

Press Release
12 March 2013

Whitechapel Gallery Receives a Creative Apprentice Employer of the Year 2013 Award

The Whitechapel Gallery has received one of four prestigious Creative Apprentice Employer of the Year 2013 Awards, for Creative Apprenticeship Promotion. At a special ceremony at the O2 Arena, the Creative & Cultural Skills and the National Skills Academy praised the Gallery's work in giving young people not only the expertise but crucially the confidence to forge their careers.

Receiving the award for its contribution of resources and experience to the Creative Apprenticeship, the judges were especially impressed with the Gallery's collaborative work with the Victoria & Albert Museum.

With the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund; the Creative Apprentice scheme; work experience placements in collaboration with A New Direction and START; and private initiatives such as the Louis Vuitton Young Arts Project; the Gallery has been able to offer training to successive cohorts of young people leading to permanent employment. The Gallery's alumni now speak at events and conferences, sharing their insights into what makes a valuable training programme.

The Whitechapel Gallery continues to pilot new ways of working with young people, offering innovative learning opportunities, helping to foster the next generation in the creative industries. In providing young people with professional training across the organisation from finance to communications, apprentices are able to establish careers as organisers or technicians, press officers or educators, fundraisers or front of house personnel.

Iwona Blazwick OBE said "Creativity is the key to growth and it is our responsibility in the creative and cultural industries to inspire and invest in the next generation. With the skills young people gain from working in the arts they can transform other industries. At a time when employment and training opportunities for young people and the sustainability of the arts sector have never been more in the spotlight, we are thrilled to receive national recognition for our efforts to promote careers in the cultural sector".

Press Information

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