



# Learning Academy

Professional Development  
Programme

Autumn 2017 - Spring 2018

# V&A





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Cover image: Susan Catcher, Senior Paper Conservator, at work in the studio

Image left: V&A Curating Fashion and Dress



# The V&A Learning Academy Professional Development Programme

Are you considering a career in galleries and museums? Are you already working in the heritage sector and want to improve or acquire new skills? Would you like to access the expertise of key staff and contacts at a national museum?

Then why not join the V&A's new short, intensive courses which aim to provide the skills needed to work in today's museums and galleries. Taught by V&A staff, the courses focus on practical training and use V&A collections, best practice and current projects as case studies.

Topics include: Digital Media, Innovative Learning, Curating Exhibitions, Interpretation Strategy, Performance-based Programming and Object Handling.

## HOW TO BOOK

With limited spaces on each course, book now online at [vam.ac.uk/CPD](http://vam.ac.uk/CPD) or call **020 7942 2000**

For further information about our courses or options for accommodation please call **020 7942 2195** or email Malini Balluck at [m.balluck@vam.ac.uk](mailto:m.balluck@vam.ac.uk)

Details of current International Training Programmes can be found online at [vam.ac.uk/internationaltraining](http://vam.ac.uk/internationaltraining) or for further information please email [internationaltraining@vam.ac.uk](mailto:internationaltraining@vam.ac.uk)





## Summer 2017

### MAY

## Plastics in Collections

25 May 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

Plastics are widely found in museum objects, but how do we identify them and ensure that we deal with any possible ticking time bombs? This one-day workshop introduces the different types of plastics and highlights those most at risk in collections.

A wide variety of objects made from different types of plastics will allow participants to become familiar with the sensory properties of different plastics such as appearance, smell, and feel, and to practice methods of discriminating between them.

*Price: £195, Concessions £175*

### JUNE

## Creating the Contemporary: Working with Contemporary Artists and Designers in Museums

8 – 9 June 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

Collaborations with artists and designers are advantageous for museums as they allow for creative freedoms in exhibition spaces and new ways of interpreting collections.

This two-day course is a unique opportunity to harness the V&A's extensive expertise, exploring different ways of working with contemporary artists and designers, enabling participants to explore the unique potential of their own institutions.

*Price: £295, Concession £240*



Autumn/Winter 2017

SEPTEMBER

## Inside the Museum: The V&A's 12 week Museum Skills Course

Wednesdays, 6 September - 29 November 2017  
(Half Term 18 October, 10:30 - 15:30)

Considering a career in galleries and museums? New to the heritage sector and looking to gain valuable practical experience while making new contacts? Draw on the expertise of staff from across the V&A in a course that aims to provide an insight into the skills required for working within a museum.

The course features a combination of taught sessions and behind the scenes access to the V&A's collections and practitioners. Drawing upon case studies conducted in the museum, individual sessions will be taught by specialist V&A staff and will explore the internal workings of the V&A - winner of the Art Fund Museum of the Year 2016.

Session topics will include: collections management, research, learning and interpretation, public programming, marketing, exhibitions, and audience engagement.

*Price: £1250 incl. VAT*

For further information about our programmes or accommodation please call 020 7942 2195 or email Malini Balluck at [m.balluck@vam.ac.uk](mailto:m.balluck@vam.ac.uk)

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## Art and Law Training

7 – 8 September, 10.30 – 16.30



INSTITUTE  
OF  
ART & LAW

The V&A and the Institute of Art & Law (IAL) have teamed up to co-deliver a two-day course for museum and gallery professionals, covering a number of central legal issues relating to acquisition, collections management and curatorship. This course will introduce matters relating to legal title, contract law, due diligence and international loans, as well as intellectual property. Combining lectures with in-depth case studies, explore first-hand experiences of lawyers, curators, registrars, and collections staff.

The IAL has been offering courses on Art and Law in the UK and abroad for over twenty years and provides unique expertise in the field.

*Price: £550, Concessions £495*

## Planning and Writing your Interpretation

21 – 22 September 2017, 10.30 – 17.00

This two-day course will help participants understand the questions that need to be addressed when developing an interpretation strategy for a museum or gallery. Gain useful tools to help plan and ultimately design a permanent gallery space or temporary display, while learning how to write engaging, informative, and effective text panels to accompany museum objects.

*Price: £295, Concession £240*

*“Really good to have a practical course underpinned by relevant academic theory and wide range of examples”*

Image: Public Tours in Conservation, 2016

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# How to Handle, Mark and Store Museum Objects

28 – 29 September 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

Inappropriate or mis-handling is one of the most frequent causes of damage to museum collections. This two-day course demonstrates the best and safest ways to handle objects and hands-on training, focusing on different materials and types. It also addresses display and storage solutions, the use of support materials, the risks of lifting, manipulating and moving, and when to request professional help. An overview of object marking, how and why we document objects with museum numbers, will also be included.

*Price: £295, Concession £240*

## OCTOBER

# Getting the Most from Digital Media

5 – 6 October 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

The digital revolution has helped museums reach wider audiences than ever. It has changed how visitors engage with our collections, our buildings, and our people; but how do we make sure that digital activity is reaching the right audiences and delivering results? How do we define a vision and a purpose for digital activity? How do we use technology, content, and design to tell stories and build experiences that engage our audiences, reflect a brand, and help drive income generation?

Whether you're working within a digital team or using digital media in your own role, this course will help give an overview of what's possible and some tactical tips on how to get results.

*Price: £295, Concession £240*







## Innovative Leadership Programme

10 October 2017 – July 2018

(12 workshops and 8 action learning sessions)

The V&A Innovative Leadership Programme has been helping people develop new skills, insights and opportunities for more than a decade. Our one-year programme for experienced practitioners and managers brings together seminars, workshops, action learning, individual coaching, mentoring, and online learning resources to create a powerful tool for personal and professional growth.

### WHY INNOVATIVE?

Virtually every organisation has innovation and creativity at the heart of its strategy but very few manage to enable the cultural permission required for it to succeed. This programme encourages you to put your creativity, expertise, and learning into action in order for your work and career to flourish.

### WHAT WILL I GET?

- 12 workshops covering leading, learning, creating, resolving conflict, presenting, strategy, ethics and change
- 8+ sessions of Action Learning – peer to peer consulting to best apply what you learn to your work and career
- An enhanced sense of personal presence and confidence
- An increased ability to work effectively with group and power dynamics in organisations
- A tight-knit supportive network of peers with whom you will have shared significant moments of your development

*Price: £3,300 + VAT*

Image: V&A Event, The Salon

## Creating the Visitor Experience

12 – 13 October 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

An increasing number of people are coming to museums and galleries for an 'experience' and have high expectations of what that should be. As part of the broader visitor attraction market, how does a museum look after a wide range of visitors and help them enjoy all it has to offer?

This two-day course will examine the ways in which museums are becoming led by visitor needs and will address strategies for approaching a variety of issues, including exhibitions, ticketing, and wayfinding, as well as recruiting and working with a team of volunteers.

*Price: £295, Concession £240*

## Cultural Enterprise: Income Generation for Museums and Galleries

18 – 20 October 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

Cultural organisations are increasingly being tasked with generating income, but how do we learn how to identify and monetise our assets? This course is aimed at anyone working in museums or the cultural heritage sector looking to improve and expand their knowledge of commerce and enterprise. Led by specialist staff from the V&A, it considers a selection of core topics such as catering, filming, ticketed events, licensing, and merchandise.

*Price: £550, Concession £495*







## Placing Performance in the Museum

27 October 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

The V&A's Theatre & Performance collections are an incredible resource that document the history of performing arts, including drama, dance, opera, costume, and set design.

This one-day course will look at the different ways performance is used in the museum and how it engages with the collection. Understand how the V&A commissions site specific performances and how to programme performance for different audiences whilst managing the practicalities and logistics of working on a historic site.

*Price: £195, Concessions £175*

## NOVEMBER How to Organise an Exhibition

1 – 3 November 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

This three-day course covers a wide range of practical aspects associated with developing a temporary exhibition, from concept to opening. Delivered by members of the V&A's Exhibitions department, the course will use a range of recent V&A exhibitions as case studies to explore the key elements involved with managing an exhibition, from planning and liaising with lenders, to design development and object installation.

*Price: £550, Concession £495*

Image: Practical workshop in the British Galleries, 2016

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## Creating Family Backpacks, Resources & Trails

7 November 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

Join the V&A's Family Programming team for detailed insight into the development of award-winning self-led resources and activities for family audiences. Learn about designing and developing backpacks and trails in-house and with external companies as well as creating drop-in activities for large audiences. During the day you will be able to try out the Museum's resources and put learning into practice by developing an idea for your own resource and trialling it with your peers. Through this hands-on course, you will come away with clarity about defining an idea, how to make it happen, the practicalities of managing self-led resources, and how to evaluate them.

**Price: £125, Concessions £105**

*"I have really enjoyed speaking with your staff and with other participants – very much enjoyed the creative and collaborative approach"*

## Getting it there in One Piece: Museum Courier Training

10 November 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

This one-day course is suitable for museum professionals who need to develop an awareness of the responsibilities involved in acting as a courier of cultural objects. The course will cover the different stages of the courier trip and best practice associated with courier work. It will look at the personal qualities required and how to mitigate risks to objects effectively and professionally.

**Price: £195, Concessions £175**







## Inclusion, Participation and Outreach: Creating Programmes for Community Audiences

16 November 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

The V&A runs a varied and diverse community programme which addresses barriers to engagement through innovative and diverse programming. This one-day course will look at the ways in which museums and cultural institutions engage with different communities in an effective way, and how to create impact through programming.

*Price: £125, Concessions £105*

*“This was a really warm and inclusive training session. It was full of different ideas but also a space for discussion”*

## How to Run an Artist in Residence Programme

21 November 2017, 10.30 – 16.30

This one-day workshop will provide an overview of the financial, curatorial, legal, and practical considerations of establishing a residency programme. The course will focus on the practicalities of working with resident artists, from the fundraising stage to the selection process, the production of new work, displays, copyright, contracts and learning/public engagement programmes.

*Price: £195, Concessions £175*

Image: V&A Friday Late & Weekend Summer Camp

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# International Training Programmes

## Curating Fashion and Dress

26 – 30 June 2017

Application Deadline: Sunday 7 May 2017

5 – 9 February 2018

Application Deadline: Sunday 10 December 2017

Spanning four centuries, the V&A's Fashion collection is one of the largest and most comprehensive in the world. V&A fashion exhibitions have attracted millions of visitors enabling the Museum to develop an extraordinary wealth of expertise in the field of curating fashion and dress. This one-week intensive course provides a unique opportunity for museum professionals from overseas who are interested in harnessing the V&A's extensive expertise to develop their own fashion and dress curation skills and enhance their collections.

£1,150 + VAT

## Creating Innovative Learning Programmes

3 – 7 July 2017

Application Deadline: Sunday 14 May 2017

20 – 24 November 2017

Application Deadline: Sunday 8 October 2017

This one-week intensive course on museum learning and public programmes is a unique training opportunity for museum professionals from overseas who are interested in attracting and programming for a range of museum audiences from children, young people and schools, through in-depth courses for adults.

£1,150 + VAT

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## The Making of Exhibitions

29 January – 2 February 2018

Application Deadline: Sunday 3 December 2017

This course is aimed at museum professionals looking to broaden and deepen their knowledge of producing temporary exhibitions, both headline shows and small-scale displays. With presentations and workshops from members of the V&A's Exhibitions Department and colleagues from across the Museum, a range of recent V&A exhibitions will be used as case studies to explore the key elements of managing an exhibition. This will include concept development and the design process through to build and object installation, as well as sessions for carrying out successful press, marketing, and digital campaigns.

£1,150 + VAT

## Generating New Income Streams

12 – 16 March 2018

Application Deadline: Sunday 21 January 2018

All cultural organisations are increasingly being tasked with generating an income and diversifying their funding sources, but how do museums, galleries, arts venues, and heritage sites learn how to identify and monetise their assets without compromising their cultural missions? Led by specialist staff from the V&A, this course considers a selection of core topics - such as retail, membership, ticketed events, venue hire, catering and licensing - that will complement and support the visitor experience, whilst also generating income.

£1,200 + VAT

Image: V&A Creating Innovative Learning Programmes

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[vam.ac.uk/CPD](http://vam.ac.uk/CPD)

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