

PRESS RELEASE

Reinventing leadership in the cultural sector

Applications are now open for Oxford Cultural Leaders 2019, the residential leadership programme designed and delivered by Oxford University's Gardens, Libraries & Museums in partnership with the Saïd Business School.

Oxford Cultural Leaders is a unique programme for directors and senior managers in cultural organisations, who want to redefine their identity as leaders and their vision for their institution at a time of increasing challenge and complexity for the sector. Designed and delivered by Oxford University's Gardens, Libraries & Museums (GLAM), in partnership with Saïd Business School, the programme brings together expertise from the cultural and business sectors to encourage participants to explore how cultural organisations can reinvent themselves as not-for-profit hybrid-businesses, with entrepreneurial ways of thinking and behaving.

As the recent devastating fire at the National Museum in Rio revealed, cultural leaders are currently having to grapple with a huge range of issues, from funding and political challenges to complex internal demands and changing audience expectations. These multi-layered challenges require leaders who are dynamic, flexible and responsive, and who are able to steer their institutions successfully through change.

'I firmly believe that the success of the sector is reliant on a new type of leader - one who embraces change; is entrepreneurial in outlook; who continually looks outwards to learn new things and yet is rooted in a strong sense of values, core purpose and public service,' said **Diane Lees, Director General, Imperial War Museums**.

'Oxford Cultural Leaders was a chance to reflect and think deeply about our joint values, purpose and responsibilities as leaders in the cultural sector,' commented **Miki Lentin, Head of Corporate Affairs, British Library**. 'I came away energised and incredibly hopeful about the future, knowing that together we could inspire the organisations we all work for.'

'What surprised me most was the programme's ability to suspend the participants' status issues and positioning and create a trusting, open, generous and sharing environment between us. It allowed us to work really well together, and this did generate some incredible moments of co-creation,' said **Anette Østerby, Head of Visual Arts, Danish Arts Council**.

Oxford Cultural Leaders is a five-day residential programme, which brings together a group of approximately 20 leaders from across the world. The 2019 programme runs from **7 to 12 April 2019**, and the deadline for applications is 12 noon on 7 January 2019. Participants will stay at Corpus Christi College in the heart of Oxford, close to the museums, cultural venues and university buildings used to deliver the teaching, workshops and the social programme.

To find out more about the programme and to apply, visit www.glam.ox.ac.uk/oxford-cultural-leaders

Or contact:

Lucy Shaw
Programme Director, Oxford Cultural Leaders
Oxford University Gardens, Libraries & Museums
lucy.shaw@museums.ox.ac.uk | 01865 613783

Notes to Editors:

Oxford University's Gardens, Libraries & Museums (GLAM)

The Gardens, Libraries and Museums of the University of Oxford contain some of the most significant and inspirational collections in the world. They enable us to share astonishing stories of humanity and the natural world that stretch across space and time.

GLAM links research and scholarship with professional practice to create transforming cultural engagement and experiences for communities (local and international), sector professionals, scientists, artists and academics: www.glam.ox.ac.uk.

The University's four museums – the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, the Museum of the History of Science, the Museum of Natural History and the Pitt Rivers Museum - receive National Portfolio funding from Arts Council England: <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>

Saïd Business School

Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford blends the best of new and old. We are a vibrant and innovative business school, but yet deeply embedded in an 800 year old world-class university. We create programmes and ideas that have global impact. We educate people for successful business careers, and as a community seek to tackle world-scale problems. We deliver cutting-edge programmes and ground-breaking research that transform individuals, organisations, business practice, and society. We seek to be a world-class business school community, embedded in a world-class University, tackling world-scale problems.



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