

# Young Curators' Programme @ Stevenage Museum

## Session times

Term time: 4-5.30pm

Holidays: to be agreed with participants.

**Address:** Stevenage Museum, underneath the Church of St Andrew & St George, St George's Way, SG1 1XX

**Contact:** [museum@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:museum@stevenage.gov.uk) / 01438 218881

|                       | Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Thursday 17 September | <b>Introduction session</b><br>This will include a discussion of the project, and what you can expect from the programme.<br><br>We will then do some training on how to use MODES – this is the database the museum uses to record our photographic and object collections.<br><br>Lastly, you will be given a theme to think about which will directly feed into the upcoming exhibition.                                                                                                   |
| Thursday 1 October    | <b>Exhibition Planning</b><br>The session will start with a conversation on how exhibitions are planned, researched, and eventually built. This will be an opportunity to ask questions about exhibitions, find out more from our Curator, and time to start thinking about your own approaches.<br><br>You will then make use of MODES, the museum's main galleries, and of course our Curator, to research your topic and plan what story you might like to tell as part of our exhibition. |
| Thursday 15 October   | <b>Object Selection</b><br>Take a trip to our stores to find objects for the exhibition. Museum staff will give you a tour of the stores, explain a bit about museum collecting policies, and help you to understand the museum's collection.<br><br>We will then have some training on object handling before planning out displays for the exhibition. If there is time, we will also have training on writing effective object labels and some time to have a go yourself.                 |
| Half term 29 October  | OPTIONAL: Trip to young V&A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Thursday 12 November  | <b>Exhibition build final touches</b><br>Join our staff as we put together the final pieces of the exhibition. This will be an opportunity to see how an exhibition comes together and help with those finishing touches that will make our visitors nostalgic for their own childhoods.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Friday 13 November    | <b>OPTIONAL: Private View</b><br>You are welcome to attend the private view of the exhibition. This event will involve a few speeches, some refreshments, and a chance to see the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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|                       | finished exhibition for the first time. You are also welcome to bring along friends and family who might be interested! Just let us know if you would like to come, and how many people you will be bringing so we can make sure we get enough crisps!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thursday 26 November  | <b><i>Research for Christmas Lists foyer exhibition</i></b><br>Jump back into our stores to help us put together an exhibition about the best Christmas gifts ever! This will be an opportunity to plan out your own exhibition looking at Christmases of times past and to build on what it meant to grow up in a New Town.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Thursday 10 December  | <b><i>Repack some costume collection</i></b><br>Help us to repack some recently donated costume collection. This is a chance to learn more about object handling, and the best ways to pack objects to ensure their safety in the long term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Christmas break       | OPTIONAL: Photography workshop                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thursday 7 January    | <b><i>Co-Curation – thinking about school</i></b><br>A big part of museum exhibitions is working with our communities to develop and tell stories! This half term, we would like you to reflect on the exhibition and write your own responses to the themes that will be added to the exhibition. This first session will look at school.<br><br>This session will look at writing your own labels about how the exhibition compares to your experience, highlighting what may have changed (or stayed the same!) over the last 80 years. |
| Thursday 21 January   | <b><i>Co-Curation – thinking about hobbies and clubs</i></b><br>Take a look at the exhibition to find out more about hobbies of childhoods past. How does this relate to your own experience? Or is it completely different? Did you join any clubs that children 80 years ago joined, and how have hobbies changed?                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Thursday 4 February   | <b><i>Co-Curation – pick your own theme</i></b><br>This is a chance to look at the exhibition and respond to a theme that speaks to you – do you have a baby sibling? Or have you had a first job? You could even reflect on childhood as a whole!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Half term 18 February | <b><i>OPTIONAL: Co-Curation installation</i></b><br>We will be adding your new labels to the exhibition. This is a chance to see how we design and create labels and maybe have a go yourself! This will be a drop-in session for the week – just let Sam know when you would like to come in and we can work on your labels together.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thursday 4 March      | <b><i>Foyer exhibition</i></b><br>Work as a team to plan a build your own exhibition for the foyer using all of the skills you have gained throughout the programme. This is a chance to show off everything you have learnt, and to pull together an exhibition telling your childhood story of choice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| Thursday 18 March               | <b><i>Foyer exhibition</i></b><br>Time to pull the exhibition together and finish it up in time for the end of programme party!                                                  |
| Easter holidays, end of project | <b><i>OPTIONAL: End of programme party</i></b><br>Come along with your friends and family to celebrate the end of the programme, and to show off some of the work you have done! |