



# Arts Award Supporter

Inspire young people

Reach new audiences

**TRINITY**  
COLLEGE LONDON



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

## What is Arts Award?

Arts Award's unique qualifications inspire young people to take part in the arts. Young people can work in any art form, including behind-the-scenes roles.

Arts Award can be achieved at five levels: four qualifications and an introductory award. The highest level, Gold, carries valuable UCAS points. Arts Award advisers facilitate young people's journeys through the award programme, then assess their arts log or portfolio.

Arts Award is available throughout the UK and is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England.



Dorfman Hub at the Roundhouse *photo Peter Schiazza*

## What is Arts Award Supporter?

To achieve their Arts Award, young people experience professional art work, get inspired by artists, take part in arts activities and find out about arts careers. Those doing their award through a school or youth group may need additional arts input to help them get the most out of their award or may have interests outside their centre's expertise.

This is where **Arts Award Supporters** come in! Supporters **offer arts opportunities** which are relevant to **young people doing their Arts Award**. You don't need to run the Arts Award qualification, just think about how your existing programmes could contribute to Arts Award.

When you sign up as a Supporter your 'starter kit' explains the Arts Award qualifications and provides suggestions for activities which could support each Arts Award level.



There are thousands of Arts Award centres delivering the awards across the UK, from schools and colleges to arts organisations and museums. Between 2005 and 2015, over 200,000 Arts Awards were achieved by young people and the number keeps growing. To find the latest participation figures go to [artsaward.org.uk/stats](http://artsaward.org.uk/stats)

### Why become a Supporter? Five good reasons!

- 1 Promote your programme to young people looking for arts experiences
- 2 Reach a new audience of schools and youth groups
- 3 Get help to meet your education targets
- 4 Support young people to achieve national qualifications
- 5 Join the Arts Award community! Get resources and link up with projects and partners

### What do I need to offer?

There are many ways in which you could support young people doing their Arts Award. You probably already offer relevant activities – check the following suggestions:

**Arts centre** workshops and classes in pottery, textiles, fashion, music, dance, drama

**Gallery** meet the artist, workshops, opportunities to exhibit

**Heritage venue** tours, creative workshops

**Library** help with research, storytelling time, writing workshops, meeting local writers

**Media organisation** training in podcasts, blogs, websites, videos

**Museum** tours, help with research, workshops based around an exhibit, 'behind-the-scenes' sessions

**Theatre** free/reduced ticket prices, drama clubs, meet the actor/director, masterclasses, backstage tours

### What are the benefits for us?

'The benefits to National Museums Liverpool are that more young people are engaging with our formal and informal arts programme. Working with young people towards Arts Award helps us understand this key market.'

Jo Connor,  
Education Manager



### What's the difference between a centre and a Supporter?

An **Arts Award centre** has trained Arts Award advisers who can deliver and assess the young people's work.

Find out more at [artsaward.org.uk](http://artsaward.org.uk)

A **Supporter** organisation does not need Arts Award advisers, but provides opportunities for young people to work towards a section of their Arts Award.

You can be both a centre and a Supporter if you run the award and also offer opportunities to other groups.



## Case studies

These three organisations have made the most of being a Supporter



**Making Space** is a unique craft venue. They offer contemporary craft, design and visual arts workshops to young people in their fully-equipped teaching spaces – a jewellery studio and a ceramics studio.

‘The structure of Arts Award can easily be embedded into your session plan and helps young people discover new things about how the arts are part of their life. It opens their eyes to new experiences, artists and art forms.’

**Ami Lowman, Marketing & Education Programmer, Making Space**



**The Poetry Society** runs a ‘Poets in Schools’ programme matching schools with poets who work directly with young people to develop their writing. Their website has lots of information to help and support young poets.

‘Being an Arts Award Supporter allows us to support young people to gain their Arts Award through the work they do with us, within a structured programme.’

**Rachel Piercy, Education Coordinator, Poetry Society**



**Culture Works East** partners with **Latitude Festival** to develop and deliver the festival’s Supporter offer, giving young people access to a huge range of workshops and events across the arts including music, theatre, dance, poetry and comedy.

‘Arts Award provides a fantastic model to expand young people’s experience at festivals and we’re very thrilled to be working on such an ambitious and accessible project.’

**Sharon Reuben, Family Areas Curator, Latitude Festival**

*photos: Ami Lowman, Hayley Madden, Kim Hipperson*

## What’s the next step? Sign up!

Simply visit [artsaward.org.uk/supporter](https://artsaward.org.uk/supporter) and click through to our short online induction, then register – it’s free!

**Any questions?** Contact [supporter@artsaward.org.uk](mailto:supporter@artsaward.org.uk) or phone 020 7820 6178

