

## PRESS RELEASE

30 July 2019

### Applications now open for three flagship Art Fund grants programmes including £200,000 for Headley Fellowships

- *Second round of the Headley Fellowships with Art Fund aims to enable curators to embark on critical collections research projects*
- *New, dedicated Conservation Grants programme for works of art and objects*
- *Small Project Grants to support new, creative initiatives by museums and galleries*

Art Fund is now inviting applications from museums and galleries across the UK for three funding programmes:

Headley Fellowships with Art Fund – a three-year funding programme launched in 2018 by The Headley Trust and Art Fund to give curators the opportunity to further develop specialist knowledge. It enables curators to take time away from their day-to-day responsibilities to carry out in-depth research into their museum's collection, with funding provided to backfill their post either full-time for six months or part-time for a year. *Applications close 7 October.*

So far, the programme has supported seven curators from across the UK to pursue projects on a range of subjects including decolonising collections, curating The Troubles and creating new galleries and displays. The first of the Headley Fellow projects will conclude at the end of October with the remaining expected throughout the rest of 2019 and 2020.

Rob Bell, Director of The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts, said: 'We are pleased to be working with Art Fund through the Headley Fellowships to invest in today's curators in developing the necessary depth and breadth of knowledge required to care for our museum collections in the future.'

Conservation Grants – This new, dedicated grants programme for public museums, galleries and historic houses in the UK is specifically designed to help give newly acquired works any conservation treatment they require, as well as to enable existing works to come out of storage and be prepared for public display. It will also support public engagement associated with the grant.

In the last year alone, Art Fund has given £355,000 in grants dedicated to conservation, including major restorations of works by Artemisia Gentileschi, Lubaina Himid and Charles

Rennie Mackintosh.

The grants, ranging from £5,000 to £50,000, will help organisations to unlock new stories about objects in their collection, while ensuring they are well cared for, better displayed and researched. Art Fund's priority area for support is for works of art and other objects of artistic interest dating from antiquity to the present day. Exceptional cases towards conservation of a decorative or significant feature in a historic property or setting with also be considered. *Applications for grants under £15,000 will be reviewed on a rolling basis; grants larger than £15,000 are linked to Art Fund's regular board meetings.*

Small Project Grants – Another new funding programme to provide for projects up to £10,000. The overall aim of this fund is to help museums, galleries and other visual arts organisations realise adventurous projects across a range of activities to benefit their audiences

This scheme has developed out of a number of projects Art Fund has supported over the last 1-2 years which do not always fall within the charity's regular grants programme. Recently supported projects include a curator in-residence programme for individuals from under-represented backgrounds within the arts, a community engagement project working with vulnerable women and an annual conference to initiate conversations around BAME artists in museum and gallery collections.

Through the programme Art Fund hopes to support a broad variety of projects that focus on audience development; equality, diversity and inclusion; or activities outside of London or in areas of low cultural engagement. *Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.*

Stephen Deuchar, Director of Art Fund, said: 'Over the past several years, Art Fund has expanded its charitable programme to meet the needs of museums and galleries across the country. We always try to be as flexible and adaptable as possible, which we hope is reflected in these three funding schemes. And we are grateful to organisations such as the Headley Trust for enabling us to take programmes such as the Headley Fellowships with Art Fund to the next level.'

For more information on Headley Fellowship with Art Fund, please visit: [artfund.org/headley](http://artfund.org/headley)

For more information on Conservation Grants, please visit: [artfund.org/conservation-grants](http://artfund.org/conservation-grants)

For more information on Small Project Grants, please visit: [artfund.org/small-project-grants](http://artfund.org/small-project-grants)

ENDS

# Art Fund\_

## Media enquiries:

Emma Phillips, Press Relations Manager, Art Fund  
ephillips@artfund.org / 020 7225 4804

Rachel Mapplebeck, Director of Communications, Art Fund  
rmapplebeck@artfund.org / 020 7225 4820

## Notes to Editors:

### The Headley Trust

The Headley Trust was founded in 1973 by Sir Timothy Sainsbury, who remains the Chairman 45 years later. It is one of 16 Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts. The Headley Trust makes grants of around £5 million a year, largely in the Arts and Heritage field. Among its priority areas are museums and galleries, particularly those operating in the regions. The trustees particularly wish to support the professional development of curators, as well as the display, study and acquisition of British ceramics and the conservation of industrial, maritime and built heritage.

See <http://www.sfct.org.uk/Headley.html> for information about the full range of the trust's interests

### Art Fund

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. In the past five years alone Art Fund has given £34 million to help museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections. It also helps museums share their collections with wider audiences by supporting a range of tours and exhibitions, and makes additional grants to support the training and professional development of curators. Art Fund is independently funded, with the core of its income provided by 151,000 members who receive the National Art Pass and enjoy free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic places across the UK, as well as 50% off entry to major exhibitions and subscription to Art Quarterly magazine. In addition to grant-giving, Art Fund's support for museums includes Art Fund Museum of the Year (won by Tate St Ives in 2018) and a range of digital platforms. Find out more about Art Fund and the National Art Pass at [www.artfund.org](http://www.artfund.org)