



**Royal College of Art**  
Postgraduate Art & Design

**V&A/RCA MA History of Design bursaries**  
**Summary information for 2023 entry**

**Duration of funding:**

12 months (or 24 months if student pursues part-time study). These are fees-only awards.

**Value of awards and eligibility criteria:**

Up to £15,000 – Tuition Fees for a UK (home status) student, typically 3 awards of £5,000

£5,000 – Robert Beacroft Barker Bursary for tuition fees for a UK (home status) student

This bursary is intended to support talented students who would not otherwise be able to join the programme, especially students from disadvantaged backgrounds — including but not confined to members of ethnic minority communities, care leavers, ex-prisoners, people with a disability and those from socio-economically deprived and marginalized groups.

Both the V&A and the RCA aim to widen participation and help students of limited means to study at the College and the Museum.

**Selection will be made using the following criteria:**

- Self-identification as one of the current under-represented groups on the V&A/RCA MA History of Design: UK residents who are of Black African, Black Caribbean or Asian heritage; persons who have been granted refugee status in the UK; care leavers; ex-prisoners; people with a disability; and those from socio-economically deprived and marginalized groups
- The academic and/or professional strength and potential of the offer-holder (from the MA application and bursary application statement)
- Students from low-income households

Following receipt of the bursary application form, a shortlist of eligible candidates will be invited for an online interview with a panel, which normally includes both Heads of Programme and a current student.

**Notification of the Award:**

The successful candidates will be notified by a member of the V&A/RCA History of Design Programme team and will be asked to formally confirm their acceptance in writing.

The timetable for applications, interviews and awards is indicated on the application form below.

Bursaries are awarded for a specific programme and entry point, and they cannot be deferred without consent from the academic programme and bursaries panel.

No correspondence will be entered into regarding the reasons for the decision. No appeal is allowed, as once bursaries are awarded all available funds have been committed.

## APPLICATION FORM AND KEY DEADLINES

**Name:**

**Correspondence address:**

**Email:**

Bursary applying for (please delete as appropriate - you may apply for more than one):

### **The V&A History of Design Bursary**

Value of award: £15,000

Eligible programmes/fee status: V&A/RCA MA History of Design; UK students

Scholarship value: Typically, three awards of £5,000 (home status)

### **The Robert Beacroft Barker Bursary\***

Value of award: £5,000

Eligible programmes/fee status: V&A/RCA MA History of Design; UK students

Scholarship value: £5,000 (home status)

\*Candidates with interests in Eighteenth Century studies preferred.

**Statement:** Please write a 600-word statement below that sets out how you meet the selection criteria. If you are applying for the Robert Beacroft Barker Bursary, please explain the nature of your interest in the Eighteenth Century.

Please email this completed application form (as a Word Doc) to [hod@rca.ac.uk](mailto:hod@rca.ac.uk) (subject heading: *V&A/RCA MA History of Design Bursary – [your name]*) by **midday Friday 19 May 2023**.

We will let you know as soon as possible after that date if you have been shortlisted. We expect to hold online interviews for shortlisted candidates on **Monday 5 June 2023**.

### **APPLICANT STATEMENT:**

(600 words max)