookdale
Telford
Shropshire
TF8 7DQ
Tel 01952 435900
wmmd@ironbridge.org.uk