

National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales

Open call for independent members
to join the Stakeholder Sub-group

Cydweithio i sefydlu ein horiel gyfoes genedlaethol i Gymru

Working together to establish our national contemporary gallery for Wales



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Background

The establishment of the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales is a priority for Welsh Government and has the potential to deliver strategic benefits that align directly with The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and a range of other interconnected policies including education, economy and health.

Amgueddfa Cymru, the National Library of Wales and the Arts Council of Wales have been working together to develop the governance, management and delivery mechanisms of the initiative.

Through this partnership, the organisations seek to deliver the commitment of the Welsh Government through its Co-operation Agreement with Plaid Cymru for the establishment of this unique project for Wales. The National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales has the potential to provide a focal point for contemporary visual artists and communities across Wales, alongside national and international audiences.

The Arts Council of Wales, Amgueddfa Cymru and the National Library of Wales were identified as the most appropriate bodies to lead this new initiative for Wales, given their strategic role in delivering the cultural ambitions of the Welsh Government.

Joining this strategic partnership in the ongoing development and delivery of the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales are nine galleries. Spread across Wales, the gallery partners are Plas Glyn y Weddw, Storiol, Mostyn, Ruthin Craft Centre, Oriel Davies, Aberystwyth Art Centre Gallery, Oriel Myrddin, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery and Newport Museum and Art Gallery.

Operating as a partnership model, the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales aims to facilitate increased access to and sense of ownership of the national collection of contemporary art in Wales. The national collection is cared for by Amgueddfa Cymru and the National Library. A parallel aim for the initiative is to grow the audience for visual art. This is with an understanding that contemporary art in particular has a strong appeal to younger and more diverse audiences that are not strongly represented in gallery attendance in Wales. Strategic programming and commissioning is being planned across the distributed model, working with and beyond the national collection. A new brand will be established to frame the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales concept.

Collaborative working is crucial to the initiative. Artist and wider stakeholder engagement has helped to inform the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales business case. It is vital that a formal mechanism for artist and stakeholder involvement, through the Stakeholder Sub-group, is now established in order to progress the development of the business model and to inform delivery that will benefit the sector and the communities of Wales.

National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales: Stakeholder Sub-group

The strategic direction of the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales is set by the Project Board. The Project Board is chaired by independent member Mandy Williams-Davies. Membership comprises representatives from the three lead organisations together with independent members. The Project Board is accountable to the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism. There are four sub-groups being established to advise the Project Board. These include the Stakeholder Sub-group.

Purpose and membership of the Stakeholder Sub-group

The Stakeholder Sub-group will provide insight into, and support for, sector and public engagement with the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales. It will ensure that opportunities for practicing contemporary artists in Wales are embedded within the development of the initiative.

The role of the Stakeholder Sub-group will include:

- working on the development of a stakeholder and engagement strategy
- contributing to the potential, ongoing development of the initiative beyond March 2025
- contributing to brand development that will provide a unified and consistent identity
- supporting and undertaking communication and engagement with wider partners and stakeholders
- identifying opportunities and contributing to strategic planning for growing the cultural tourism reach of the initiative
- contributing to the development of programme priorities, including commissioning opportunities for Wales based artists
- developing opportunities for independent creatives to engage with, contribute to and benefit from the initiative.

Chaired by Arts Council Wales, Stakeholder Sub-group membership will comprise creative practitioners, representatives from the wider cultural industries in Wales and tourism bodies.

Members are being appointed through two routes, via an open call and through co-option by the Chair, with agreement from Project Board.

This open call is to recruit 5 independent members.

Requirements of members

Prospective members are invited to apply their lived experience and professional expertise to Stakeholder Sub-group business.

Specific requirements across the membership of the sub-group include:

National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales: Stakeholder Sub-group

- knowledge of contemporary visual arts practice in Wales, including knowledge of individuals and networks
- knowledge of contemporary visual arts in the UK and internationally, including knowledge of institutions and networks
- experience working in cultural tourism, strategic planning and delivery
- expertise in audience engagement
- experience of creative programme planning and delivery
- a diverse range of lived experience.

When applying to be a member of the Stakeholder Sub-group, you should reflect at least one of these requirements in the statement you submit as part of the application process.

Kindly note that prospective independent members must not be in contract to or a trustee of any of the lead organisations at the time of their appointment, nor be in contract to the Welsh Government.

Equalities

We welcome applications from people irrespective of disability, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnic origin or religious beliefs.

We are committed to working with those whose background and/or identity is under-represented in the arts and in Arts Council of Wales. This includes, but is not limited to, those from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, d/Deaf, neurodivergent, disabled people or those with long-term health difficulties and those with LGBTQIA+ identities.

Welsh Language

We work in both English and Welsh. Fluency in Welsh (both written and spoken) is desirable but not essential for this post. However, they will bring a valuable skill that will strengthen the ability of the project as a whole to provide an effective and efficient bilingual service.

Meetings and resources

Meetings will be held quarterly. One meeting per year will be held in-person, with the other three meetings being held on-line. Independent members will be paid a fee for their time involved in Stakeholder Sub-group business. This will be calculated on a basis of £150 per meeting.

Sub-group resources will be held digitally by Arts Council Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru and will be digitally shared with members.

Duration

National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales: Stakeholder Sub-group

The Stakeholder Sub-Group will operate for a defined period, to March 2025 in the first instance, with the option for extension based on the ongoing model of the National Contemporary Art Gallery Wales. A review will be conducted at the end of the initial period to assess the effectiveness of the sub-group.

How to apply

Please apply to join the Stakeholder Sub-group by sending us:

- your cv
- a brief covering letter (no more than 500 words) reflecting the role of the Sub-group and at least one of the requirements of members, as detailed above, and why you'd like to be involved
- an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring Form.

Applications are welcomed in Welsh or English and we will correspond with you in your language of choice. If you would like to submit your application in an alternative format, such as voice note or British Sign Language video, you are welcome to do so. Please contact us first.

Closing date for applications - 12:00pm midday, Friday 9 February 2024

Applications should be sent to:

mared.morgan@arts.wales

Should you wish to find out more about the role of the Stakeholder Sub-group or have an informal discussion about your potential involvement before applying, please contact:

louise.wright@arts.wales

Applications from culturally and ethnically diverse people and underrepresented groups are encouraged and warmly welcomed. We are committed to working with those whose background or identity is under-represented in the arts. This includes, but is not limited to, those from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse backgrounds, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, d/Deaf, neurodivergent, disabled people or those with long-term health difficulties and those with LGBTQIA+ identities.

Selection

A panel comprising a member of the Project Board, Stakeholder Sub-group Chair and project officers will be responsible for assessing the applications and selecting independent members.

All applicants will be notified of the decision no later than four weeks after the application deadline. The panel's decisions are final. Feedback will be offered for unsuccessful applications.

With sincere thanks for your interest.

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THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES**

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GLYNN VIVIAN

**MANOLFAWYRHELDYDDAU
ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE**

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