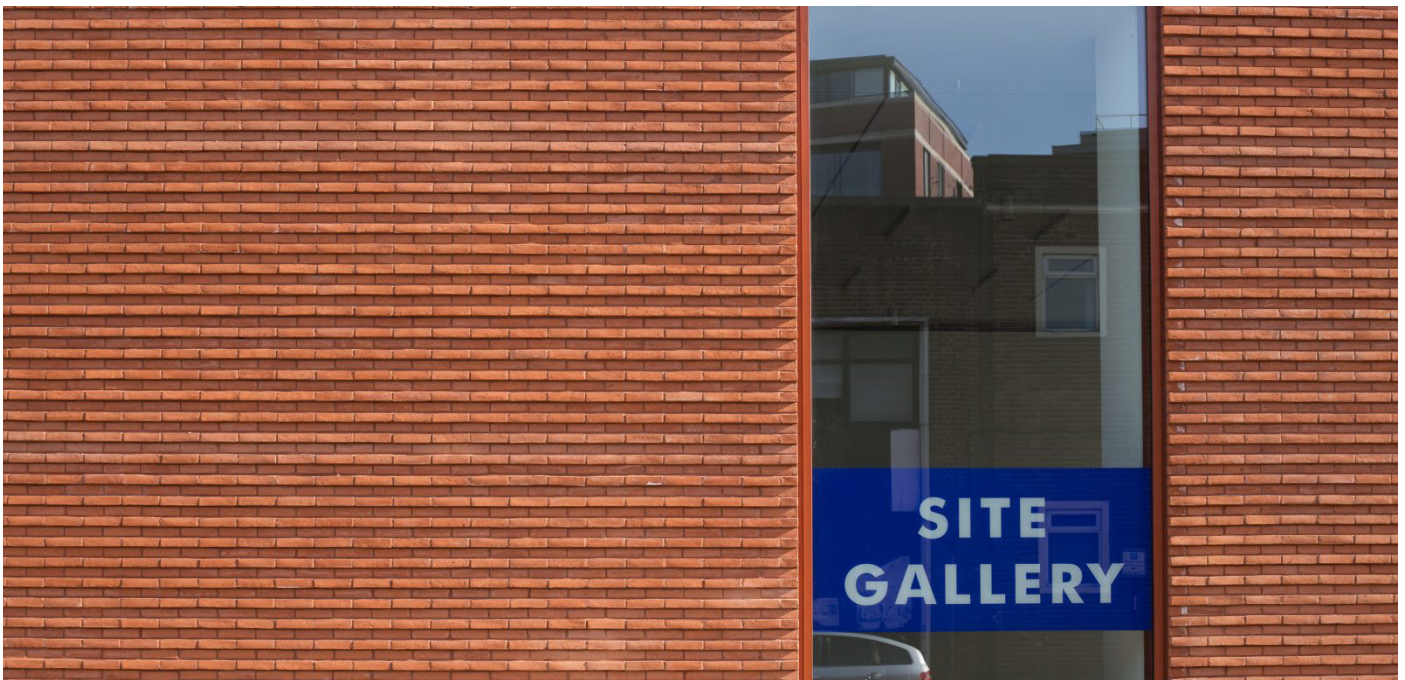


# SITE GALLERY

WESTON  
JERWOOD  
**CREATIVE  
BURSARIES**  
2020–2022

**Press Release / Tuesday 20 October 2020**

**SITE GALLERY IS ONE OF 50 ARTS ORGANISATIONS TO BE FUNDED TO  
HOST A WESTON JERWOOD CREATIVE BURSARIES FELLOW.**



- The role of Programme Assistant at Site Gallery is for someone at the beginning of their career with a passion for contemporary visual art and would benefit from a programme of professional support
- The successful candidate will work within Site's creative team and be involved in all aspects of making exhibitions and working with diverse communities to encourage people to engage with contemporary art
- The programme is targeted at applicants from lower socio-economic groups, who are under-represented in the arts and cultural sector
- Applications open on Tuesday 20th October 2020 and close midday Monday 30 November 2020

Site Gallery is to host a Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries Fellow as part of a programme to get more people from low socio-economic backgrounds into cultural careers. Across the UK there will be 50 exciting opportunities to develop a career in the arts, with each role playing an important part in the host organisation. Site Gallery is welcoming applications for the role of Programme Assistant, who will work within Site's creative team and be involved in all aspects of making exhibitions and working with diverse communities to encourage people to engage with contemporary art.

Even before the pandemic wreaked havoc on career prospects in the arts, those from middle-class backgrounds were 2.5 times more likely to end up in creative occupations than their

working-class peers. This is a situation which has not improved since records began in 2014. Social mobility is a greater issue in the cultural sector and wider creative industries than across the economy as a whole. The wider creative industries have created over 300,000 jobs over the past five years, yet the number of creative workers from working-class backgrounds has increased by just 33,000. Just as with the impact of the 2008 financial crisis, it is expected that those who are already finding it difficult to make their way in the arts will be the worst hit by the impact of Covid-19.

The Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries aim to redress the balance by funding 50 paid, year-long artistic and creative Fellowships as well as an organisational development programme run by people make it work to embed inclusive practices for the host organisation, with three members of the host team taking part, including a board member and a senior executive.

This is the fourth edition of the programme, which has been running for over 10 years and has 125 alumni to date, many of whom have forged successful careers. This edition of WJCB is the largest yet, with support from Arts Council England's Transforming Leadership Programme, Garfield Weston Foundation, Art Fund, Arts Council of Wales, Creative Scotland, and PRS Foundation.

### **Judith Harry, Executive Director of Site Gallery, comments:**

"At Site Gallery we care deeply that the work we create is relevant to our city and to people living in Sheffield. It is critical that our team is representative of the wide range of communities we engage with. Fair access to working in the arts and cultural sector is an urgent issue with people from lower socio-economic backgrounds still significantly under-represented amongst the artists and employees of UK arts organisations. We are delighted to be working in partnership with Jerwood Arts to address some of these critical issues of inequality and look forward to hearing from creative individuals who have so much to contribute to the cultural life of Sheffield."

### **Lilli Geissendorfer, director of Jerwood Arts, comments:**

"I'm delighted that Site Gallery has been selected to host a Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries Fellow. Site Gallery applied to be part of the programme before COVID-19 had been identified, so it is heartening that making their organisation more diverse and inclusive is still high on their agenda despite the additional challenges they are facing. It speaks to the resilience I have been inspired by from all corners of the arts and cultural sector in recent months to find the silver linings in the bleakest of times and commit to creating a stronger sector that everyone will benefit from."

The Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries 2020-2022 programme is designed and produced by Jerwood Arts. It is funded and supported by Arts Council England's Transforming Leadership Fund, Garfield Weston Foundation, Art Fund, Arts Council of Wales, The National Lottery through Creative Scotland, British Council, Jerwood Arts and PRS Foundation.

## **ENDS**

For further information please contact Kirsty-Elise Noonan at Site Gallery on [kirsty.noonan@sitegallery.org](mailto:kirsty.noonan@sitegallery.org)

Follow online with [#SiteGallery](#)

Website: [www.sitegallery.org](http://www.sitegallery.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/sitegallerysheffield](https://facebook.com/sitegallerysheffield) Twitter: [twitter.com/site\\_gallery](https://twitter.com/site_gallery)

Instagram: [instagram.com/sitegallery](https://www.instagram.com/sitegallery)

## Listings

Site Gallery

1 - 5 Brown Street,

Sheffield

S1 2BS

Current Opening Hours

Thursday – Sunday: 11 – 4

Monday – Wednesday: closed

Entry price: Free

## Notes to editors

### Site Gallery

Site Gallery, Sheffield is one of Yorkshire's leading international contemporary art spaces, supporting artists specialising in moving image, new media and performance. Pioneering emerging art practices and ideas, we work in partnership with local, regional and international collaborators to nurture artistic talent and support the development of contemporary art. At the heart of what we do, is to connect people to artists and to art, inspiring new thinking and debate through our exhibitions, projects, public programmes and participatory activity. Our programme embraces new forms of artistic production, including public and social engagement; artists connecting directly with audiences and interaction with technology; performance, live art, film events; and projects developed with the communities of interest we support. Deep research and collaboration characterise our approach; as does tolerance, openness and commitment to the idea of culture as a human right. We support artists whose work reflects on the issues and concerns of our era and that is relevant to local, national and international communities.

[sitegallery.org](http://sitegallery.org)

### Jerwood Arts

Jerwood Arts is the leading independent funder dedicated to supporting outstanding UK artists, curators and producers to develop and thrive. We collaborate with organisations across art forms to imagine a more sustainable sector. Our programmes provide transformative opportunities for early-career individuals through awards, fellowships and commissions, and we present exhibitions in our gallery in London and on tour nationally.

[jerwoodarts.org](http://jerwoodarts.org)

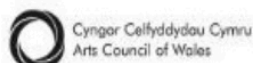
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