

RESEARCH & TRAVEL BURSARIES 2011

Note: For convenience, the word “museum” is used to represent a wide range of learning organisations such as not only museums but also, for example, galleries, libraries, archives, historic houses, historic sites, and zoological, botanical and science centres.

Each year the Group for Education in Museums (GEM) awards two bursaries for GEM members to explore an aspect of museum education. A research bursary of up to £1,500 and a travel bursary of up to £1,000 may be applied for by GEM members for the year 2011.

On completion of the project, successful applicants are required to submit a 3,000 word article for the Journal of Education in Museums and for the GEM website. Applicants are also encouraged to disseminate their experiences further to benefit the wider museum profession.

On Friday 25 February 2011, applicants must either (a) have been a personal member of GEM for more than two years, or (b) have worked continuously for more than two years for an institutional member.

Details of each bursary and how to apply now follow.

Please note that application forms and all supporting information must be received by the GEM Office by 12.00 on Friday 25 February 2011.

BURSARY AIMS

The general aims of the GEM Bursaries are to:

- encourage the sharing of good practice and research on museum education;
- assist in the continuing professional development of GEM members;
- develop and broaden research work being undertaken into museum education;
- encourage the interchange of ideas and experiences on a global basis.

GEM RESEARCH BURSARY

It is intended that the Research Bursary will be used to investigate a contemporary issue or concern within museum education, and that the conclusions reached will be of practical use to museum educators in general and GEM members in particular. The Research Bursary will not be awarded to subsidise the costs of academic research as part of a degree course.

The Research Bursary will be awarded for research costs including associated travel up to £1,500.

GEM TRAVEL BURSARY

The Travel Bursary will be awarded to support continuing professional development by allowing a GEM member to see other ways of working in his or her selected field.

The Travel Bursary will be awarded for travel and accommodation costs up to £1,000.

Please note that neither Bursary award is intended to be used simply for conference fees and associated travel.

Applications are welcomed from all GEM members who wish to embark on an innovative project linked to an aspect of museum education which satisfies the above aims and guidelines.

BURSARY TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The Research Bursary is for research costs up to a maximum of £1,500.
2. The Travel Bursary is for travel and accommodation up to a maximum of £1,000.

Eligibility

3. On 25 February 2011, applicants must have either (a) been a personal member of GEM for more than two years, or (b) worked continuously for more than two years for an institutional member.
4. Applicants are welcomed from museums, galleries, libraries, archives, historic houses, historic sites, zoological and botanical centres, and related educational establishments.
5. Former Bursary recipients are eligible to re-apply two years after the date of the final payment of their previous award.
6. Projects must be innovative, related to exploring an aspect of museum education and satisfy some or all of the following aims:
 - encourage the sharing of good practice and research on museum education;
 - assist in the continuing professional development of GEM members;
 - develop and broaden research work being undertaken into museum education;
 - encourage the interchange of ideas and experiences on a global basis.
7. Awards are made to individual GEM members and cannot be used to sub-contract work.
8. The Research Bursary will not be awarded to subsidise the costs of academic research as part of a degree course.
9. Neither Bursary award is intended to be used simply for conference fees and associated travel.

Timescale

10. Applications on the official application form and all supporting information must be received by the GEM Office by 12.00 on Friday 25 February 2011.
11. Applicants will be notified whether they have been successful or not by 21 March 2011.
12. The successful projects must be completed by 31 December 2011.
13. Within six months of the completion of the Bursary, or at the latest by 31 March 2012, a fully referenced article of 3,000 words must be submitted to the GEM Office for publication in the Journal of Education in Museums. It should include an outline of the bursary project and a clear statement of the conclusions drawn. The article will also be placed on GEM's website.
14. Successful applicants may be invited to present their findings at the GEM annual conference in 2011. If necessary, reasonable costs of travel to the GEM conference to deliver the paper may be taken out of the Bursary. No conference day fee for the day on which the paper is presented will be charged. However, the Bursaries may not be used for accommodation or for day fees on other conference days.
15. Two thirds of the Bursary award will be given once the project has started or a detailed confirmed itinerary has been received. The balance of the award will be paid once the article has been received and the conference presentation, if any, has been delivered.
16. Claims for the balance of the award must be received by 31 October 2011 otherwise the balance will be deemed to be forfeit.

Award of Bursaries

17. Bursaries are awarded by GEM's Bursaries Committee. Their decisions are final and no correspondence about their decisions will be entered into.
18. The Bursaries Committee has the right not to award a Bursary if no appropriate applications are received.
19. The Bursaries Committee has the right not to pay a Bursary in full if the person concerned fails to meet all of the terms on which the Bursary is awarded.

Acceptance of Conditions

20. Applicants are required to sign the Bursary application form to confirm that they have read and accepted these terms and conditions.