

YOUNG CURATOR ROLE PROFILE

The Food Museum in Stowmarket is the UK's only museum dedicated to food. Our mission is to connect people with where their food comes from and the impact of our choices on the environment, society, health and wellbeing: past, present and future. We care for over 40,000 objects, including 17 historic buildings set in 84 acres of countryside. The museum is a charity supporting the community and we undertake a wide range of projects and programmes alongside operating a visitor attraction.

The Museum of the Home has its home in 300-year-old alms houses in Hoxton. The Museum of the Home's purpose is to reveal and rethink the ways we live, in order to live better together. It is a place to explore and debate what home means. Young people are valued collaborators and co-producers at the Museum of the Home. We are proud to offer meaningful opportunities and real agency for young people through our partnership projects, work experience programmes and high-profile creative projects. Recent examples include *Young Poets* led by Anthony Anaxagorou and *Where we are now* led by POoR Collective in partnership with Voyage Youth.

The Food Museum has received funding from [The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#) to help deliver a large programme called *The Kitchen Project*. As part of this, 2025 will see *School Dinners* opening to the public.

School Dinners will be a two-year long programme hosted at the Food Museum, primarily focusing on a major exhibition/public display. The exhibition will explore school food of the past, present and future in the UK and internationally, focusing on topics such as nutrition, nostalgia, economics, and food poverty.

Funders



The Food Museum and The Museum of the Home are working together to create a free opportunity for young people to contribute to their work as **Young Curators**. As a Young Curator, you will work with other 16-17 year olds, supported by the Food Museum and the Museum of the Home. You will have a unique opportunity to work behind the scenes in museums and be involved in an exhibition on School Dinners at the Food Museum, and putting together an outcome at the Museum of the Home such as a display or publication.

As a Young Curator you will:

- Carry out research, fieldwork and projects focussed on recording different people's accounts and memories of school dinners.
- Receive training in areas such as curation and oral history work.
- Contribute to and help develop an exhibition, producing creative responses to the topic of school dinners.
- Take part in one day and overnight residentials (stays of up to three days) in Suffolk and London.
- Go on trips to cultural venues in Suffolk and London.
- Help us install the exhibition at the Food Museum and create an output such as a display at the Museum of the Home.

Why get involved:

- Share your voice and put young people at the heart of what we are doing.
- Build skills, experience and confidence.
- Gain an understanding of the behind the scenes work of museums.
- Get to take part in residentials and trips to cultural venues.

Who are we looking for:

- You are curious about museums.
- You have a creative mindset and want to share stories.
- You enjoy working with people.
- You are interested in learning new skills.
- You are self-motivated and able to work independently.

Our pledge to you:

- We pledge to value your contributions, listen to your ideas and mentor you during the project.

This role is voluntary and free of cost. Travel, accommodation and food expenses will be covered by the programme.

Time Commitment

The Young Curators Programme will be made up of the following sessions and will run from approximately June 2024 to April 2025:

- 1x onboarding session at the Food Museum
- 2x day sessions at the Museum of the Home
- 1x day session at the Food Museum
- 2x online sessions
- 1x residential session at the Food Museum
- 1x residential session at the Museum of the Home
- 1x installation at the Food Museum
- 1x installation at the Museum of the Home

How to apply

We are looking to recruit approximately 12 16–17 year olds (from Years 11 and 12 at school – if you will turn 16 in the summer then you can still apply), half from Suffolk and half from London, to take part in this programme.

To apply, please make sure you read the role profile in detail and email your completed application form to schooldinners@foodmuseum.org.uk. You can also email schooldinners@foodmuseum.org for a copy of the application form.

More details about the application process can be found on the application form.