

The Curious Institute presents ...



The Cultural Education Leadership Programme

Context:

The Cultural Education Challenge was launched by Arts Council England in the midst of change in both the Education and Cultural sectors. Schools are experiencing huge challenge to their ability to protect their arts and cultural provision. Schools need strong ambassadors for cultural education more than ever before. In response to this, Curious Minds have already invested in over 30 teachers who are developing as Specialist Leaders of Cultural Education (SLiCE). They are influential advocates for the power of culture across their schools networks. It is a systems leadership approach that we believe needs to be mirrored in the cultural sector.

Many Cultural organisations are also experiencing a high degree of challenge in maintaining or developing members of staff who can dedicate themselves to schools work. This Leadership programme is an investment from Curious Minds designed to protect, nurture and develop a team of credible schools experts from within the North West's cultural sector who can strengthen the ability of Cultural organisations to work in partnership with schools and will take that passion and expertise with them as they develop as future leaders of learning departments, artistic directors or managers of venues.

What is the Cultural Education Leadership Programme?

The Cultural Education Leadership Programme is a new annual, year-long leadership development opportunity that, over 3 years, will create a talent pool of 20 credible schools specialists working in the North West's National Portfolio Organisations, in arts organisations, Museums/Heritage settings and Libraries.

Who is it aimed at?

Each year, we will award Fellowships to around 7 carefully selected people drawn from existing education or learning roles across the North West's Cultural Sector.

- Applicants will be early to mid-career and demonstrate a passion for Cultural Education.
- Applicants may have some experience or knowledge of working with schools, but will be eager to go deeper. They will hone their knowledge and experience in such a way that they become credible schools specialists, able to influence and advise their own organisations and the wider cultural sector.
- Applicants will be identified as 'emerging leaders' and have the potential and ambition to be future senior leaders within the Cultural Sector.

Content of the programme:

Fellows will access between 15-20 days of inspirational learning across the year curated and delivered by Curious Minds with contributions from regional and national experts.

Contributors to the learning programme may include :

Regional and National Leaders of Education	Cultural Education Leaders from nationally significant organisations	Clore Leadership Fellows and alumni
The Cultural Learning Alliance	The Education Endowment Foundation	Leadership experts and coaches

Fellows learning will take place during two residential leadership courses at the beautiful leadership venue 'successfactory' in Cheshire www.successfactoryvenue.co.uk/

- 2 night residential in October : 17th, 18th, 19th 2016
- 1 night residential in March dates TBC
- 3 intensive group workshop days across the year.

Learning outcomes

The programme will focus on developing **leadership themes** such as ...

- Developing your leadership style
- How to advocate and influence
- Public speaking/engagement
- Measuring impact and analysing need
- Understanding how to make strategic change

and increasing **specialist knowledge** in areas such as...

- Understanding the Cultural Education landscape
- National policy and practice of schools and education
- Understanding how schools are funded, managed and governed
- Curriculum and examination requirements

Fellows will also...

be offered time with a coach or mentor to support their individual reflection and learning	become a School Governor	network with existing SLICE teachers and share practice
take part in a short school placement (approx 4-5 days) taking place between January and March 2017	with their placement school be challenged to design, lead and co-host an 'advocacy' event aiming to involve a minimum of 10 schools and other cultural organisations (eg a 'teachmeet')	be given the option of submitting a proposal for a collective action project

We also hope to offer HE accreditation for the learning.

Outcomes

On completion of the leadership program, Fellows will be able to...

- Demonstrate a sound understanding of key cultural education and education policies and research
- Demonstrate an understanding of the current education landscape including relevant challenges and opportunities for schools
- Draw on first-hand experience of the day to day reality of art form teachers and school decision makers
- Speak powerfully about the benefits of cultural education to their peers, schools and senior leaders from both culture and education
- Advise others on key Cultural Education programmes such as Arts Award and Artsmark
- Demonstrate an improved ability to think and plan strategically, and analyse impact
- Demonstrate an awareness of their leadership strengths and areas for development

How will the leaders benefit the wider sector?



Deployment

In year 1:

Fellows will be asked to plan and lead one advocacy event or briefing that will benefit their cultural sector peers and a minimum of 10 schools by providing opportunities for new partnership working.

In year 2:

It is a requirement that both the fellows and their employers make it possible for the Fellows to be deployed by Curious Minds as Cultural Education advocates and Schools specialists for a minimum of 5 days in year 2. This may include speaking at events, offering advice or support to other organisations, supporting schools with Artsmark or their peers with Arts Award.

Logistics and application process

Funding

The cost of each fellowship is in the region of £5000 and this cost will be covered in full by Curious Minds for the successful applicants. Curious Minds will also make up to £3000 available to your current employer to backfill your posts during your time on placement.

Support from your current organisation

Your current employer must be willing to:

- Write you a recommendation
- Release you on the required dates
- Allow you time and support to reflect on the process throughout
- Support you by allowing a reasonable time allowance to become a school governor
- Create an opportunity for you to present your learning back to your organisation
- Give feedback to Curious Minds about the impact of the fellowship on their organisation
- Release you for a minimum of 5 days in the year following your 'graduation' for deployment.

Application process and timescales

Applications will be welcomed throughout July and August. August 30th is the deadline. Some elements of the application form will be anonymised and shortlisting will involve an external panel scoring these anonymised sections.

Visit the Curious Minds website for an application form.

Interviews will take place on 14th and 15th September.

The induction will take place on October 17th, 18th, 19th.