



Lancaster
Arts

Where ideas,
creativity and
people connect

BRIDGES
to professional
practice



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BRIDGES is a new and exciting opportunity for early career arts professionals that offers recent graduates a bridge to professional practice.

Lancaster Arts is a combined arts organisation and part of the National Portfolio of Arts Council England. We have a long-established reputation for supporting artists and arts professionals at the beginning of their careers, with an eye to the gaps and needs of the local cultural ecology. We are committed to strengthening talent retention in the region.

BRIDGES is a pilot programme taking place in 2021 that focusses attention on two distinctive roles for graduates of LICA at Lancaster University. This is for graduates only.

“We are really looking forward to welcoming two graduates into Lancaster Arts. This opportunity will offer an overview of what it is like working within a combined arts organisation and valuable learning in the specific areas of each bursary, but also, for us to learn from the bursary winners. It is a fascinating, if tough time to be working in the arts and it will be great to have fresh ideas and approaches!”

Jocelyn Cunningham, Director, Lancaster Arts

“I felt that everyone working at Lancaster Arts was treated on a level playing field, regardless of their experience or work. Everyone’s contributions were valued.”

Flora Barber, 2019 student placement with Lancaster Arts

Bridges offers two bursaries in 2021 that are available for Lancaster University’s first-degree graduates from LICA who achieved their qualification in 2018, 2019 or 2020.

The bursaries will take place between June and September 2021 in a timeframe to be agreed between the award-holder and Lancaster Arts dependent upon the circumstances of the individual and the project timelines. Both roles will connect with the whole Lancaster Arts team and contribute to the wider work of the organisation, but will have dedicated areas of focus:

1. **The BRIDGES Producer** will support Lancaster Arts commissions with artists developing site specific work in our commissions in locations around the Lancaster District. You will work with one of our experienced producers to bring commissions and ideas to life, keeping the work true to the vision of the artist and Lancaster Arts whilst considering our participants, audiences and the practical aspects of making stuff happen.

- 2. The BRIDGES Curator** will support Lancaster Arts work with its Accredited collection. You will support our gallery curators and work directly with the collection, from object handling and cataloguing to connecting the collection to new projects. Your work will help the collection reach audiences in innovative ways online and in person.

Practical information

These opportunities take the form of bursaries. There is a bursary for each post of £2500. This will be paid in instalments over the course of the bursary. The bursaries are designed to be flexible; there will be mutual agreement on the projects that the bursary winner will be engaged with and the time allocated. We will work with the successful applicants to shape the bursary programme and how the timeframes will work. Outcomes will be agreed at the commencement of the bursary.

We anticipate restrictions lifting in this time period and you will only be asked to work with others in a safe way, in line with any government restrictions during this period.

The BRIDGES Curator role will require manual dexterity skills, and both roles will not be solely desk based.

How do I apply?

Please send a statement responding to the following questions:

1. Which role you are interested in
2. Why you would like to take part in the BRIDGES programme
3. What you hope to learn through taking part and
4. What you could bring to Lancaster Arts and the kind of work we do
5. What your general time availability is from June to September

Criteria for selection will be based upon:

- Evidence of team and collaborative skills
- Evidence of initiative in developing sector experience
- Evidence of understanding Lancaster Arts and the kind of work we do and how this supports your career ambitions

Your statement should be no more than 500 words and include a short CV (no more than one-side of A4).

Please send your statement and CV to BRIDGES@lancasterarts.org

We strongly encourage you to look at our website thoroughly to gain good understanding of the work we do www.lancasterarts.org

The deadline for applications is noon, May 10th. We will shortlist applications for interviews via zoom. We expect interviews to take place on May 18th.

Lancaster Arts is a friendly small team but we need to better reflect the rich diversity of the north west. We are committed to attracting and recruiting more representative candidates, particularly disabled, D/deaf and/or neurodivergent people and those from

black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds and we particularly encourage applications from people in these groups.

If you have any specific questions related to BRIDGES, or if you have any access requirements regarding submitting a proposal please contact BRIDGES@lancasterarts.org. We can provide an audio version of this form and would be happy to offer further explanation of anything that seems unclear. If you would like an informal discussion about this opportunity, please get in touch at the same address.