Camden Schools Art Biennale

A YOUNG ARTIST'S GUIDE TO LONDON

Hello! We are the Lethaby Gallery's student producers (Akira, Lila, Jake, Jade and Hatty) and we put together a guide of top tips as well as our favourite venues, events and spaces in London.

scroll for more

EVERYTHING THAT WE WOULD HAVE WANTED TO KNOW SOONER AS YOUNG ARTISTS IS IN THIS GUIDE

1. Art Foundations
2. Discounts & Passes
3. Student Producer Picks
4. Websites, Magazines & Podcasts
5. A bookshop, a library & an Archive
6. Outdoors/Plants
7. Events & Community

This guide is interactive! Click on sections to navigate. Here are some places and resources that we love, we hope you might love them too!

"MY FOUNDATION YEAR GAVE ME TIME TO FIGURE OUT WHAT I WANT TO DO"

- Lila (Student Producer)

ART FOUNDATIONS

Art Foundations are one year art courses. Here are some London based foundations that are free for under 19s* - regardless of if you want to go to university or not!

University of the Arts London

Foundation Diploma in Art & Design
Location: Shepherd's Bush or Archway (depending on specialism)

The Kings Foundation*

The King's Foundation Diploma Year
Location: Shoreditch
Price: £8950 (2023-24)

Kingston School of Art and Design

Foundation Diploma in Art, Design & Media Practice
Location: Kingston upon Thames

Working Men's College

Foundation Art & Diploma Design
Location: Camden

City and Guilds*

Foundation Diploma in Art & Design
Location: Kennington
£9500 (as of 2024-25)

Ravensbourne

Foundation Diploma in Art and Design (and Media)
Location: North Greenwich

Many More!

See all your options on the complete university guide (click on this text!)

*scholarships and bursaries are available

DISCOUNTS AND PASSES

Unidays and Student Beans are great but did you know that cultural centres also have great discounts & programmes for young people?

Young Tate (18-25)
£5 exhibition tickets, events, discounts plus creative opportunities for 16 to 25 year olds.

Hampstead Theatre (<30)
Free to sign up. A limited number of £10 tickets / show.

V&A Youth Collective (18-30s)
Free to join group of young people who help shape V&A events, while gaining insight into creative careers.

BFI (South Bank) (16-25)
Free to sign up. £3 cinema tickets, plus events and film industry opportunities!

Student Art Pass (Varied)
Free or reduced entry to 100s of museums for £10 a year.

Young Barbican (16-25)
Free to join. £2 tickets to exhibitions & new release films.

Royal Opera House (18-30s)
Free to join. Best seats in the house (£20) and "Young RBO" nights with a +1 (guests must also be aged 16-25).

English National Opera (<35s)
Free to sign up. Discounted opera tickets.

STUDENT PRODUCER PICKS

Hi! My name is Lea :)
Hackney Downtown Studios
Fall Better Talks: creatives present their worst ever work and, more importantly, what they've learned from it!

Hi! I'm Akira
BBC Broadcasting House (Theatre)
Mamasons (North, Central and West): London's first Filipino ice cream parlour. Try the ube ice cream or the monthly special!

Hey! My name is Jade
Round Pond
Folk of the Round Table (Peckham): Folk music night every Sunday from 6-11pm, welcoming all - you will be singing by the end of the night!

Hi! I'm Jake
Gravity Max (Stratford): VR, go karting, arcade and more! A fun place for a night out with friends.

Hiya! I'm Hatty
Hackney Downtown Studios
Life Drawing at Hackneykey (Hackney): Celebrating bodies and all creative abilities w/ Live Music.

WEBSITES MAGAZINES AND PODCASTS

Mall Galleries

Website: Find out about open calls for art competitions and exhibitions!

Bodies in the Post Podcast

Podcast: About posthuman bodies and ideas.

Art Load

Website: Creative art archive featuring the works of many Artists/Curators/Designers.

Sapphic mapping

Website: a guide to events for LGBTQ+ in London

Film Grab

Website: A creative that has a massive database of film stills from all sorts of films!

White Pube

Website and Podcast: about art, video games, books, food, life, the weather, whatever's in our heart(s).

A BOOKSHOP, A LIBRARY AND AN ARCHIVE

Housmans

Their books are about themes including feminism, pacifism, Black politics, LGBTQIA+ politics, environmental justice and anarchism.

Reference Point (Central/Holborn)

Rare books, ephemera and printed matter focused on Post-War Radical Art, Architecture, Design, Fashion and Culture. Also just a beautiful place to sit and relax.

Mayday rooms (Clerkenwell)

An archive, resource space for social movements, experimental and marginal cultures and their histories.

OUTDOORS AND PLANTS

Misery Party (Varied)

QTBPOC mental health collective and sober party.

Flock Together (Clerkenwell)

Birdwatching for people of colour.

Hiking in Skirts (Varied)

Sussex based LGBTQ+ group creating queer engagement with nature! Walks, skill shares, wild camps & DA, for healing, networking & campaigning.

EVENTS AND COMMUNITY

Paper Dress Vintage (Hackney) (18+):

Vintage boutique by day and events space by night!

Ridley road market bar (Dalston) (18+):

Art, music and culture bar committed to fostering diverse female/ NB/ gnc DJ talent.

Jago (Hoxton) (18+):

Grassroots Live Music Venue and Multi-functional Events Space, 3am nights on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Sundays.

Tate Late (Southbank):

Free monthly event of artist workshops, talks and film screenings, alongside live DJ playing in the Turbine Hall.

91 Living Room (Brick Lane):

Jam session every 1st Wednesday of the month.

Somerset House events (Central):

Diverse offerings of music, workshops and often the opportunity to visit the current exhibition for free.

Reference Point (Central):

Weekly series of events, including chess, dj sets and film screenings.

Avalon Cafe (Bermondsey):

Open mics, Dj sets, exhibitions, even BBQs.

Café Oto (Dalston):

Free sound art, music and Djs. If you email them and let them know you're a student for a free membership.

Beau Beau's (Aldgate):

It's family run and offers Chess and Art nights, focusing on community and creativity.

Brought to you by the student producers of:

AWAKE LATE

© 2024 Lois Brunet-Wong Akira Etienne-Williams Jade Zaheer Jake Zhang Hatty Allen