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

artsaward.org.uk

artsawardenquiries@trinitycollege.co.uk



welcome to Gold Arts Award

Gold Arts Award is a Level 3 qualification* and is split into two units. Unit 1: **personal arts development** and Unit 2: **arts project leadership**. Doing a Gold Arts Award will deepen your knowledge and experience of the arts. It involves taking part in the arts, researching the world of the arts and taking responsibility for leading an arts project.

Unit 1: personal arts development

- ▶ **Part A: extend your own arts practice** (page 7)
- ▶ **Part B: get involved in the arts world** (page 8)
- ▶ **Part C: research and review** (page 9)
- ▶ **Part D: form and communicate a view** (page 11)

Unit 2: arts project leadership

- ▶ **Parts A & B: plan an arts project** (page 14)
- ▶ **Parts C & D: deliver the project** (page 15)
- ▶ **Part E: review your leadership of the project** (page 15)

To get a Gold Arts Award you'll need to try out a new art form and create new work. You will work alongside artists, find out about current issues affecting the arts, and your arts leadership project will include a public showing. You will create a portfolio for your Gold Arts Award containing evidence of your work and plans, and demonstrating your development.

Your Arts Award adviser will support you and will assess your work when it has been completed.

Create your profile on Arts Award Voice, our youth magazine, and select 'Gold' to gain access to the Gold Hub, which offers inspiration, ideas and opportunities specially chosen for Gold level: artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

You can also find out about Arts Award Supporter organisations that offer activities relevant to Arts Award: artsawardvoice.com/supporters

*Gold Arts Award is a Level 3 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). It is worth 16 points on the UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) tariff



your Gold Arts Award portfolio

Choose a format for your portfolio that works well for you. It can contain any mix of media. Let it express your creativity – think about its impact on someone who doesn't know you. Check out what others have done in 'Your portfolio says it all' in the Gold Hub at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

Collect evidence along the way – keep any sketches, notes, mind maps or diagrams you make and include them in your portfolio with examples of your work where appropriate. You may want to use a camera or mobile phone to take documentary pictures, or keep a diary, create a blog or make audio recordings.

Why not try Artsbox, our digital platform? You can create a portfolio online, share your work with others and connect to arts opportunities. Artsbox is also available as an app so you can upload your evidence as you go along! artsbox.co.uk



your arts award space

Include full information in your portfolio about what you did, where you went, who you worked with, what you thought, and how this has had an impact on you and your work. This will show the process of your arts development.

Make sure you list your references. For example, if you research other people's work, books or web pages, show the details, including creator/author's name etc.

When you have completed the award make sure you have a contents page or index for your portfolio, and that everything is clearly labelled or numbered – anyone who looks at your portfolio needs to be able to find their way around it. You may find the checklist on page 22 useful.



Check that these key things are included in your portfolio for Unit 1 Part A

- details of your main art form/practice
- details of the new art form/practice you want to develop
- your artistic challenge and why you chose it
- who you worked with and what you learnt
- evidence of the new work you created
- a record of what you shared and how it went
- feedback from others
- a final review about the skills you developed and how it influenced your art form/practice

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Unit 1: personal arts development

There are four parts to complete for Unit 1 of your Gold Arts Award.

Part A: extend your own arts practice

This part of the award involves developing new skills and exploring another art form, genre or arts practice to produce new work. Arts practice can mean being an artist, a curator, a producer, or working in arts administration, marketing or technical roles.

You will need to establish your primary art form or practice and then work with someone else who can help you develop new skills in another art form or practice. The person you work with may be a friend with specialist expertise, a more advanced artist/practitioner or a tutor.

You produce new work within your primary art form, influenced by or inclusive of the new art form or practice.

The new work you make should be exhibited, shared with, or performed to an audience. This audience could either be specially invited or the general public.

You will need to record the sharing in some way, by filming it, photographing it or creating an audio recording. You then need to review how it went, using feedback you've collected as well as your own thoughts.

There is a plan and review guide on page 18. You can also get ideas and examples from the Gold Hub at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

Tip: Don't be tempted to choose a leadership role for this unit – save that for Unit 2.

Part B: get involved in the arts world

This part of the award requires **research** and **active involvement**.

Decide what will help you develop your arts skills. What information and advice is available? What relevant careers or opportunities are there in the arts? Are there professional bodies and organisations that can help? What kind of training is available? What about apprenticeships? Research opportunities to participate in the arts locally or in the wider community that would help you develop your arts skills further.

Your active involvement could take the form of volunteering, training, work shadowing or a work placement. As a guide your minimum involvement should be equivalent to five days' volunteering or work placement or two days' training. This is where Arts Award Voice can help as you'll find interviews with professionals, opportunities and ideas from Gold achievers at artsawardvoice.com/magazine/opportunities

There is a guide on page 18 to help you plan and review your involvement in the arts.

Check out opportunities you can get involved in at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

Check that these key things are included in your portfolio for Unit 1 Part B

- ▶ evidence of research into training and development opportunities ☐
- ▶ a description of what you did and your reflection on how it supported your arts development ☐
- ▶ feedback from people you worked with/for ☐

Part C: research and review

This part of the award requires you to:

- ▶ review events, exhibitions and organisations you visit
- ▶ research the work of advanced arts practitioners

Using your own arts practice as a theme, review as many arts events, exhibitions or opportunities as you can. Arts events can take many forms, from performances in a venue or streamed online to street art – why not use this as an opportunity to try out something new?

You can post your reviews and invite comment from others at artsawardvoice.com/reviews

Find out about artists or arts professionals through meeting them and experiencing their work and investigating their career paths. How has this influenced your own plans for the future?

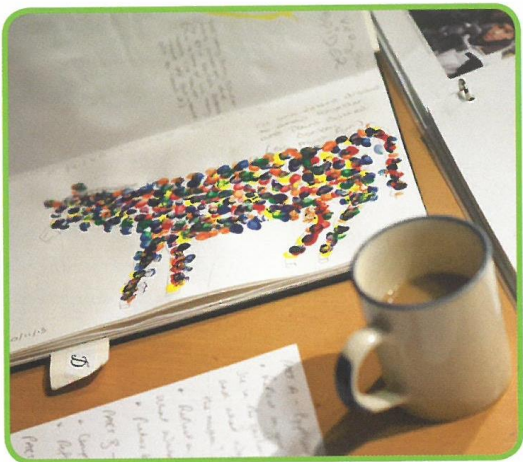
There is a guide on page 19 to help with your planning and research.

Read interviews with arts professionals at artsawardvoice.com/voicebox/want-my-job

Find out about cultural organisations at artsawardvoice.com/voicebox/what-goes-on-at

Check that these key things are included in your portfolio for Unit 1 Part C

- ▶ evidence of your research into arts practitioners/professionals ☐
- ▶ reviews of events, exhibitions and organisations you visited ☐
- ▶ notes on how this research has influenced you/your work and how you might develop your practice in the future ☐



Fitzwilliam Museum photo Rob Walker



Check that these key things are included in your portfolio for Unit 1 Part D

- ▶ the issue and why you chose it ☐
- ▶ research into a range of views ☐
- ▶ reflections on how the research has influenced you/your views ☐
- ▶ evidence and summary of your research ☐
- ▶ your final argument ☐
- ▶ how you shared your argument ☐
- ▶ feedback/responses from others ☐

Part D: form and communicate a view

This part of the award is about **exploring an issue in the arts**. You should form your own viewpoint and explore the views of others – then make and argue your case, making sure you share your ideas by involving others in debate.

Discuss the things you care about in the arts with your adviser, and then carry out some research to get the story behind the issues. Choose something that matters to you and build an argument to communicate to other people.

Maybe there are artists or art forms you know about that don't get enough funding – or people who are missing out on the arts in some way. Perhaps there is an aspect of the arts that is not taken seriously – or taken too seriously! Maybe there is a local arts issue where you live, or a shortage of people with specific arts skills.

Once you have decided on your issue, find out what others think and then make your own case or argument. How will you present your views?

Examples include:

- ▶ taking part in a debate (online or face to face)
- ▶ writing to a newspaper or specialist publication
- ▶ writing to decision-makers and politicians
- ▶ making a presentation at a meeting or to a group
- ▶ making a campaign website or poster
- ▶ posting your views as a blog on **Arts Award Voice** – take a look at artsawardvoice.com/voicebox/my-word-is-gold for opinion pieces by other young people

There is a guide on page 19 to help you get started.

Get advice on writing opinion pieces from the Gold Hub at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

Record or find out how others react or respond once you have presented your argument. Have their views changed your mind?



Unit 2: arts project leadership

This is the chance for you to use your skills to lead and organise others. You will take overall responsibility for **planning and delivering an arts project**. Your adviser can help you to develop your plans. You might be leading a team or have a major role within a team, or you may be working on your own.

You will need to decide what makes a good arts leader and plan, deliver and evaluate your project.

Overall responsibility includes planning, promoting, organising and evaluating, as well as covering things like budget, health and safety, risk assessment and legal requirements.

What do we mean by an arts project?

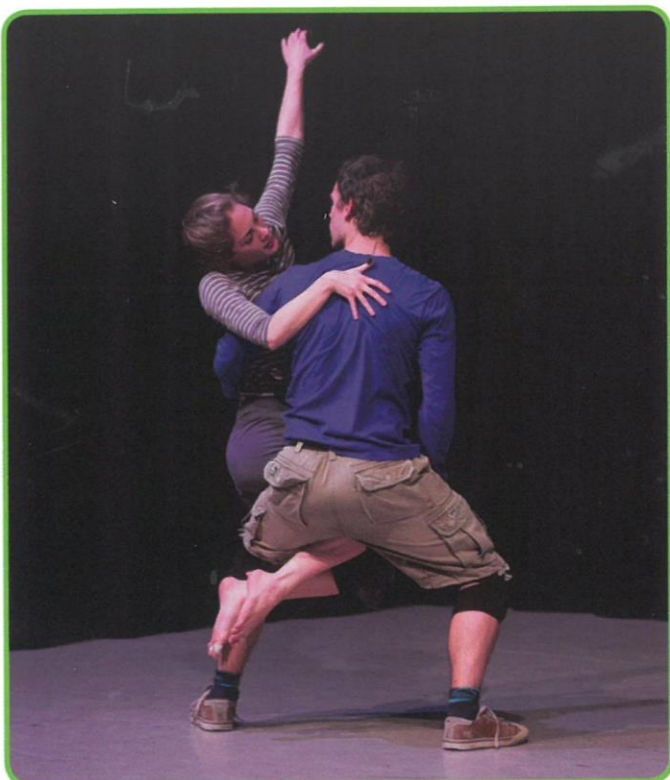
It might be a single event – for example a performance, gig or exhibition. Or it may be a programme of arts activities – for instance some training workshops or lessons where participants work towards a final sharing of the work produced. It could be an arts publication such as an arts magazine, a guide or a website. Your project must be shown to or shared with an audience, and you must have a creative input.

Get inspiration by browsing Gold portfolios in 'Your portfolio says it all' at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

Being an arts leader

To be a successful **arts leader** you will need to reflect on your current leadership skills and decide what skills you want to develop. Throughout the project you will need to show how you work with others – the project participants, your project team or other industry professionals who provide help and advice. You will also research the needs and interests of your project participants/audience.

Parts A & B: plan an arts project



You need to create a plan that summarises your project, including reflecting on the qualities of an effective arts leader and the leadership skills you want to develop. Identify the aims of the project and cover practical things like a timetable, who is involved, what equipment is needed, who the audience will be and how you will promote it.

Don't forget to think about how you will collect feedback from different people – including participants and the audience. You should consider what resources you need, allocating roles to others, and you may need to create a budget for your project.

There is a list of questions to help with your project plan on page 20.

Important: Ask your adviser how to get professional advice about health and safety. If your project involves working with children you **must** arrange to have appropriate adult support. You might also need to check that your project is covered by appropriate insurance.

Parts C & D: deliver the arts project

Use your plan to make the project happen – keep records along the way and collect evidence that shows your progress. Check that everything is running according to plan, and make changes if necessary. Be prepared to deal with the unexpected, make decisions along the way, and manage people and resources efficiently.

You then need to arrange and promote a public showing of your project. This could be a live performance or an online exhibition, and you must provide evidence of your promotional activity and of the feedback you've gathered.

Tip: Collect evidence that shows you communicating and working well with others and solving problems along the way.

Part E: review your leadership of the arts project

Create a project report that includes a **summary and interpretation** of the feedback you have gathered from others. Your report should highlight where things went according to your plan, and where (and why) you might have made changes.

You should include your own detailed thoughts on what you have learnt from leading the project. What might you do differently if you were to do something similar again?

There is a list of prompt questions to help with your project report on page 20.

Read other people's reports in the Gold Hub at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold

- Check that these key things are included in your portfolio as evidence for Unit 2**
- ▶ details of the leadership skills you want to develop ☐
 - ▶ your project plan ☐
 - ▶ details of how you organised and delivered the public showing ☐
 - ▶ your report (review of your project and your leadership skills) ☐
 - ▶ evidence/documentation of your development throughout the project ☐



Cheltenham Everyman Theatre photo Kirsten Holst

what happens next

Once you have completed both units of your Gold Arts Award, collected all your evidence and created your portfolio, your adviser will carry out an **assessment**. This means that he or she will look through your portfolio and check that there is evidence for each part of the award.

Your adviser will check for examples of your **art form knowledge and understanding**, your **creativity**, your ability to **plan and review**, and your ability to **communicate**, to complete the assessment.

You should make sure you have everything ready and labelled or indexed (it's easier if you do this as you go along rather than right at the end!).

After your adviser has completed an assessment report form, and you have signed it, an Arts Award **moderator** will check your adviser's assessment. The moderator may look at your work in detail and invite you to talk about your Arts Award work.

Trinity is especially keen to profile Gold Arts Award, so please post your final pieces or blog about your leadership project on Arts Award Voice or Voice's Facebook page. You can tell us the whole story at artsawardvoice.com/yourstory

After the moderation visit, certificates are sent to your centre for everyone who has passed their Gold Arts Award.

Good luck!

Unit 1 Part A: extend your own arts practice

- ▶ What is your main art form/practice?
 - ▶ What is your new art form/practice?
 - ▶ What other practitioner will you work with and why?
 - ▶ What have you chosen for your artistic challenge and why?
 - ▶ What new material will you produce?
- ▶ How will you collect evidence of the new work you created?
 - ▶ How will you record the process?
 - ▶ How will you demonstrate how the new art form/practice has influenced your other work?
 - ▶ How will you record evidence of a public showing?
 - ▶ How will you gather feedback from a range of people?

Unit 1 Part B: get involved in the arts world

- ▶ What careers and arts activities are you interested in finding out about?
 - ▶ How will you find out about arts organisations in your local area and beyond?
 - ▶ How will you gain practical experience through volunteering, placement or training?
 - ▶ How will you document your research and participation?
 - ▶ How will you gather comments from practitioners?
 - ▶ How will you reflect on your experiences?
- ▶ What volunteering, placement or training did you take part in?
 - ▶ What did you find out about careers in the wider arts sector?
 - ▶ What did you learn about how to develop a career in your art form?
 - ▶ What sources of information were useful in informing your research?
- ▶ What did you learn from your practical involvement in the arts?
 - ▶ What information did you gather from practitioners leading volunteering, placement or training opportunities?
 - ▶ How has your experience impacted on your own career development?

Unit 1 Part C: research advanced practitioners and review arts events

- ▶ What arts organisations and events would you like to focus your research on?
 - ▶ Which arts professionals will you research and why?
 - ▶ How will you find out about the career paths of your chosen professionals?
 - ▶ How will you document your research?
 - ▶ How do you think your research will influence your own work?
- ▶ What organisations and events did you attend or visit?
 - ▶ What did you learn from attending arts events?
 - ▶ What did you find out about the career paths of artists and arts professionals?
 - ▶ What did you learn about working in your chosen art form?
 - ▶ How will you present your reviews?
- ▶ What types of arts events or artists have you been most influenced by and why?
 - ▶ What have you learnt from your research?
 - ▶ Have your views changed since beginning your research?
 - ▶ How will you take what you have discovered and apply it to your own practice?

Unit 1 Part D: form and communicate a view

- ▶ What issues in the arts are you affected by?
- ▶ How will you find out what others think?
- ▶ How will you present and share your argument?
- ▶ Have the views of others changed your own views?

Unit 2 Parts A & B: project leadership planning

- ▶ What leadership skills do you want to develop?
 - ▶ Who is your project for and what do you know about them?
 - ▶ What are you going to do?
 - ▶ How will you motivate the participants involved in your project?
 - ▶ Who is part of your team and what are their different roles and responsibilities?
- ▶ What resources will you need and where will you get them?
 - ▶ Are there costs involved? And if so where will you get the money?
 - ▶ What are your plans for the public event and how will you promote it?
 - ▶ What are the health and safety considerations?
 - ▶ Do you need to do a risk assessment?
- ▶ How will you know if the project has worked?
 - ▶ How will you collect feedback?
 - ▶ What things could go wrong? Do you have a back-up plan?
 - ▶ What else do you need to find out or do?

Unit 2 Part C: project leadership report

- ▶ What happened on the project and what was produced/what was the end result?
 - ▶ What leadership skills did you develop and were you an effective leader?
 - ▶ What did you enjoy most and what did you find challenging?
- ▶ How did the public event work?
 - ▶ What was the feedback from others?
 - ▶ What have you learnt from this feedback?
- ▶ What have you learnt about leadership?
 - ▶ What have you learnt about communication?
 - ▶ What have you learnt about planning?
 - ▶ What have you learnt about your art form?
- ▶ What would you do differently next time?



tzwilliam Museum photo Rob Walker

Gold Arts Award checklist

what you do

what evidence is needed

where is it?
(eg page number,
video/DVD index)

Unit 1: personal arts development

Part A:
extend your
own arts practice

details of your original art form/
practice and the new art form/practice
you developed

what you did for your artistic challenge,
who you worked with and what
you learnt

evidence of the new work you created
and how you shared it publicly

feedback

final review including personal reflection

Part B:
get involved
in the arts world

description of active involvement,
including feedback from the person
you worked with/for

evidence and summary of research
into careers and training – including
brochures, leaflets, etc

reflection on how the experiences
have influenced your learning

Part C:
research
and review

evidence of your research

reviews of events

notes on how your research
has influenced you/your work

what you do

what evidence is needed

where is it?
(eg page
number, video/
DVD index)

Unit 1: personal arts development (continued)

Part D:
form and
communicate
a view

evidence and summary of research

outline of your argument

evidence of how you shared/
presented your argument

feedback/responses from others

Unit 2: arts project leadership

Parts A & B:
plan an arts project

project plan – see guide on page 20

Parts C & D:
deliver the project

evidence of the project – photos,
notes, flyers, videos

changes made responding to
feedback and self-reflection

Part E:
review your
leadership of
the project

project report, including feedback
and outcomes – see guide on page 20

Why not put this at the front of your portfolio to help you keep track of your portfolio evidence? Don't forget – there are lots of Gold case studies and examples of portfolios at artsawardvoice.com/hubs/gold. Take a look and get inspired!