

LUMEN

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER MUSEUM NETWORK

Timetable

November to February

Museums and galleries send in placement details to Barbara who places them on Blackboard for the students to look at.

End February

Students make their choices and pass them to Barbara, who then sends CVs for you to peruse.

March

Museums and galleries let Barbara know if they are able to accommodate students' choices.

March onwards

Students are interviewed by museums and galleries, if at all possible and placements confirmed.

23rd July to 14th September 2012

Work placements.



Thank you all for yet another amazing year for our students. All the placements were varied and interesting and gave our students very worthwhile experiences. The dates remain in the same time period for next year but there are a few more details which I would be pleased if you would read in the enclosed Guidance Notes and when you email me your projects could you please confirm that you have read and accepted the Guidance.

Here are a few comments from our students:

Working in the Market Department at the V&A has beenAWESOME. No words to describe it.

Working at the Geffrye has been a wonderful experience and I am delighted to be able to stay.

It has been a pleasure to work here (Falmouth Art Gallery) as the staff have

been so welcoming and supportive, and I would recommend any student to choose Falmouth for their placement next year as it has been wonderful.

I have had a fantastic time at the IWM and didn't want it to end, and I had the best mentor.

I was very lucky choose a placement that allowed me to use so much of my own creativity and critical thinking skills, my time at RAMM has been incredibly meaningful.

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The Museum of Childhood has a great atmosphere and the staff were friendly and treated us as equals.

The Collections Trust has given me a strong network of professionals in the sector, a placement I could not recommend more highly.

And now some comments from you:

I found the experience a very positive one. The scheme administration was effective and Jane soon became a productive and helpful member of the team. She was professional, hard working, polite and responsible. (V&A)

Weiwen is a wonderful placement student. The placement has been a real asset to the learning team. Weiwen has become part of the team and we will miss her greatly. She has taught us things about our Chinese collection that we didn't know and has made a lasting



contribution to our interpretation and learning resources. (Harewood House)

All our students were excellent this year. Their enthusiasm, interest and hard work made a very busy period of work easier to bear. We were all very sorry when they left. (RAMM)

Both students were wonderful to work with. They were incredibly hard working, motivated, diligent and thorough. They picked up tasks easily, worked efficiently

and paid attention to details. They were an asset to the curatorial team. (Beamish)

Ehren immediately established himself as an engaging and very likeable colleague. If resources were available I would employ him without hesitation. If Ehren is representative of Leicester Museum Studies graduates then I can only conclude that the quality of the course and the teaching is excellent and we eagerly await the arrival of more students in 2012. (Explosion!)

Helping Herbert: University of Leicester Museum Studies students blog their internship

Corals, butterflies, flapper dresses and ex-badgers: not your average work placement.

'Herbert' is the Herbert Museum and Art Gallery in Coventry where five students from our School of Museum Studies are coming to the end of a two-month work placement.

Sophie Mullen (MA Museum Studies) has been working with the 'Herbert 2.0' team to investigate ways of using new media and technology to enrich and increase access to the Herbert's collections, including working on the iSay research project. This is part of the larger LIVE!Museum initiative and is "aimed at capturing visitor memories and experiences in-gallery, and those wonderful spontaneous interactions you sometimes get around museum objects."

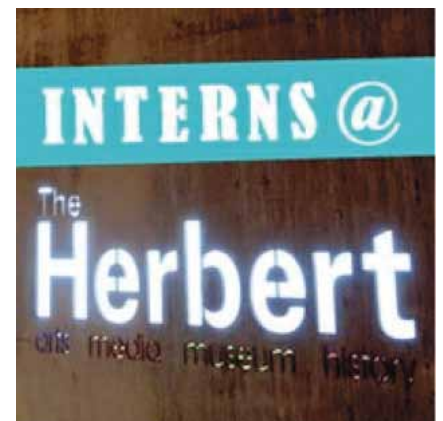
Sophie has also been developing social media and digital engagement plans

for a number of upcoming exhibitions and helped to set up the Interns at the Herbert blog on Tumblr, on which she and her colleagues have chronicled their experiences behind the scenes at the Herbert.

The herbertinterns Tumblelog was created by myself, in consultation with marketing and the rest of the Herbert 2.0 team. We hope to use it as a sort of trial or proof-of-concept in creating a more casual, idiosyncratic, look at life behind the scenes of the Herbert, as well as a space where visitors can watch and participate in the conversations that staff members are having with each other.

Sophie Mullen, MA Museum Studies

- Sam Caulfield-Kerney (MA Museum Studies) is working with the natural history collection, cataloguing the museum's extensive collection of corals.



- Sarah Finch (MA Museum Studies) is working with the social history and costume collections.
- Sophie Wallace (MA Art Museum and Gallery Studies) is working with the visual arts collections, cataloguing items and assisting with preparation for an upcoming exhibition of watercolours of Coventry and Warwickshire.

Sam, Sarah and Sophie W have also worked on the museum's What's In Store gallery – "deciding on themes, choosing objects, writing up labels and measuring display cases" – and

together with Sophie M are undertaking evaluation of the museum's History Gallery: tracking visitors and what they do inside the gallery, as well as administering questionnaires.

In addition to the above, Rebecca Harvey (MA Museum Studies) is working with the Learning and Outreach team, helping with tasks such as the Herbert's Getting Involved project and reminiscence work with older people living in Coventry.

Although we interns will be on our way at the end of the week, the museum currently plans to continue on experimenting with Tumblr, and the future should hopefully see it evolving into a venue where a mixture of staff and volunteers are able to share links, thoughts, and snapshots of life inside the Herbert with the rest of the world.

Sophie Mullen
MA Museum Studies



The Museum/Gallery Experience

Work placement in a museum or gallery is a key feature of the highly popular postgraduate courses in our School of Museum Studies. During the summer term, all students undertake an eight-week 'Museum/Gallery Experience' placement. Each year over one hundred museums within the Leicester University Museum Network (LUMeN) send in projects from which students can choose their placement.



Royal Albert Memorial Museum

We are delighted to welcome Lauren, Jana, Nina and Lisha to RAMM to help with our reinstatement. Being only months away from our December reopening we need plenty of help with moving objects and preparing cases!

While waiting for their object handling training we have given our students a variety of tasks. They are helping our Learning Officer with a project to deliver an e-learning product for KS2 level children and they met some of our young fans when helping out with the museum stand at Sidmouth International Folk Festival. They have got to know Devon's smaller museums by helping our Museum Development Officer and helping our marketing team with various pieces of work. As a change from RAMM they had a day at A la Ronde a local National Trust property we are running an exhibition with. The staff were very pleased with their help and have invited them back!



Now it's on with cleaning cases, checking objects and preparing for redisplay. They will have other work too with testing interactives, time with our Learning team and some digital work all planned. Everyone has told

me how much they enjoy working with our students and how good it is having four people who understand museums and pick things up quickly

Rick Lawrence
Digital Media Officer

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