

**Arts Award  
for Museums  
and Heritage**

**arts  
award**

**TRINITY**  
COLLEGE LONDON



**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# Introduction

## What is Arts Award?

Arts Award is a unique set of qualifications that supports children and young people to enjoy the arts, culture and heritage and develop as artists and arts leaders.

*Arts Award is rewarding for museums and young people - it's flexible and supports skills learning. It's also a brilliant way to bring young people's voices and ideas into your museum.*

**Alison Bowyer,  
Executive Director Kids in Museums.**

For Arts Award artists are anyone with a creative job: curators, conservators, collectors, designers, inventors, makers, interpretation writers, digital artists and marketing. We also celebrate the famous names in your collection and the unknown people who made museum objects like pottery, masks or furniture.

Arts Award is open to any young person up to 25 supported by an adviser who could be from your museum, an artist, a teacher or a freelancer.

There are lots of creative jobs and opportunities in museums. Here are just a few to illustrate how every part of your organisation can support Arts Award and creative learning.

curators	conservators	collectors
makers	interpretation	digital designers
lighting designers	learning and outreach	architects
designers	inventors	taxidermists
artists	exhibition managers	archivists

Cover: Horniman Museum photo Caroline Bray



Peterborough Museum photos Caroline Bray

## What does Arts Award offer young audiences and visitors?

Arts Award gives children and young people a nationally recognised qualification by accrediting their work with your museum.

Museums delivering Arts Award have seen benefits to children and young people including:

- ▶ deepening their engagement with their collections through spending more time in museums
- ▶ developing confidence, creativity and leadership skills
- ▶ broadening their perceptions of what art is
- ▶ finding out about careers in museums and heritage

Arts Award can support new insights and perspectives:

*We met a lot of people, like living history. We hear a lot about battles, not always the social history which gives a place its identity.*

**Stirling Heritage participant**

## What does Arts Award offer museums?

- ▶ A way to build long term engagement with schools and young people
- ▶ A framework for children and young people to explore heritage using museums, archives and historic houses
- ▶ An opportunity to interpret your collections in new and diverse ways with young people
- ▶ Audience development: museums tell us that children and young people who have taken part in Arts Award projects often return with their parents and friends
- ▶ Accreditation that works for all children and young people, including those with SEND or access and inclusion needs
- ▶ Measurable outcomes for project funders and other stakeholders
- ▶ Evidence that your learning programme has rigour and is engaging

# How do museums use Arts Award?



Stirling Heritage Arts Award photo © Julie Howden

## ...to explore local heritage

In Stirling a group of young people used the Silver Arts Award as a framework to explore the city's heritage, both on the ground and using Historic Environment Scotland's online learning service Scran. They used their new creative skills to design an Arts Award Discover trail that gets children and families thinking about what heritage means to them.

Arts Award provided a creative & exciting way to engage with a fresh audience during Scotland's Year of Young People, to explore new ways to enjoy the digital archives and collections on offer.

Jackie Sangster, Learning Manager,  
Historic Environment Scotland

## ...to provide focus for visits

The Richard Jefferies Museum has created its own Arts Award Discover log book that supports young people to explore the Victorian nature writer and his passion for the countryside.



Richard Jefferies Museum photo Hilda Sheehan

Arts Award has become a big part of how we engage young people in our museum. It gives a shape to school visits and allows children to work towards something solid while also gaining an authentic experience in our house and gardens

Hilda Sheehan,  
Learning Officer, Richard Jefferies Museum

## ...as workforce development

At Fulham Palace, Arts Award helps heritage trainees develop their own project management and interpersonal skills as advisers, supporting young people to develop their creative skill set through Arts Award.

Being an Arts Award adviser helped me understand how to use Fulham Palace's beautiful grounds and rich history as creative inspiration. The young people worked with a designer to create a 'Pop-Up Palace' to engage the public with Fulham Palace whilst it is undergoing restoration works.

Jasmin Azeez,  
Heritage Learning Trainee

## ...to work in partnership

Children's artwork from an Arts Award Discover project involving 10 museums was displayed along Hadrians Wall in response to Hadrians Cavalry, a 'dispersed exhibition' of national and international loans. Each museum worked with a school or community partner around the theme of Roman Cavalry.

The museums chose their school/group with the aim of working with new partners or to further develop existing relationships. For example, The Roman Army Museum selected Girl Guiding as their partner because they wanted to challenge the assumption about girls not visiting military museums.

Karen MacDougall,  
MacDougall Art

## Support



University Museum of Zoology photo Caroline Bray



Ancient House Museum of Thetford Life photo Paul Mavren

### [artsaward.org.uk/contact](https://artsaward.org.uk/contact)

Our dedicated support team provides phone and email advice to trained advisers.

### [artsaward.org.uk/blog](https://artsaward.org.uk/blog)

Stories, news and advice from the Arts Award community including guest blogs from moderators, advisers, Trinity Champion Centres and partners.

### [artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub](https://artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub)

The adviser hub is a website packed with resources to support you with planning, delivery and assessment of Arts Award.

### [artsaward.org.uk/accessfundinfo](https://artsaward.org.uk/accessfundinfo)

The Access Fund offers an opportunity to apply for a small grant to support the costs of your Arts Award project with young people facing challenges.

### [artsaward.org.uk/bridges](https://artsaward.org.uk/bridges)

Arts Council England's 10 Bridge organisations support the development of Arts Award within their region.

### [artsaward.org.uk/supporter](https://artsaward.org.uk/supporter)

Organisations which have registered as Arts Award Supporters offer activities, events, expertise or resources that help young people working towards Arts Award.

### [voicemag.uk/artsaward](https://voicemag.uk/artsaward)

Arts Award stories and advice for young people from a magazine for young creatives covering arts, culture, politics and technology.

## Funding for museum Arts Award projects



Black Country Living Museum photo Caroline Bray

Did you know you can now apply to Arts Council England's Project Grants for funding for your project including the costs of getting started and running Arts Award?

[artscouncilengland.org.uk/projectgrants](https://artscouncilengland.org.uk/projectgrants)

The National Lottery Heritage Fund offers grants of £3,000 upwards for projects that connect people and communities to the heritage of the UK. Outcomes they support include skills development for people over 14 and apprenticeships.

[heritagefund.org.uk](https://heritagefund.org.uk)

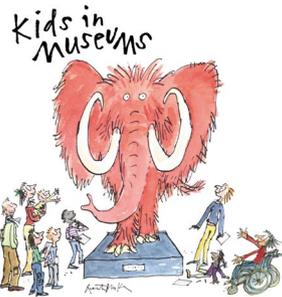
# Partners

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## GEM

GEM champions excellence in heritage learning to improve the education, health and wellbeing of the general public. Arts Award and GEM have worked together to produce this resource.



## Kids in Museums

Kids in Museums work with museums to help them welcome and include families, teenagers and children. We have created two popular resources together, 'Five reasons why your museum should be doing Arts Award' and 'How can Takeover Day be used for Arts Award?'



**Historic  
Royal Palaces**

## Historic Royal Palaces

Historic Royal Palaces bring six extraordinary places and their stories to life. Together we created a workshop for teachers showing how historic houses provide a rich source of inspiration for cross-curricular learning and Arts Award.