



Art Fund_
Museum of
the Year 2022
Winner



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Horniman Museum and Gardens wins £100,000 Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022

The Horniman Museum and Gardens was announced as Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022 yesterday (14 July 2022). The £100,000 award – the largest museum prize in the world – was presented by DJ and broadcaster Huw Stephens at a ceremony in the spectacular setting of the Design Museum, London.

The winner was selected from five shortlisted museums: Derby Museums, Museum of Making (Derby), Horniman Museum and Gardens (London), People's History Museum (Manchester), The Story Museum (Oxford) and Tŷ Pawb (Wrexham). Each of the other finalist museums receives a £15,000 prize in recognition of their achievements.

The Horniman Museum and Gardens was recognised for its transformational programme in 2021, re-orientating its activity to reach diverse audiences more representative of London and engaging people in addressing the climate emergency.

Nick Merriman, Chief Executive of the Horniman Museum and Gardens, says: 'To be awarded Art Fund Museum of the Year, when the other finalists have such wonderful achievements to share, is an incredible honour. Thank you to the judges and to Art Fund. I particularly want to pay tribute to everyone involved in the Horniman, in whatever capacity, in 2021. It takes a community of people to create a museum that truly serves its local area. People love museums – we hear "I love the Horniman" a lot – and this award is a great endorsement of love as a motivation for the work that we do here; love for our communities and love for the world we all share.'

More

2021 highlights at the Horniman, under its [Reset Agenda](#) included:

- the 696 Programme, a celebration of South London music – from Afrofuturist hip-hop to reggae, jazz and soul. Showcasing Black British creativity, the sold-out live music festival attracted 8,000 visitors and nearly 20,000 visited the Dance Can't Nice exhibition.
- fulfilling the pledges of its Climate and Ecology Manifesto, including an online community of Environment Champions, embedding more sustainable gardening practices, and planting a micro-forest to help combat air pollution along the South Circular
- inspiring the next generation, from a children's takeover of the galleries to the Horniman's youth panel of 14-19 year olds, and providing curriculum-linked school workshops, work experience opportunities and Kickstart apprenticeships
- spearheading the MAGNET group of organisations, sharing collections-based touring exhibitions, starting with Hair: Untold Stories at the Horniman.

Jenny Waldman, Art Fund director and chair of the judges for Art Fund Museum of the Year, says: 'The Horniman Museum and Gardens has now blossomed into a truly holistic museum bringing together art, nature and its myriad collections. Its values are woven through everything it now does, with a passionate team breathing life and meaning into every object, performance, plant and animal. In many ways it's the perfect museum, and I would encourage everyone to go and experience all it has to offer.'

The Horniman plans to use the £100,000 prize money to fund:

- three years of a Resident Artist programme linking young musicians with its musical instrument collection, as a stimulus for them to create new work, and
- a programme of outdoor learning activities in the school holidays, particularly aimed at pupils in receipt of free school meals.

Art Fund, the UK's national charity for art, awards Art Fund Museum of the Year annually to one outstanding museum. The 2022 edition champions organisations whose achievements tell the story of museums' creativity and resilience, and particularly focuses on those engaging the next generation of audiences in innovative ways.

The members of this year's judging panel, chaired by Art Fund Director Jenny Waldman, are: Dame Diane Lees, Director-General, Imperial War Museums; Harold Offeh, artist and educator; Dr Janina Ramirez, cultural historian and broadcaster, and Huw Stephens, BBC Radio 6 Music DJ and broadcaster.

Ends

A selection of images is available to [download](#). Please credit Art Fund unless otherwise specified.

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Notes to Editors

- **The Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022 finalists were:**

Horniman Museum and Gardens (London)

The Horniman is London's only museum where environment, ecology and human cultures can be seen side by side at a global scale. During 2021, following a period of self-reflection prompted by the Covid-19 pandemic, climate emergency and the murder of George Floyd, the Horniman reimagined the role it could play as a creative hub for the local community. The result was a transformational Reset Agenda – an ambitious programme focused on re-orientating activity to reach diverse audiences more representative of London. This included the 696 Programme, an interrogation of the power and responsibility public organisations have in supporting local music. Showcasing Black British creativity and placing it at the Horniman's heart, a sold-out festival reached 8,000 visitors and nearly 20,000 experienced the related exhibition. A further focus of the Reset Agenda was to embed a Climate and Ecology Manifesto, from an online community of Environment Champions to the creation of a micro-forest to combat local air pollution. From a takeover of the galleries by children to its youth panel of 14-19 year olds, work experience opportunities and Kickstart apprenticeships, the museum is inspiring the next generation. The Horniman is also spearheading collaboration amongst museums through its MAGNET group of organisations sharing collections-based touring exhibitions.

Derby Museums, Museum of Making (Derby)

The Museum of Making opened in May 2021 following an £18m redevelopment plan at Derby Silk Mill, originally built in 1721 and considered to be the site of the world's first factory. Exploring the story of making in Derby over 300 years, the museum is inspiring the next generation to be makers of the future. Over 1,000 volunteers contributed to its transformation, from helping to move the collection to creating art installations and conserving the heritage building, embedding public participation at the core of the museum. Since opening, the museum has attracted over 105,000 visitors. The Museum of Making membership scheme provides a vital opportunity for people to join a creative community: members can work on site with specialist equipment and technical support, encouraging and empowering future makers and innovators. Its learning programme with local partners Rolls-Royce integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths as a multidisciplinary approach, helping to forge deep relationships with the local community and aiming to improve young peoples' skills to enter the workforce in a city in need of technicians, engineers, and problem solvers.

People's History Museum (Manchester)

People's History Museum is inspiring the next generation to be active citizens, to use their voices and to make a difference. It showcases the struggle for equity and equality and provides space to explore contemporary issues through marginalised voices. Stories of radical history and contemporary changemakers are celebrated through a collection of 60,000 objects and the largest collection of political and trade union banners in the world. The museum co-creates its programmes in partnership with communities. In 2021-2 Migration has been its headline theme, working with those who have experienced it first-hand. The exhibition More in Common: in memory of Jo Cox explored the life and legacy of Jo Cox MP working with a wide variety of people living in Manchester. In the context of national conversations about migration, People's History Museum has shifted from a museum about campaigning to a museum that campaigns, standing Together With Refugees to challenge the Nationality and Borders Bill and the approach it will take on the right to seek asylum. The museum has also joined 350

organisations to oppose the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Bill, fearing it will silence marginalised voices.

The Story Museum (Oxford)

The Story Museum fires the imaginations of young people through the power of stories. The museum reopened in May 2021 after a £6m redevelopment working with 50 designers, makers and creatives to bring a host of stories to life in 10 immersive galleries and activity spaces. They have since welcomed 80,000 visitors. Spaces including a Whispering Wood, Enchanted Library, Small Worlds picture book gallery and Learning Studio inspired by Hogwarts connect visitors creatively with stories in all forms. The museum directly addresses inequality in Oxford where 26% of children live below the poverty line, with its work shown to effectively promote early oracy, literacy and motivation to read independently. The programme also tackles isolation in families with young children experienced as a result of the pandemic. Its upcoming exhibition will inspire children to become the next generation of comic artists and writers. In 2022 the Story Museum will also launch its Minecraft Museum project, working with teenagers to create a digital version of the Enchanted Library gallery space.

Tŷ Pawb (Wrexham)

Tŷ Pawb creates a community space for everyone - a museum in a market with makers, traders and galleries all under one roof. This coexistence celebrates the significance of markets within Wrexham's cultural heritage and identity, saving a traditional space and bringing services and creatives together to make and sell. In 2021 Tŷ Pawb also transformed a gallery into 'Lle Celf Ddefnyddiol' or 'Useful Art Space'. The space is for creative workshops, community conversations, play sessions, informal performances and other uses imagined by the local community - inspired by the belief that art can be a tool for social change. Projects closely serve the needs of local people, from free play sessions for families to 'Make Yourself at Home', working with refugees to learn a range of craft techniques to develop creative making skills and supporting them in establishing micro-businesses. An ambitious programme of contemporary art working with artists from Sean Edwards to Assemble features within the gallery spaces. Tŷ Pawb is at the heart of a burgeoning local arts and culture scene, with Wrexham County Borough reaching the shortlist to become UK City of Culture 2025.

- **About Art Fund Museum of the Year** – Art Fund has supported Museum of the Year since 2008. Its forerunner was the Prize for Museums and Galleries, administered by the Museum Prize Trust and sponsored by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation from 2003-2007. The prize champions what museums do, encourages more people to visit and gets to the heart of what makes a truly outstanding museum. The judges present the prize to the museum or gallery that has shown how their achievements of the preceding year stand out, demonstrated what makes their work innovative, and the impact it has had on audiences.

Winners 2008 - 2021:

2008 - The Lightbox, Woking

2009 - Wedgwood Museum, Stoke-on-Trent,

2010 - Ulster Museum, Belfast

2011 - British Museum

2012 - Royal Albert Memorial Museum

2013 - William Morris Gallery, London

2014 - Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield

2015 - Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester

2016 - Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), London

2017 - The Hepworth, Wakefield

2018 - Tate St Ives

2019 - St Fagans National Museum of History, Cardiff

2020 - Aberdeen Art Gallery; Gairloch Museum; Science Museum; South London Gallery; and Towner Eastbourne

2021 – Firstsite, Colchester.

- **About Art Fund** – Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. It provides millions of pounds every year to help museums to acquire and share works of art across the UK, further the professional development of their curators, and inspire more people to visit and enjoy their public programmes. Art Fund is independently funded, supported by Art Partners, donors, trusts and foundations and the 130,000 members who buy the National Art Pass, who enjoy free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic places, 50% off major exhibitions, and receive Art Quarterly magazine. Art Fund also supports museums through its annual prize, Art Fund Museum of the Year. artfund.org

- **The Horniman Museum and Gardens** opened in 1901 as a gift to the people in perpetuity from tea trader and philanthropist Frederick John Horniman, to 'bring the world to Forest Hill'. Today the Horniman has a collection of 350,000 objects, specimens and artefacts from around the world. Its galleries include natural history, music and an acclaimed aquarium, alongside a World Gallery of anthropology and a flexible arts and exhibition space, The Studio. Indoor exhibits link to the award-winning display gardens – from medicinal and dye gardens to an interactive sound garden, Butterfly House and an animal walk – set among 16 acres of beautiful, green space offering spectacular views across London. horniman.ac.uk
- **Coronavirus impact: Every month the Horniman was closed cost around £150,000 in lost income** from ticket sales, memberships, the shop and café. In recent years, the Horniman has increasingly relied on this vital income to help care for the Gardens, animals and Aquarium residents, to run events and to look after the collections. The support of returning visitors, our supporters and their generous donations are more needed than ever. horniman.ac.uk/support-us/
- The **Horniman Museum and Gardens** is core-funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and since 1990 has been governed by an independent charitable trust, registered charity no. 802725. The Horniman Museum and Gardens also receives funding from Arts Council England as one of its National Portfolio Organisations.
- On 29 July 2019 the **Horniman Museum and Gardens declared an ecological and climate emergency**, pledging to place carbon reduction and environmental issues at the heart of its work. The declaration – and the subsequent **Climate and Ecological Manifesto**, published in January 2020 – is a consolidation of existing work and a commitment to renewed ambitions to reduce the Horniman's environmental and pollution footprint, increase biodiversity, and inspire others to do so. Find out more about the Horniman's manifesto commitments and progress so far at horniman.ac.uk/climate.