



arts
award

Youth and community organisations

Community projects and charities

Youth clubs and centres

Vulnerable groups

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

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ENGLAND**

What is Arts Award?

A photograph of three young people, two men and one woman, laughing and talking together. The woman on the left has her hair in a bun. The man in the middle has a beard and is looking towards the man on the right. The man on the right is smiling broadly. They are in an indoor setting with blinds in the background.

Arts Award is a range of unique qualifications open to anyone aged 25 and under, that develops creativity, leadership and communication skills through arts, cultural or media activities. Arts Award assesses a young person's development rather than achievement of a specific art form skill level, and encourages independent learning – building confidence as well as transferable skills.

▶ **accessible and flexible**

Arts Award is open to young people of all interests and abilities. The flexible framework can be delivered by any setting that has arts, cultural or media activities as part of their offer, and can be embedded in a variety of youth-work focused projects or environments.

▶ **accreditation**

Arts Award provides structure and recognition for your arts programmes or guided learning offer, giving young people the chance to get a qualification. The framework can be used to accredit holiday programmes, regular activities or after-school clubs.

▶ **measurable**

Arts Award provides an effective means to deliver key youth-work objectives including ensuring all young people are able to participate and achieve in education or training, supporting their personal and social development and raising their aspirations.

▶ **widening progression choices**

Arts Award helps young people to progress into work or training and is a powerful tool for social inclusion. The award supports personalised learning as young people set and achieve against their own targets.

▶ **community benefits**

As well as building links to the local arts scene, Arts Award can be used to support young people to make a positive contribution to and engage with the local community through volunteering or community projects.

In England, Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England working with 10 regional Bridge organisations.

Making it work

Community projects and charities

York Mind is a charity that provides support for people with mental health problems in the York area. Their Young People's Project works with individuals who are dealing with issues such as anxiety, low mood and depression. Through a 16-week course, participants aged between 13 and 16 are supported to achieve their Bronze Arts Award. They are introduced to different art forms while exploring how the arts can be a positive strategy for managing emotions.

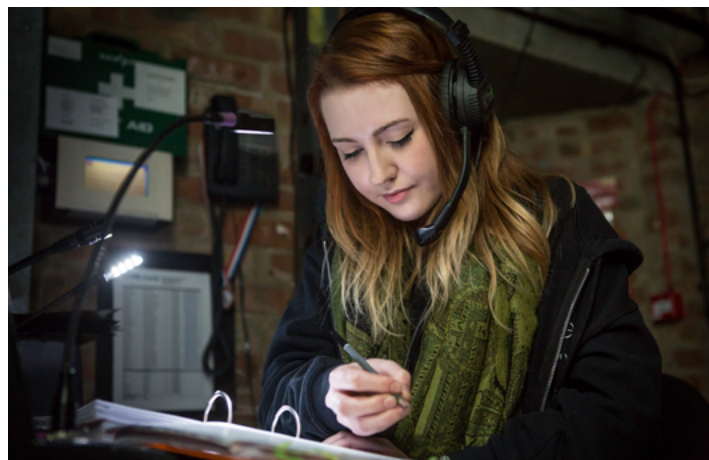
“The Arts Award group has been incredibly popular with young people. It offers so many beneficial aspects to participants; social skills, development of artistic skills and increased self-esteem. It promotes that the arts are always there for them regardless of what problems they may be facing.”

Imogen Godwin, Volunteer Arts Award Assistant, York Mind

Noise Solution pairs professional musicians with vulnerable young people facing challenging circumstances. They are specialists at quickly making people successful at creating the music they value. They capture and share participants' achievements using a blog or a 'digital narrative'.

“Arts Award gives us the flexibility to work through young people's strengths. It provides a framework and validation for young people that contributes hugely to the work we do.”

Simon Glenister, Director, Noise Solution



Create Studios photo Kevin Ricks

Youth clubs and centres

Nottinghamshire YMCA have been offering all levels of Arts Award to young people aged 13-19 for the last ten years. YMCA Digital is a community programme designed to inspire, support and develop young people to fulfil their potential through creative arts and digital media. Young people gain invaluable industry experience while enjoying first-hand skills, ranging from radio broadcasting, film, animation, music, music tech and production.

“YMCA Digital creates a safe and positive environment for young people to learn real industry skills in music production. Participants feel comfortable to express their inner person while experimenting with new sounds to hone their talent and work towards an Arts Award that will help to set them up for a career in the field.”

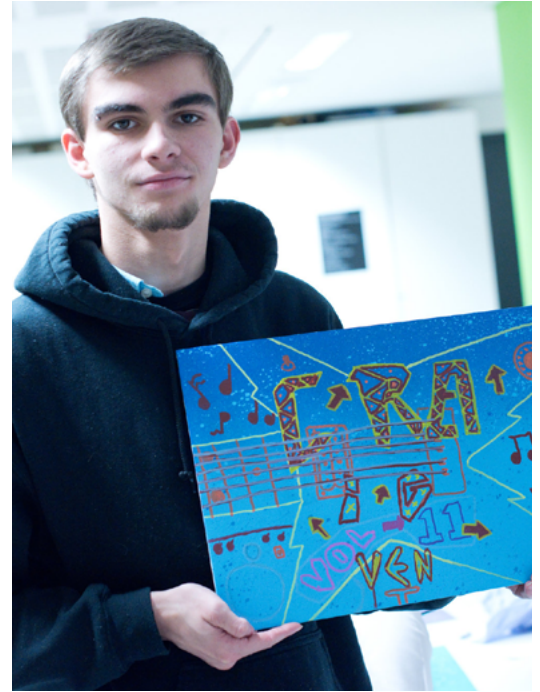
Darren Goodlad, Youth Leader and Programme Manager, YMCA Digital

Recurrent work with young people

Dyslexia Scotland is a national charity which seeks to enable all people with dyslexia in Scotland to realise their potential. They offer Arts Award as part of their career development service as it's a great way for young people to gain a valuable certificate or qualification through a very dyslexia-friendly process. Young people are offered all levels of the award, across a variety of art forms. Arts Award Discover, specifically, is core to Dyslexia Scotland's annual youth days, where 40-50 young people come together to take part in creative learning activities.

“Arts Award is really inclusive and accessible, allowing young people to play to their strengths. It builds confidence and allows dyslexic young people the means to express themselves and communicate in ways that make sense to their style of thinking. We're proud to champion Arts Award and to be able to provide such an accessible way to accredit learning through the arts.”

Katie Carmichael, Career Coach, Dyslexia Scotland



BALTIC photo Colin Davidson

Targeted groups

Carefree Cornwall is a youth work charity supporting young people who are in care, or are care-leavers. Art and music play an important part in their programme and they have embedded Bronze Arts Award in their delivery. The dedicated arts worker is a trained Arts Award adviser and oversees the delivery of weekly arts groups, taster days and arts leader summer residentials.

“Arts Award is a great way to celebrate and validate young people's artistic development. Bronze is particularly good for projects focussing on group work. It's a great mix of artistic and social skill development which is really relevant and easy to embed in our youth work practice.”

Annie Sheen, Arts Coordinator, Carefree Cornwall



The Valley School photo Paul Maven

Why offer Arts Award

Benefits to organisations

- ▶ **provides structure**
Arts Award develops purpose and self-discipline. It can be delivered over a short or longer period of time, in a group or on a one-to-one basis
- ▶ **professional development**
Training staff as Arts Award advisers offers new ideas and motivation
- ▶ **provides a solution**
Arts Award can be used as a package for young people needing to fill a certain number of hours of contact a week
- ▶ **a tool to meet targets**
A Level 1,2 or 3 qualification helps demonstrate education, training and employment (ETE) outcomes and can be presented to Ofsted as a quality indicator for education provision

Benefits to young people

- ▶ **a record of achievement**
Young people can evidence their work in many ways, including writing, blogging, video and audio
- ▶ **alternative means of expression**
Through arts activities young people find a positive voice with which to communicate and engage with life
- ▶ **promotes social inclusion**
Arts Award develops self-esteem and enables young people to contribute positively to their community
- ▶ **supports steps towards employment**
Arts Award maintains engagement through providing enjoyable activities, equipping young people with skills to go into education and employment



GOLD ARTS AWARD

16 UCAS points
Level 3 Certificate on RQF*
90 guided learning hours (150 hours TQT**)

- extend arts practice and create new work
- undertake placements and/or volunteering
- research the wider arts sector
- research an arts issue
- develop leadership skills through running an arts project

SILVER ARTS AWARD

Level 2 Award on RQF*
60 guided learning hours (95 hours TQT**)

- complete an arts challenge
- review arts events
- research arts careers
- develop leadership skills through running an arts project

BRONZE ARTS AWARD

Level 1 Award on RQF*
40 guided learning hours (60 hours TQT**)

- take part in the arts
- review an arts event
- research an artist or craftsperson
- pass on arts skills to others

ARTS AWARD EXPLORE

Entry Level 3 Award on RQF*
25 guided learning hours (35 hours TQT**)

- take part in the arts
- explore the work of artists and arts organisations
- create an art work
- share your exploration

ARTS AWARD DISCOVER

20 hours (recommended)

- take part in the arts
- experience artists' work
- share your discovery

What's involved

To achieve an Arts Award, young people take on challenges in their chosen art form. They take part in arts activities, experience arts events, research their local arts scene, get inspired by artists and share their skills with others. At all levels they collect evidence along the way in an arts log or portfolio, which is assessed.

Anyone aged 25 and under can take part. Discover and Explore are designed for ages 5 plus (Key Stages 1, 2 and above), and Bronze, Silver and Gold for ages 11 plus.

Get going

- 1. Train staff.** Get started by training staff to deliver Arts Award. Courses are available throughout the year. Individuals and small groups can book directly at artsaward.org.uk/training. Groups of six or more from the same organisation or partnership should contact our training team on training.team@trinitycollege.co.uk
- 2. Plan delivery.** Register your organisation as an Arts Award centre and access planning resources and information. Ongoing support is available from our helpdesk and website at artsaward.org.uk/artsandcultural
- 3. Visit the adviser hub.** Access all the support and resources needed to successfully deliver Arts Award at artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub
- 4. Access support.** Trained advisers can access free support sessions. We offer a range of remote and face-to-face options to provide support for your Arts Award delivery at artsaward.org.uk/support

Get current costs, including information on discounts for large groups, at artsaward.org.uk/costs

Book training now to start Arts Award in your organisation!
artsaward.org.uk/training

Read young people's own reports of the positive outcomes of Arts Award gathered as part of London South Bank University's research into Arts Award's impact: artsaward.org.uk/impactstudy

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