

Core Art Technician Training Programme for the East Midlands | Open Call

Deadline: Sunday 16 April 2023, 11pm

When: Monday 26 – Friday 30 June 2023, 9AM – 5PM

Where: Nottingham City Museums & Galleries

[Contemporary Visual Arts Network East Midlands](#) (CVAN EM) is the free-to-access Contemporary Visual Arts Network for the East Midlands, encompassing Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutland. We celebrate and support arts and culture in the region, fostering an inclusive long-term future for the sector, emphasising equity and access for all arts workers.

Project Overview

CVAN EM has been awarded funding from [Art Fund's Reimagine programme](#) to help deliver an Art Technician Training Programme for the East Midlands, in partnership with [ArtTechSpace](#) and supported by organisations across the region.

We will focus on both upskilling those already in the industry and training new technicians – creating a larger pool of skilled workers **across the region**. The programme will also see CVAN EM establish paid work-shadowing opportunities, launch an arts worker online directory, and tackle concurrent exhibition install scheduling in the East Midlands. Activity will take place over summer 2023.

The project will be unique to the East Midlands and offer multiple means to access **funded, free, and subsidised** training opportunities. The training programme will prioritise [Priority Places](#) and access for art technicians from backgrounds currently under-presented in this industry and the wider sector, with a focus on freelancers from the Global Ethnic Majority.

Opportunity Overview

CVAN EM and ArtTechSpace are seeking applications from new technicians and those looking to upskill to participate in a one-week **Core Art Technician Training Programme!** Details of how to engage in further learning opportunities will be shared over the coming weeks and will include:

- Subsidised [PASMA](#) and [IPAF](#) training
- Professional development workshops focused on unions, invoicing and method statements
- Advanced training focused on live events, AV, lighting, and exhibition furniture building.

The aim of the **Core Art Technician Training Programme** is to show best practice in the presentation, handling, installation and storage of artworks and artefacts in the gallery / museum setting, in order to support future employment in the region's arts and culture sector.

Support New Art Technicians: To introduce people living in the East Midlands to the art technical profession, with the aim to help create new art technicians and address the skills shortage in the wider region. The training programme will prioritise those living in [Priority Places](#) across the East Midlands and access for applicants from the Global Ethnic Majority.

Support Current Art Technicians: For more experienced technicians this is a chance to grow their network and refresh or broaden their knowledge whilst supporting new learners so that they themselves can be leaders in the industry by championing best practice - a 'train the trainer' approach!

Key Aims: The main concern when working with art and artefacts is their safety. The aim of this programme is to minimise the risks involved in the handling, hanging, display and storage of artworks and objects and any associated risk to those handling them. The handling of artworks and valuable, fragile and unique objects, requires a specialist approach, with careful planning, proper resources and training. The range of activities required when handling works of art, are as follows:

- Confident, accurate and safe handling of artwork
- Safe and secure movement of artwork
- Safe and secure storage of artwork
- Packing and protection of artwork
- Safe and secure installation of artworks
- Knowledge of different materials and media and how best to display them.

This Core Art Technician Training Programme will be an introduction to the art technical profession. It will not create fully trained art technicians out of those who are new to the industry. It takes years to train to be fully competent due to the nature, ambition and scope of the work art technicians do.

Training should be ongoing, with hands-on experience working in galleries or museums. CVAN EM and ArtTechSpace will have been supported by organisations in the region providing paid work-shadowing opportunities, made accessible to Core Art Technician Training Programme participants.

Course Structure: Monday 26 - Friday 30 June 2023 (9AM – 5PM) participants will engage in an intensive introduction to the industry, split into modules to cover core aspects of art technical work:

- Manual handling
- Art handling
- Condition reporting
- Packing
- Installation
- Project planning

Course Schedule: [Click here](#) to see a full module overview and training schedule.

Facilitators: [ArtTechSpace Ltd.](#) will be the training provider with two facilitators leading the programme throughout.

Eligibility

- Applicants must live in the [East Midlands](#), as defined by Arts Council England.
- Applicants must be aged 19 or over and not currently completing an undergraduate course.
- Applicants must be available from **Monday 26 – Friday 30 June 2023, 9AM – 5PM.**
- The training programme will prioritise applicants living in [Priority Places](#) across the region, these are: Ashfield, Bolsover, Boston, Chesterfield, East Lindsey, NE Derbyshire and Mansfield.
- The training programme will prioritise applicants from the Global Ethnic Majority.

Support

- All participants will receive a **fee of £350** to support them in attending training.
- An access budget is available to support participants' access requirements which might include support with childcare, travel expenses, access support worker fees etc.
- Participants will join an online induction session ahead of the in-person training. This will be an opportunity to meet your trainers and fellow participants.

Criteria

- Applicants must demonstrate a genuine interest in working in the art technical industry.
- Applicants must demonstrate a basic knowledge of tool handling and use.
- Applicants should detail transferable skills (e.g., theatre workers, carpenters, artists, crafts people, DIY savvy) that will be relevant to progression through the training programme.
- Applicants should share details of any past art technical experience.

Selection

- The panel will comprise of Harry Freestone (Art Technician), [Saziso Phiri](#) (Curator & Cultural Producer) and Sarah Titheridge (Director, [ArtTechSpace](#)).
- All applicants will be contacted by **Friday 21 April 2023.**
- The panel will consider geography when making their selection to ensure that participants are living and working across the region and not focused in a particular city or county.
- **Please ensure that you complete an equal opportunities monitoring form.** An administrator will use this information to identify candidates from the Global Ethnic Majority who meet the criteria. The panel will not have access to equal opportunities monitoring forms.

Evaluation

- We will need to demonstrate that we have built skill sets, supporting them in the industry.
- We will conduct surveys at the beginning, end of the course and 3-months after completion. Participants carrying out work-shadowing will be asked to complete a further survey.
- Participants will be required to complete each module of the one-week intensive Core Art Technician Training Programme and demonstrate core competencies for each module.
- Evaluation will help ArtTechSpace and CVAN to meet funder requirements and will inform future training programmes.

Application

- **Please submit a completed application 'form'.** We are open to alternative means of application e.g., in the body of an email, video or audio recording. All applicants must respond to the criteria given in this document by addressing all sections of the application form below.
- **Please submit a completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.** [Click here](#) to download.
- **Please submit max. 3 images** that demonstrate your art technical or related skills (optional).

Application Form

| Personal Details | |
|--|----------|
| Name: | Address: |
| Email: | |
| Telephone: | |
| Application | |
| <p>Why are you applying to participate in the Core Art Technician Training Programme? (max. 250 words)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please demonstrate a genuine interest in working in the art technical industry. Consider what you are hoping to gain / achieve by completing the training programme. | |
| <p>Please share an example of an occasion when you have used hand / power tools successfully (250 max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants must demonstrate a basic knowledge of tool handling and use; this is to ensure that they are able to get the most from what the training programme offers participants. | |
| <p>Please share any relevant transferable skills that you can call on during the training programme (250 max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have you got skills relating to a hobby, previous training or a current profession e.g., theatre workers, carpenters, artists, crafts people, DIY savvy? | |
| <p>Please share any past art technical experience. (250 max)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This question is more relevant to applicants already working in the sector and are looking to upskill. Got no past experience as an art technician? No problem! | |

Applications must be returned by **Sunday 16 April 2023, 11pm** to colette@cvaneastmidlands.co.uk with 'Core Art Technician Training Programme Application' in the email subject heading.

If you have any questions or would like to require this application form in a different format, please email colette@cvaneastmidlands.co.uk.