



Bradford  
District  
Museums  
& Galleries



## DesignLab Nation Bradford: Callout for designer

August 2024 - July 2025

### THE BRIEF

DesignLab Nation is an innovative project run by the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) with regional partner museums and their local Secondary schools, which aims to inspire the next generation of designers, makers and innovators. It provides young people with the practical skills and knowledge required to succeed in the creative industries, while using design practice to support key 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, such as creativity, critical thinking and collaboration.

Bradford District Museums & Galleries are partnering with the V&A to deliver DesignLab Nation with three local Secondary schools in the Bradford district between September 2024 and July 2025. We are looking to recruit an innovative designer/maker to co-design and deliver teacher development sessions and in-depth student design projects. The project will focus on the architecture and grounds of Cliffe Castle Museum, and particularly its stained-glass collection.

The selected designer will set a design challenge for students, which they will then work towards solving through four creative full day sessions. With support from museum teams from Bradford Museums and Galleries and V&A, the designer will plan a series of focused workshops, highlighting key stages of a designer's journey including finding inspiration, writing a brief, experimentation, prototyping, and presentation. Sessions should involve creative thinking, critical thinking, and collaborative activities, as well as interactive talks, demonstrations, and supportive feedback crits. The selected designer will also be asked to support with several Teacher sessions and celebration events throughout the academic year, as well as participate in planning meetings and contribute to evaluation. Students and teachers will be encouraged to take inspiration from objects and collections at V&A and Bradford Museums and Galleries.

Designers should demonstrate how students will be encouraged to think creatively and how the project will support the Design and Technology GCSE syllabus. The designer/maker does not need to have direct experience of producing stained glass. Instead, the designer/maker can introduce the collection of stained-glass to students through other disciplines and approaches – for example, colour, pattern and light in architecture and our environment, spatial design, colour theory, 3-D design, graphics or another angle. The designer/maker should also have a strong awareness of the use of sustainable materials and sustainable approaches to design.

Alongside the architecture of Cliffe Castle, designers may wish to draw broader inspiration from the ideas of 'windows', 'reflection' and 'inside/outside'. Themes such as Bradford City of Culture 2025, or the Natural Science collection and the natural setting of Cliffe Castle's grounds could be explored.

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### Essential criteria for the designer/maker:

- o Have experience in leading creative workshops with young people of secondary school age and will be able to steer and inspire students and teachers.
- o Have strong communication skills and be able to adapt your approach to effectively engage students and teachers at different levels and with different needs.

o Ideally work, live or have links to the Bradford District. Be willing to travel regularly to and around the area over the course of the project. Schools spend a day at the V&A Museum in London so the designer must be willing to accompany them on these days (travel will be paid).

o Be highly organised, and able to project plan and schedule accordingly. Ideally be able to broker relationships with local design industries to add further scope to the project.

o Be able to complete a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Disclosure, which is at least 3 years in date.

We are keen to recruit Designers who reflect the ethnic and social demographics of our region.

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**The work will comprise of three strands:**

**1) Co-design and co-deliver the Teachers Development Strand**

Host a series of 2x Teacher Development workshops with the 3 key project delivery teachers who will be taking part in the school projects in the late Autumn term 2024 and Spring and Summer term 2025.

These workshops should include 1-day visit to the Bradford District Museums (Cliffe Castle Museum) and a 1-day visit to the V&A, South Kensington.

Working with Bradford District Museums & Galleries and the V&A, ensure that these workshops are well structured, organised and inspirational, aiming to actively involve teachers in the development of the school projects.

These workshops should:

- Support the development of DesignLab Nation projects plans and resources leading to the delivery of the 3 school projects in the Autumn 2024, Spring and Summer terms 2025.
- Support teachers to develop critical thinking, creative thinking and collaboration skills.
- Support teachers to develop awareness and understanding of Bradford's Art and Craft traditions.
- Build a new or develop existing network between local teachers, design industries, local museums and the V&A focusing on design.
- Provide teachers with ideas and approaches to take back to the classroom to support their teaching.

**2) Design and deliver a project to run with three schools in the Bradford District in partnership with Bradford District Museums & Galleries, V&A and the Schools**

- o Following the Teacher Development Strand, and in collaboration with Bradford District Museums and V&A, the designer will develop the Design Challenge and create session plans for the student projects.
- o The student projects will run over four full days in each term of 2024-5 academic year (late Autumn 2024, Spring 2025 & Summer 2025). The location of the workshops for each school will be at Cliffe Castle Museum (2 days), V&A South Kensington (1 day) and at the school (1 day). The four workshops will see schools through all aspects of solving/realising the DesignLab Challenge- including research, identifying a brief, experimentation, development, refinement and sharing.
- o We would ideally also like to include an interaction (visit or talk) from a local design industry. (For example, students involved with DesignLab Nation Stoke-on-Trent visited the Emma Bridgewater factory.)
- o Bradford District Museums & Galleries, the Designer and Schools will embrace the V&A DesignLab Nation framework where there is particular emphasis on:
  - Prototyping and iterative working
  - Problem solving
  - Making links with other design and STEAM industries
  - A student led approach

- Object based learning
- Gaining 21st century skills
- Opportunities to find out about creative pathways and local design heritage
- Supporting and inspiring teachers
- Embedding the Schools Project into classroom teaching

### 3) Design and deliver the Celebration Event & Regional Teacher CPD

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- In each region each academic year we plan to host a celebration event with all participating schools to highlight achievements. The focus of this will be a Student Display of work. The Celebration event will take place in June/July 2025 and will be delivered in partnership with Bradford District Museums & Galleries.
- In each region each academic year we plan to host a continuing professional development (CPD) session for regional networks of teachers to expand the reach of the programme. The Regional Teacher CPD will take place in June/July 2025.

*Please note that we need the designer to be available for all three strands of work.*

#### Designer Indicative Timeline

**July/August 2024:** Recruit designer

**September 2024:** Planning and preparation

**October 2024:** Teacher Development Strand CPD- 2 x full day sessions (1 day at V&A, 1 day at Cliffe Castle Museum)

**November 2024- July 2025:** Project Delivery- 3 school projects- each with 4 sessions each (1 day V&A South Ken, 3 days in Bradford District)

**July 2024:** Wider Teacher CPD delivery (TBC), End of project celebration/ Student Display

**July/August 2024:** Designer contributes to dissemination and evaluation

#### Fees

##### Teachers Development Strand- Early Autumn term 2024

Lead 2 x creative sessions @ £240 each= £480

Planning and preparation 2 x days @ £240 each= £480

**Total: £960**

##### School projects- Autumn 2024, Spring 2025 and Summer term 2025

3x DLN school projects

The fees for each school project are:

Lead 4 x creative session @ £240 each= £960

Planning and preparation 3 x days @ £240 each= £720

Total: £1680.00

**Total: £5,040.00**

##### Regional CPD and Celebration- Summer term 2025

- 2 x £240 for the Lead Designer to lead a workshop at the Teachers Regional CPD, including 1 day planning= £480 – please note this event is tbc.
- 1.5 x £240 for the Lead Designer to lead a workshop at the Celebration event and contribute to the Student Display= £360

- **For this work:** 1 day celebration delivery, 0.5 day celebration event prep/planning at £240 per day - **£360.00**

**Total: £840.00**

**Overall total: £6,840.00**

#### **Other Budget**

- There will then be approx. £200 material budget for each school project and £50 per Teachers CPD/workshop.
- The designer will also be consulted on the budget for Teacher's Development Strand, Teacher's Regional CPD and Celebration Event/Student Display.
- For trips to the V&A, London participating designers will have travel paid for them to support the visit. We are happy to review reimbursing for designers visiting schools or partner museums and creative organisations where necessary.

#### **How to apply**

If you are interested in tendering for this project, please send a summary of your relevant experience with an outline of possible project ideas to [learning@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:learning@bradford.gov.uk) by **Monday 29 July at 4 p.m.** Maximum 500 words.

Interviews will be carried out Tuesday 6 August