

General FAQs

For questions relating to eligibility criteria, the application process and schedule please consult our Application Guidance and FAQs.

What do you mean by lower socio-economic backgrounds?

We mean individuals who were raised in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society. Questions on the application form relating to socio-economic background follow guidance from the Social Mobility Commission.

What makes this programme unique?

Designed and taught by internationally recognised curators, New Curators places equal emphasis on academic preparation, skills training, practical experience, networking and coaching and mentoring. By doing so, the programme provides greater opportunities for professional and personal development than offered in most traditional MA degrees.

Why is the programme not longer?

The length of the programme is determined by the Tier 5 Temporary Worker Government Authorised Exchange visa, which is usually issued for 12 months. In the UK most Masters degrees take one-year to complete when studied full time.

Is the Programme accredited?

No, the programme is not accredited. On successfully completing the training, participants will receive a certificate from New Curators.

Who will teach the participants?

New Curators Directors (Mark Godfrey, Kerry Greenberg and Rudi Minto de Wijs) deliver the core academic seminars and skills training

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sessions. These are supplemented by sessions led by a wide range of curators, artists, architects, and other arts professionals.

Will participants be able to get a job after completing the programme?

According to extensive job market research, prospective employers are interested in applicants with a range of experiences and skills and in recent years have been actively encouraging individuals from groups that are under-represented in the sector to apply for roles. While an undergraduate degree remains a pre-requisite for most employers, today relevant education and/or work experience is as highly valued in the curatorial profession as a post-graduate degree. New Curators will support its alumni in sharing opportunities and making introductions to assist graduates in their next steps.

What is New Curators' relationship to the South London Gallery?

Supporting emerging talent and nurturing creativity is a key aspect of the South London Gallery's remit. While remaining independent, the two charities are collaborating because they share a commitment to outreach and education in the pursuit of excellence. New Curators will cover the South London Gallery's costs in hosting the programme.

Will the programme be delivered in person or virtually?

Seminars and skills-training sessions will be delivered in person. Whenever possible, sessions with guest speakers will be in person, but Zoom will also be used to ensure participants meet a wide range of international curators and other arts professionals.

What will a typical week look like?

The participants will spend three days per week preparing for and attending academic seminars and skills training workshops and working on assignments. One day each week will be dedicated to visiting exhibitions, artists' studios, and collections, followed by discussions. That day might also include a guest talk. The final day each week will be spent working on the annual New Curators exhibition.

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How much will participants be paid?

New Curators will pay every participant the Real Living Wage, which is an hourly rate of pay (currently £13.50/hour for London) set independently and calculated according to the basic cost of living in the UK. The Real Living Wage is updated annually, and employers choose to pay the Living Wage on a voluntary basis. Participants will receive a full-time employment contract for 12-months.

How often will New Curators exhibitions be held and where?

Every year, each cohort will work on one main exhibition, which will be presented at a partner venue. The first exhibition will be realised at the South London Gallery in summer 2024. We are in discussions with other UK and international organisations of a similar scale about hosting future New Curators exhibitions.

Will participants have an opportunity to travel?

Participants will visit associated organisations in the UK in person, in addition to one fully funded organised international trip.

How will participants be assessed?

Participants will be assessed on a range of assignments and tasks throughout the twelve months. Assessments will include individual written projects (for example, short essays, reviews, edited interviews with artists, press releases), oral presentations, practical assignments (budget related exercises, for instance), and group projects. The final assessment will be a fully developed exhibition proposal, which will be marked by New Curators directors and the external faculty. Participants will be graded as pass or fail.

How will New Curators look after the welfare of the participants?

New Curators will support the participants in the following ways:

- Financially through the provision of a Real Living Wage.
- Academically through regular access to the New Curators Directors.
- Professionally through engagement with a wide range of guest speakers and staff at the South London Gallery.

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- Mental health support will be provided on a case-by-case basis.
- Practical support will be provided by our coordinator with any issues escalated to the Directors as necessary.

How does New Curators' leadership reflect its values and mission?

New Curators has a co-leadership model with Mark Godfrey, Kerry Greenberg and Rudi Minto de Wijs equally responsible for the charity's strategic direction and day-to-day management. This is appropriate because the Directors have different, but complementary skills, and collaboration is a defining feature of our approach. Godfrey is the principal lead for academic matters, Greenberg for exhibitions and collaborations and de Wijs for community engagement and communications. The Directors work closely together and with the Board of Trustees led by Lynn Blades to ensure New Curators adheres to its vision and meets its objectives.