

# THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALJERY

Role:	Teen Tours Mentor
Team:	Programming (Education)
Line manager:	Curator, Youth Programmes
Contract:	Temporary, freelance
Dates:	March 2025 to March 2026
Location:	Predominantly office and gallery-based
Salary:	£5,160 (inclusive fee, average £50 hourly rate)
Holiday:	n/a
Pension:	n/a

## The Photographers' Gallery

The Photographers' Gallery explores how photography is connecting, captivating and radically changing our world today. The Gallery's programme and spaces – from exhibitions, talks, workshops and digital platforms, to the galleries, shop and cafe – all explore the beauty, complexity and future of photography. Right outside the Gallery, the very best of contemporary photography is shown for free, day and night, in Soho Photography Quarter. On the borders of busy Oxford Street and vibrant Soho, the Gallery is home to photography experts, novices and the photo-curious; artists and students; tourists, locals and passers-by; and an enthusiastic and committed staff team.

### **Our values**

- **Expose a fuller picture** – by revealing narratives that go beyond the frame.
- **Develop future creators** – by nurturing artists and new audiences, and actively seeking under-represented voices in who we work with and welcome in our spaces.
- **Be one social space** – a place for sharing and collaboration, joining up everything we do both virtually and in Soho.

### About this Role

The *Teen Tours* programme is an opportunity for 14-19-year-olds from non-mainstream schools to develop their confidence in public speaking and engagement with photography. Participants will be drawn from Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) schools, with support and guidance from education specialists. Each young person uses a TPG exhibition as a springboard to research a selection of work, and draw on their own impressions, experience and ideas, to give audiences a unique, informed tour of a show.

The Teen Tours programme aims to:

- Empower young participants from non-mainstream schools to enhance their public speaking, critical thinking, and presentation skills within the context of the arts.
- Involve and welcome young participants' wider class cohort in a visit to the gallery.

- Provide audiences with fresh and diverse viewpoints on exhibitions, shaped by young people's personal stories and ideas.

### **About this role:**

The principal objective of the Teen Tours Mentor is to plan, organise and support the delivery and evaluation of Teen Tours.

### **Main Responsibilities:**

- communicate, support and guide six individual or pairs of 14–19-year-olds to research, plan and lead a 20-minute tour of a TPG exhibition
- introduce each public tour, representing TPG to the public
- evaluate each tour with both tour leaders and audiences
- collate evaluations and write a short summary of each tour

### **Outline of key tasks**

#### Preparation & Research:

- light-touch research into participating pupils and their school setting prior to meetings, gaining insight into their backgrounds and learning needs;
- researching exhibitions, in addition to attending the Private View/staff tour;
- initial meeting at school with Teaching Assistant, class and TPG staff.

#### Mentoring & Delivery:

- scheduling and leading on up to five mentoring sessions with each young person (or pair) and their Teaching Assistant, helping them develop and practice their tour by asking questions, giving guidance, constructive feedback and suggestions;
- meeting participants on the day of their tour – helping them prepare, introducing them and supporting them throughout their talk;
- involving programme supporters and staff, where appropriate.

#### Administration, Evaluation & Reporting:

- monitoring the Teen tours email, ensuring enquiries are answered within a timely manor;
- photographing each tour and archiving images after the event;
- handing out, scanning, summarising and archiving participant and audience feedback forms after each tour;
- recording and archiving attendance figures for each tour;
- writing and archiving a 200-word report on the journey each participant has taken in the delivery of their tour.

### **Support from TPG:**

Gallery staff, particularly the Curator, Youth Programmes will provide support by:

- providing information on the exhibitions and artists

- attending some school sessions where appropriate
- offering a set of guidelines for how to structure meetings
- giving introductions to the curators and exhibiting artists, where possible
- answering requests/questions in a timely fashion
- attending a *Teen Tour* dry-run to offer feedback and advice, and attending the tour on the day
- writing and submitting a final report to the programme supporter.

**Ideal experience/skills:**

- demonstrated passion and experience in supporting young people within the arts, particularly in an educational context;
- strong communication skills, especially the ability to listen and provide thoughtful feedback;
- experience of working with young people with additional needs;
- familiarity with non-mainstream school settings;
- interest in and knowledge of photography and related media;
- past or current involvement in mentoring;
- solid understanding of the key aspects of public speaking or performance;
- commitment to the concept of young people taking centre stage in public venues.

***Whilst the above person specifications offers a useful guide to the experience level expected, we encourage applications from anyone who feels they could bring alternative, equally beneficial skills, experience and perspective to the role.***

The Photographers' Gallery is committed to equal opportunities and encourage applications from all persons without discrimination. We particularly welcome applications from people currently under-represented in the arts sector, particularly disabled people and those from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds. Any materials provided by you as an applicant will be treated as your Intellectual Property. The Photographers' Gallery will only save such materials as part of recruitment and selection process.

To apply please download an application pack and Equal Opportunities form. Please note we cannot accept CV-only applications – you must complete the application pack to apply for this role.

Please email completed applications to [vacancies@tpg.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@tpg.org.uk) with subject header: Teen Tours Programme Coordinator and Mentor

**Deadline for applications: Monday 17 February, 12:00pm**

**Position begins: Mid-March 2025**

Please note: if you are not invited for an interview your application has not been successful. With apologies we are unable to respond to personal enquiries.