CROSS-DISCIPLINARY INNOVATION FUND GUIDANCE
Leeds Museums and Galleries (LMG) has long had a strong and fruitful partnership with the University of Leeds, particularly in the areas of history and museology. Through the Innovation Fund, the Cultural Institute and LMG encourage new collaborations between curators and researchers from a wider range of academic disciplines.

**WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?**

Proposals that are innovative and help develop fresh understandings of LMG collections from unusual or non-traditional perspectives. This might include proposals for new interpretations, talks, or events of interest to a general audience, but we are happy to consider compelling ideas that fall outside these simple categories. There may be commonalities between research and collections in areas such as:

- health and wellbeing
- climate change
- biodiversity crisis
- inclusion

**WHAT IS AVAILABLE?**

In Round 3, we hope to make up to 5 awards of around £1000 each.

The funding can cover the full costs of the activity including, but not limited to:

- internships
- materials
- venue and equipment hire
- travel and subsistence
HOW TO APPLY

The proposals should be jointly prepared and submitted by partners from LMG and University of Leeds. Lead University of Leeds partner applicants must be employed on an academic contract that will end no sooner than 31 July 2021.

Please make your application on the form, and submit it by 6th May 2020 to culturalinstitute@leeds.ac.uk. We plan to inform successful applicants within three weeks of the deadline. University of Leeds partners must seek the approval of their Head of School.

If you are successful, you may start your project immediately. Funding must be spent by 31st July 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

On 1st April 2020, 12pm - 2pm, School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering SR 3.52, there will be an opportunity to hear an introduction to LMG collections, hear about a past funded project and to discuss ideas with curators in person. Researchers may also contact curators directly via email (list below).

Please book your place at this session on Eventbrite.

Curators who wish to meet researchers from specific disciplines are invited to contact Erica Ramsay e.ramsay@leeds.ac.uk at the Cultural Institute.
ABOUT LEEDS MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

LMG are one of the largest local authority museum services in the country and LMG’s collections of over one million objects collected since 1819 give insights into the evolving natural world, human history and culture. These collections reflect Leeds as a vibrant and changing city and place Leeds in a global context. Through the collections we can discover and learn from the past in order that we might make sense of the present and prepare for the future.

The LMG collections of natural science, fine and decorative art and industrial history have been designated as collections of national significance. We also have substantial and noteworthy collections of archaeology, coins and medals, dress and textiles, social history and world cultures.

If you would like to find out more about what's in our collections and how they may align with your research interests please contact Yvonne Hardman, Head of Collections and Programmes at Leeds Museums and Galleries who will put you in touch with the relevant curator: yvonne.hardman@leeds.gov.uk.

Alternatively, please contact the most relevant curator directly from the contacts on the next page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLECTION AREA</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology and numismatics</td>
<td>Kat Baxter, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:katherine.baxter@leeds.gov.uk">katherine.baxter@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural sciences</td>
<td>Clare Brown, Curator Rebecca Machin,</td>
<td><a href="mailto:clare.brown@leeds.gov.uk">clare.brown@leeds.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:rebecca.machin@leeds.gov.uk">rebecca.machin@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curator Milo Phillips, Assistant</td>
<td><a href="mailto:milo.phillips@leeds.gov.uk">milo.phillips@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curator, Entomology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives of Sculptors' Papers</td>
<td>Errin Hussey, Archivist</td>
<td><a href="mailto:errin.hussey@leeds.gov.uk">errin.hussey@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World cultures</td>
<td>Adam Jaffer, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adam.jaffer@leeds.gov.uk">adam.jaffer@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial History</td>
<td>John McGoldrick, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.mcgoldrick@leeds.gov.uk">john.mcgoldrick@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects Curator</td>
<td>Lucy Moore, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lucy.moore@leeds.gov.uk">lucy.moore@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
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<td>(current project is LMG's 200th</td>
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<td>birthday in 2021)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dress and textiles</td>
<td>Natalie Raw, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:natalie.raw@leeds.gov.uk">natalie.raw@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeds and Social history</td>
<td>Kitty Ross, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kitty.ross@leeds.gov.uk">kitty.ross@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern and contemporary art</td>
<td>Nigel Walsh, Curator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nigel.walsh@leeds.gov.uk">nigel.walsh@leeds.gov.uk</a></td>
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THE RESERVOIR THAT WASN’T: DECISION MAKING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

**Collaborators:**
- Alice Owen, School of Earth and Environment
- Katy Roelich, Earth and Environment / Civil Engineering
- John McGoldrick, Curator of Industrial History

The purpose of this project is to investigate the 19th century development of reservoirs in the upper catchments of the Nidd and Derwent to provide water for the rapidly industrialising and growing city of Leeds, and to understand how decision making for infrastructure is constructed.

*It's been really interesting and eye opening already, and both Katy and I feel we've hit a really rich and unexplored interdisciplinary theme!* - Alice Owen

*It demonstrates the research potential of the industrial collections for a wide range of other research activities.* - John McGoldrick

The project team carried out new work on the archive, adding to LMG’s knowledge base, and developing skills and understanding in the use of archives for scientists. Learning has already been incorporated into research (partly through an existing EPSRC Fellowship), and teaching. The researchers have become really interested in the mechanics and potential of interdisciplinary working.

As a result of this project, an article was published in History and Policy (Owen/Roelich/Stark), in January 2020.
SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2018

INVESTIGATING ALKALOID PRESERVATION IN HERBARIUM SPECIMENS AND POTENTIAL SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF STORING PLANTS WITH ALKALOIDS

Collaborators:

- Karen Bacon, School of Geography
- Clare Brown, Curator of Natural Science

Museums can no longer legally hold herbarium sheets of cannabis without an expensive licence. However, it is unknown how alkaloid and lipid concentration changes over time in dried and stored leaves held by herbaria. We propose to hire a student intern to investigate the preservation potential of alkaloids and lipids in Hop (Humulus lupulus). This species has many of the same or similar compounds as the now restricted Cannabis sativa but is legal to work on without licencing and also has a significant cultural role.

*It's been very helpful to start to build relationships and a low risk way to try out slightly outlandish ideas* - Karen Bacon

The proof of concept project has influenced the team's research agenda, specifically a grant application and larger project on plant chemistry. The herbarium collection has never been used in this way before.
The purpose of this project is to generate a number of proposals for research-informed and visitor-focused events, activities and installations which will form part of the music-themed exhibition at Abbey House Museum in 2020. Inspired by the extensive array of music-related items in the LMG collections and bringing together academics, curators and digital media practitioners, we aim to design a range of experiences which will engage the public in debates regarding the value of preserving and exhibiting such items.

In the adoption of a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach and through design-led and practical responses, this project will unlock lost sounds, add new layers of interpretation, and open up new ways of interacting with the LM&G’s music-related collections.

The project relates to a number of strategic priorities at the University of Leeds, which include establishing research-related partnerships with cultural institutions, interrogating the capacity for digitally augmented experiences to facilitate new ways of engaging with museum collections and engaging the public in the issues and debates our research is intended to address. The project is also aligned with LMG's intentions to produce digital resources for wider dissemination and to establish meaningful partnerships with regional universities.
SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2019

IMAGING THE PICTURE GALLERY SUITE AT TEMPLE NEWSAM USING LIGHT MICROSCOPY

Collaborators:
- Michelle Peckham, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Ruth Hughes, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Rachel Conroy, Curator of Decorative Arts

To use light microscopy to give new insight into the needlework on a suite of furniture in the Picture Gallery at Temple Newsam. This suite forms the main focus of one of the most important surviving English rococo interiors.

This project will catalogue and record the suite in greater detail producing new information and insight about the suite to present to visitors through an information panel and other interpretation, including images in a digital format.

The microscopes can also be used for future public engagement events including the ‘Raw’ exhibition in 2021, exploring the raw components of the items in the collection. Giving hands on demonstrations to explore the pieces in a new way.