



Together, we make it V&A

V&A South Kensington
Adobe Creative Residency:
Architecture Residency

V&A

Adobe Creative Residency

Reports to	Team Leader: Residency Programme
Department	Learning and Digital Programmes
Line Management	None
Principal Location	V&A South Kensington
Hours	36 Hours Per Week
Salary	£42,000 per annum
Work pattern	Hybrid (standard pattern is 3 days in V&A South Kensington, 2 days working from home)
Contract	Fixed Term Contract (12 Months)





Who we are

The V&A is a family of museums dedicated to the **power of creativity**. Our mission is to **champion design and creativity** in all its forms, advance cultural knowledge, and inspire makers, creators and innovators everywhere. We share a 5,000-year-old story of creativity through **exhibitions, events, educational programmes, digital experiences, conservation, research**, and an ever-evolving national collection of over 2.8m objects spanning **every creative discipline**.

Learning at the V&A

Learning at the V&A builds creative confidence in all our audiences, and champions the skills needed to drive the future of the creative economy. Through a responsive and relevant portfolio of activity, we strive to inspire current and future generations of artists, creatives, designers and innovators.

Adobe Creative Residency

The Adobe Creative Residency at the V&A is a fresh approach to bring making into the museum. This programme enables us to employ three full-time Residents, five days a week for 12 months. Each Resident will develop their practice using public participation and the V&A's collections as their inspiration, and work with a designated audience and collection to bring creativity, design and making to diverse audiences. Embedded within the Learning and Digital Programmes Team, Residents will commit half their time to developing engaging programming at V&A South Kensington, and spend half their time developing their practice. Residents will play a key role in the expansion of our public programming efforts. Residents will also contribute to our work with local communities across the UK to create a new model of programming outside the museum to build and sustain links with underserved communities. Additionally, each Resident will receive studio space, mentorship, resources, access to the Museum's resources and staff expertise. Their work will be featured in a nine-month display at the close of their Residency.

The Adobe Creative Residency is supported by the Adobe Foundation.



Architecture Residency (Schools Programme)

This residency invites an architect or creative practitioner to explore the question: *how do we live now - and how might we live differently in the future?* Aligned with the V&A's ambitions during a period of transformation for its Architecture Gallery and drawing on the unique strengths of the V&A's architecture collections, the residency will foreground design as lived experience, connecting everyday domestic life to broader questions of community, sustainability, policy, materials, and for whom, and how space is designed. Using housing and urban design –which could include social housing and housing justice - as a lens, the residency will be embedded with the V&A Schools Team and will work with students and teacher groups to think critically and creatively about home, community, and what equitable living might look like. This project approaches housing not only as architecture, but as a social, political, environmental, and ethical condition - one shaped by collective imagination as much as by buildings themselves.


We are particularly interested in inquiry-led, discussion-based approaches that position young people as community-makers: imagining prospective and alternative futures for housing, neighbourhoods, public space, and urban life. This may include exploring new models for living and community, collective and intergenerational housing, sustainable urban futures, adaptable shared spaces, or creative responses to climate and social change. It may also include digital visualisation techniques (e.g. VR, photogrammetry), model-making as a creative process, or speculative and participatory approaches to architecture and urban design. The museum's collections will act as both inspiration and provocation, connecting historic architectural drawings, models, and design practices to contemporary questions about sustainability, accessibility, belonging, policy, and how spaces can better support collective life.

We are looking for a practitioner to work with school children to critically investigate the house and housing systems while imagining alternative futures for urban life. The brief remains open to a range of practices but prioritises themes of inequality, sustainability, and lived experience, alongside inclusive engagement (including SEND and socio-economic access). We strongly encourage applications from practitioners currently underrepresented in architecture.



Expectations of the Creative Resident:

The Residency is a full-time commitment. There is flexibility to accommodate occasional other commitments that the Resident may have (teaching, exhibitions etc.) but we are looking for a practitioner who will make the Residency a primary, full-time commitment. The appointed Resident will be expected to:

- Carry out museum-focused and/or collections-based research, develop their creative practice, and meet with/present ideas to Museum staff;
 - Embed themselves within the Learning and Digital Programmes Team to deliver programming and act as a creative advisor for wider learning/ public programmes (we anticipate this will be roughly 50% of their time);
 - Commit to induction and orientation at V&A and to the Residency code of professional practice;
 - Participate and contribute to Museum activities where they can present their research and work in progress to V&A Museum staff and the general public. These might include, Work in Progress events, Open Studios, InFocus Tours, Digital Design Weekend, Friday Lates, and Festivals;
 - Occasional work on evenings and weekends as needed for wider learning programmes;
 - Participate in monthly 121s with the Senior Producer for Residencies;
 - Create a piece for the annual Residency Display at V&A South Kensington and work to required display timelines;
 - Share their Residency-related research outputs on the V&A website and networks and submit a final report reflecting on their Residency research and experience.
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Please note:

- You must be aged 18 years or over to apply for this opportunity.
- The V&A cannot offer secretarial or administrative assistance to Residents beyond general studio management. Moreover, the V&A cannot provide technical support for the production of new work, and depending on the Resident's practice, they may have to use the materials and equipment budget to rent equipment or hire specialised support.
- The Resident will have access to a materials and equipment budget. The V&A cannot contribute to the Resident's living costs, including accommodation in central London (if needed and arranged by the Resident), subsistence, at-home internet, studio rent, and travel costs to and from the artists' usual working location and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.
- **Residency start date:** Monday 11 January 2027



Why work here

We strive to integrate **equality, diversity, and inclusion** consistently and naturally into all our activities.

We are proud to be an **open, tolerant, and diverse** organisation. We want to do more to welcome a broader audience and develop a more diverse workforce.

We work closely with our **staff networks** to develop our employee experience.

The V&A values are **Equity, Sustainability, Generosity, Collaboration and Creativity.**

We are committed to a strict **zero tolerance policy on any discrimination, harassment or bullying.**

Disability Confident

We are committed to guaranteeing an interview for applicants who declare they have a disability and meet the minimum criteria for the role.



What we offer you

- **29** days of holiday + public holidays each year
- **5.5%** employee pension contribution, **10%** employer pension contribution (*post-probation*)
- Life assurance scheme (*to value of 4 x annual salary*)
- Family-friendly policies e.g. enhanced maternity + paid carers leave
- An interest-free loan for a travelcard, bike, or for a deposit if you're renting (*post-probation*)
- Free sanitary products for all employees across our sites
- Free entrance to many major museums and exhibitions
- Benefits platform offering discounts at major retailers
- Socials events, such as staff summer and Christmas parties
- An Employee Assistance Programme – free and confidential services to provide support
- Tickets to V&A exhibitions for you, your friends or family + 25% discount on V&A shops and cafes



The application process:

The application process for this Residency opportunity is a four-stage process.

- **Stage One – Expression of Interest:** the deadline is Friday 17 July 2026 at 10am (UK Time)
- **Stage Two – Residency Proposal Submission:** the deadline is Friday 21 August 2026 at 10am (UK Time)
- **Stage Three – Interviews with the V&A Residencies Team:** Interviews to take place between 21 September and 2 October
- **Stage Four – Interviews with the Director of YV&A, Learning and Digital Programmes:** Interviews to take place between 28 September and 9 October

At **Stage One**, please complete a brief expression of interest via a short form on the V&A Residency Programme Awards Force Platform: <https://varesidencies.awardsplatform.com>

British Sign Language users are welcome to email a filmed expression of interest to residencyprogramme@vam.ac.uk

Stage One Details:

At this stage of the application, we want to:

- Find out some basic information about you, your creative practice, and broad ideas for the Residency.
- Hear about your skills, knowledge, and public engagement experience working with audiences.
- Have a link to your website or online portfolio of projects relevant to this Residency.

The V&A Residencies team will shortlist around 20 applications to go to the second stage. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer any feedback on Stage One applications. Shortlisted Applicants will be notified by **Monday 10 August 2026** and invited to Stage Two.

Applicants at this stage will be invited to develop a short proposal for their residency; more details will be shared with those successful. Successful entrants at this stage will be invited to interviews.

For any questions and to receive a link to a British Sign Language version of this open call, please email: residencyprogramme@vam.ac.uk

Thank you

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Any Questions?

Contact our Recruitment team at
careers@vam.ac.uk

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