INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

Summer Programme: core content
The Museum’s aim is to ensure fellows have as wide and varied an experience of skills and practice in the UK museum sector as possible. The summer programme is made up of a combination of group and specialist subject sessions, tailored curatorial department time, Object in Focus project work, day visits to and workshops from programme partners and a UK partner placement. You can find out more about these components on the following pages.

The programme covers a full range of museum activities including:
• collections management, storage and documentation
• exhibitions and galleries
• conservation and scientific research
• national and international loans
• learning, audiences and volunteers
• fundraising and income generation
• leadership, strategy, management and communication
• photography and imaging

Sessions are a mixture of presentations, tours and practical demonstrations but all aim to pass on specialist knowledge with time for practical, hands-on experience, discussion and debate. At the end of each day fellows are encouraged to contact staff with any further queries and questions. Follow-up meetings are arranged for those who felt they needed to learn more about a particular session.

Lectures and workshops are also delivered around current issues in the museum and cultural heritage sector. These have included Cultural Heritage and Peacebuilding; Site Management; Museums and Community Health and Wellbeing; Skills and attributes needed by the museums workforce across the sector in the future; Childhood and Children’s Museums; the concept of the Universal Museum.

‘It brought to light the common problems that museums face and that my museum is not the only one with challenges. The biggest [benefit] of all are the contacts created and the ideas shared.’ Gertrude Aba Mansah Eyifa, Ghana, ITP 2009

‘I think the best part of the programme is letting us understand the connections between different kinds of jobs, and to see the museum as a whole.’ Liu Shuzheng, China, ITP 2015
**Summer Programme: Departmental Programme**

In smaller groups ITP fellows also work with individual collections departments for a more tailored professional experience relevant to their own skills and current projects. This enables fellows and Museum staff to enjoy one-on-one or small-group sessions allowing individual strengths to emerge, voices to be heard and good-working relationships to develop.

‘The Programme provided me with an important opportunity for studying Chinese, Korean and Japanese jade, porcelain, bronze… understanding of the recent research of curators in the Department of Asia and sharing of knowledge…’ Chen Chun, China, ITP 2011

‘I was interested to know more about the Middle East Department in the British Museum in order to strengthen our relationships to exchange information and create new partnerships and collaborate on future projects.’ Ali Al Kathari, Oman, ITP 2018
Summer Programme: Object in Focus Project

Each week time is allocated for fellows to work on the Object in Focus Project. Fellows select an object from the British Museum's collection around which to design an exhibition. They are asked to work in partnership with a colleague from another country, and together to work with an object from outside of their areas of expertise. Drawing on their unique existing museum experience and the skills learnt during the Programme, fellows prepare for their object to be displayed and to present their exhibition proposal to ITP supporters on the penultimate night of the Summer Programme. Fellows are encouraged to think not just about objects, concepts and interpretation, but also audiences, marketing, merchandising and events.

‘The exhibition proposal was very important since it was an opportunity to display all that we have learned and to be able to apply the techniques/skills back at home.’
Wendland Chole Kiziili, Kenya, ITP 2013

‘The most unforgettable part of the ITP for me was my exhibition project proposal. Me and my partner clicked instantly and tried to share our culture and experiences through a single object. The ITP encouraged me to do something that I never tried before...’
Hafindar, Indonesia ITP 2017
Summer Programme: UK Partner Programme

For 10 days of the summer programme fellows are split into groups of 3/4 to spend time at one of the ITP network’s UK partner museums. The UK partner programme exposes fellows to the collections, organisation and audiences of museums of different sizes and with different aims and approaches. It allows them to experience regional organisations with strong local collections and community programmes, often with stronger relevance to the fellows’ own museums and audiences. It is also an opportunity for fellows to experience life in the culturally diverse regions of the UK.

‘Glasgow Museums’ approach to their museums is inspiring. I have learnt so many things about museums being sufficient to itself and fully open to public. This is something I would like to see in my country.’ Berkay Küçükbaşlar, Turkey, ITP 2014

‘10-days placement in a partner museum was one the best parts of this training. I am grateful and thankful to all staff for their hospitality, acceptance, kindness, guidance and sharing their knowledge etc.’ Dora Jok, Malaysia, ITP 2016
Summer Programme: Programme Partners

The ITP aims to provide as many skill-sharing and networking opportunities as possible for our fellows and working with our Programme Partners helps the Museum expand this commitment. Working with other museums and institutions ensures that the Summer Programme includes many different voices, approaches and experiences, and can cover current and contemporary cultural and heritage issues outside our usual sphere of expertise.

‘Visiting the Horniman Museum was a wonderful experience. It was very interesting to visit a smaller museum in London and to see how they handle their specific audience. I was particularly impressed with their education programmes and activity room.’ Rika Stockenström, South Africa, ITP 2007

‘Our visits to different sights and museums was essential to learn and discover new things… the project weekend proved to be an attractive way not only to study museums but also share attitudes and opinions with colleagues.’ Marine Mkrtchyan, Armenia, ITP 2014