Digital Maker in Residence – Open Call
Application deadline: 27 October 2017

University of Cambridge Museums (UCM) is a consortium of the eight University Museums, which works in partnership with the Cambridge University Botanic Garden and other Cambridge University collections.

We are looking for a Digital Maker in Residence who takes inspiration from our collections, themes and spaces to develop new way of engagements for our visitors at the intersection of art and technology using for example Raspberry Pi, MakeyMakey, Arduino, Micro:Bit, conductive paint, 3D printing.

With this residency, we would like to inspire staff, teachers, parents and young people to become digital makers and explore ways to integrate digital making into the museum experience. We would like to investigate digital making in new ways and spaces, driving participation and engagement and supporting museums and audiences to create new digital products and experiences. We are interested in how digital technologies can come together with traditional processes of production and how we can develop skills, confidence and motivation to empower young people to make, design and use digital technologies, not just consume them.

At the end of the residency, we are expecting to have a sustainable resource or programme of digital making activities which the museums can repeat and use in the future. We will work with you to find the right ideas and design workshops that will help you move forwards. The residency will offer opportunities to develop a dialogue within and between museums and our audiences.

The residency will be based at the Fitzwilliam Museum and Makespace. The maker will as well work with the other University Museums and across disciplines, creating new links between art, science and technologies.

The residency is open to anyone involved in digital making and with experience of delivering workshops for children aged 8-14yrs.

With the residency, we aim to:
• Encourage open and creative exchange between digital making, the museums and other partners
• Embed digital making skills and practices to create a sustainable digital making program at the museums
• Offer new and exciting ways and perspectives for audiences to engage with the museum and collections
• Connect and invite non-traditional audiences with the museums
• Promote digital making for creative thinking and problem solving across the museums
• Establish productive relationships between museums and maker communities

When
The residency will take place from January – March 2018, there is some flexibility with structuring the time, but some workshops have fixed dates.

Where
Based at the Fitzwilliam Museum and Makespace, other University of Cambridge Museums TBC
We offer:

- Supported time in residence at the Fitzwilliam Museum and Makespace
- A bursary of £5000 (+VAT) including all expenses, e.g. travel, accommodation
- Up to £2000 (+VAT) production budget, managed by us
- Membership at Makespace Cambridge for the time of the residency
- Creative opportunity to use digital making in a museum setting for audience engagement to expand your practice
- Networks and contacts of potential collaborators and audiences
- A framework and platforms for research, blogs, regular catch-ups, discussions, sharing and showcase events
- Promotion and recognition of work

About you

- Significant digital making experience using a range of technologies, creative approaches and working in different settings
- Experience in planning and delivering workshops for children aged 8-14yrs
- Ability to work independently and in collaboration with the diverse museums and audiences
- A track record of successfully completed projects, demonstrating high quality and creative approaches, using different technologies
- Enthusiastic about making, creating, teaching, learning and sharing
- Interested in gaining hands-on experiences working in museums, schools and makerspaces
- Effective communicator
- Knowledge of health and safety requirements, risk assessment and safeguarding policies
- Appointment dependant on the appropriate DBS checks

We expect:

- Passion to contribute to museum education and digital engagement
- Dedicated time at the museums - spend a minimum of 15 days at the museums/Makespace
- The residency will start with an initial visit and meetings in January 2018 to shape the residency
- The Maker to work with museum staff across the different museums, this will give opportunities to learn about the collections and discuss ideas to develop digital making activities collaboratively
- Participation and presentation at key events
- Regular updates and progress sharing of work and outcomes with the museums
- Documenting the residency and share updates and activities through social media and online channels
- The Maker will give permission for filming/recording of their activities which will be published on the UCM social media and other platforms, e.g. UCM blog
- Facilitate a minimum of six workshops (with the possibility to repeat)
- The museums to be able to use the workshop format and ideas developed during the residency to inform future museum activities
- Both sides to credit the residency in future publications

Digital Making workshops

As part of the residency we would like to introduce children to the collections and help them to engage on a deeper level, developing their critical thinking and creative making skills.
The maker in residence will create at least four and lead at least six workshops with a group of children:

- 2 x School workshops in our partner schools
- 2 x Family workshops (8-12 years, 15 participants, 2h)
  - 27 January 2018, Theme: Codebreakers (based on exhibition at the Fitzwilliam Museum)
  - 24 March 2018, Theme: ‘Sense’ (as part of the Science Festival 12-25 March 2018)
- Further workshops and/or experiments to be created and developed as part of the residency in collaboration with the museums.

Application

- You can apply as individuals or group
- The residency is not aimed at students or those living outside of the UK

Please apply by filling out this form: [https://goo.gl/forms/Ta5LkmTohk5a6vI63](https://goo.gl/forms/Ta5LkmTohk5a6vI63)

Timeline

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