

DASH



Recruitment Pack

WYSING

Future Curators Programme

Information for Disabled, Deaf and Neurodivergent emerging curators to apply for a paid 'Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator)' position working jointly with DASH & Wysing Arts Centre.

CONTENTS

Please click the texts below to jump to the page you require

- ③ Introduction: Future Curators Programme
- ⑥ DASH x Wysing Arts Centre Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator) Job Description
- ⑪ DASH x Wysing Arts Centre Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator) Application Process
- ⑬ DASH x Wysing Arts Centre Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator) Application & Interview Process
- ⑮ Future Curators Programme Partners
- ⑯ About DASH
- ⑰ About Wysing Arts Centre
- ⑲ Important Information



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INTRODUCTION: FUTURE CURATORS PROGRAMME

Heather Peak, Artist/ Chief Executive Officer/ Artistic Director, DASH

I am delighted to introduce the Future Curators Programme, a transformative residency programme for disabled curators within mainstream visual arts institutions, founded and led by DASH in collaboration with our partners:

- Arts Catalyst, Sheffield
- Disability Arts Online, UK-wide
- John Hansard Gallery, Southampton
- Midlands Arts Centre (MAC), Birmingham
- Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA)
- Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange
- Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge

This programme is generously funded by Arts Council England, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, and the Art Fund. Their support ensures that we can continue to build sustainable change within the visual arts sector, centring disabled voices and leadership. Grounded in Disability Justice, the programme brings together disabled curators, institutions, and partners through action research, critical dialogue, and system change. It challenges traditional models of leadership and curatorial practice, creating spaces where access, care, and imagination drive artistic innovation. The Future Curators Programme envisions a future led by disabled creativity and leadership — a visual arts sector that is equitable, dynamic, and enriched by diverse perspectives.

Our vision is to build a sector that:

- Enables, values, and celebrates disabled curators and artists.
- Centres Disabled, Deaf, and Neurodivergent leadership, aesthetics, and critical thinking.
- Embeds anti-ableism and Disability Justice at the heart of best practice.

We welcome applicants who identify across the broad spectrum of disability, including Disabled, Deaf, Chronically ill, Neurodivergent, Crip, Mad, Sick, or Spoonie. Through this programme, we will support and celebrate your professional and creative development, while collectively shaping a future in which disabled leadership is not an exception, but an essential and permanent presence.

I encourage you to explore the details of the curatorial posts within this pack, learn about the opportunities on offer at each partner

organisation, and consider how your skills, ideas, and lived experience could shape the future of the visual arts sector.

We are excited to recruit the next generation of curators who will lead, question, and transform the arts sector with vision, creativity and curiosity.

With solidarity and warmth.

**Heather Peak, Artist/ Chief Executive
Officer/ Artistic Director, DASH**



Future Curators Programme meeting, MAC, 2024. Photo: Ayesha Jones.

Image Description: Three women wearing stripey black and white tops are smiling as they sit at a large table. On the table are notepads, laptops, coffee cups, water jugs and glasses, as well as sprays of yellow flowers emerging from vases in various stages of collapse and tilted angles.



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DASH x WYSING ARTS CENTRE HOME BASED FUTURE CURATOR (ASSOCIATE CURATOR) JOB DESCRIPTION

**Home Based Future Curator
(Associate Curator)
(Joint Post: DASH x Wysing Arts Centre)**

Job Title: Associate Curator

Location: Home-based (UK), with an optional residency opportunity at Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridgeshire (to be arranged).

Contract Type: Fixed-term, 12 months

Working Days: 1.5 days per week

Fee: £15,000.00 (inc. VAT) for 75 days across a 12-month period @ £200.00 per day.

Reports to: Heather Peak, CEO/Artistic Director, DASH and Rosie Cooper, Director, Wysing Arts Centre.

About the Role

This new Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator) post is a joint role between DASH and Wysing Arts Centre, created as part of DASH's Future Curators Programme.

The position is for a Disabled, Deaf or Neurodivergent curator who works primarily from home or for whom home-based working is essential. The home — as a lived, material, and imaginative space — will also serve as the curator's primary site of research, reflection and creative practice.

Working 1.5 days per week for one year, the Associate Curator will collaborate closely with the DASH Creative Producer, the DASH team, and the Wysing Arts Centre Curatorial Team. Together they will explore and expand curatorial approaches to home-based and digital practice, grounded in disability justice and contemporary art framework.

The curator will co-develop and curate shared ways of working in digital/ online spaces for DASH and Wysing Arts Centre, shaping it as a collaborative, accessible environment for artistic experimentation, storytelling, and international exchange. The role also includes the option of a short residency at Wysing Arts Centre, as well as opportunities to connect with national and international artists, partners and audiences online, extending dialogue and visibility around disability justice and home-based artistic practice.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Curatorial Practice

→ Curate and develop DASH and Wysing Arts Centre's respective digital platforms as evolving spaces for home-based and digital curatorial practice, informed by disability justice principles and contemporary art thinking.

→ Treat the home itself as a curatorial site — a place from which to question access, intimacy, autonomy and creative labour — recognising that home-based working is both a necessity and a space of artistic possibility for many disabled practitioners. Through working with Wysing Arts Centre, there will be the opportunity to consider this through the additional lens of rurality, digital/ geographic 'remoteness', and environmental sustainability.

→ Conceive and deliver curatorial projects, texts or collaborations that foreground the politics and poetics of home, care, and digital presence.

→ Contribute to the Home Based Situated Practice (HBSP) and Future Curators programmes, embedding inclusive and justice-led methodologies throughout.

Research, Exchange and International Dialogue

→ Lead curatorial research exploring home-based, remote and digital practices through a disability justice lens.

→ Build relationships with international curators, artists and collectives, developing cross-border exchanges and digital collaborations.

→ Contribute to online symposia, talks

and publications that expand international dialogue around disability justice and accessible curating.

Programme Collaboration

→ Work with the DASH Creative Producer to support the HBSP residencies and related public programmes.

→ Collaborate with Wysing Art Centre's Curatorial Team to co-develop content that bridges both organisations' digital and public platforms.

→ Participate in joint meetings, team sessions and cross-organisational planning.

Artist & Community Engagement

→ Engage with Disabled, Deaf and Neurodivergent artists, communities and networks across the UK and internationally.

→ Contribute to mentoring, talks, digital events or social media takeovers that share curatorial research and amplify artist voices.

→ Write or record reflective pieces that explore curating from home, access aesthetics, and the politics of visibility.

Residency (optional)

→ Optionally undertake a residency at Wysing Arts Centre (negotiable duration), to further develop curatorial or research strands in dialogue with artists on-site. Wysing's live/workspace is recently refurbished and is accessible.

Access, Reflection & Evaluation

→ Work with DASH and Wysing Arts Centre to embed access and care practices throughout the role.

→ Participate in reflection and evaluation processes, contributing to the learning and legacy of the Future Curators and HBSP programmes.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

→ Identifies as a Disabled, Deaf or Neurodivergent curator.

→ Deep commitment to disability justice, equity, and inclusive curatorial practice.

→ Awareness of contemporary art, critical discourse, and intersectional approaches to disability and access.

→ Experience or interest in digital and/or home-based curating.

→ Commitment to environmental sustainability.

→ Strong communication and self-management skills.

→ Desire to engage internationally and to connect online with artists, audiences and communities.

Desirable

→ Experience curating exhibitions, online projects, or public programmes.

→ Familiarity with accessible digital tools and platforms.

→ Experience working collaboratively across organisations or networks.

→ Knowledge of critical disability studies, feminist, or postcolonial theory.

Access and Support

DASH and Wysing Arts Centre are committed to disability justice, access and inclusion across all aspects of this role. We understand that many disabled curators face multiple barriers to traditional work environments and career development. This role is intentionally structured to be home-based, flexible, and

responsive — centring the curator's access needs, pace and working style.

Access support will be provided as required (e.g. access riders, digital assistance, mentoring, and flexible scheduling).

Applications in alternative formats are warmly welcomed.



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DASH x WYSING ARTS CENTRE HOME BASED FUTURE CURATOR (ASSOCIATE CURATOR) APPLICATION PROCESS

Deadline for applications: Monday 26 January 2026 by 12 noon.

To Apply, please send:

- ① A CV, in any format.
- ② A written text, film or audio recording answering the 3 questions below.
- ③ The names of 2 people who can provide references (to be contacted after appointment).

To accompany your CV, please consider the following 3 questions:

- Why are you applying to the Future Curator/ Home Based Curator Programme?
- How does your experience make you

suitable for the role?

- What areas of interest would you look to explore in this role?

Please respond using one of these formats:

- A written text (max. 1000 words)
- A film (max. 7 mins)
- An audio recording (max. 7 mins)
- A visual collage or drawing* plus written (max. 400 words) or audio (max. 3 mins) text

**Please provide a digital photo of your collage/ drawing or a WeTransfer link to your audio recording or film since we are unable to accept physical submissions in the post.*

Please complete our Equal Opportunities Monitoring form ([link to form](#)). This form will be viewed alongside your application and made available to the selection panel.

Please email your CV & text / film / audio or collage / drawing to info@dasharts.org using 'Home Based Future Curator Application' as the subject header.



Alexis Parinas, 'There are so many seeds, so many stars' (2024) was commissioned and produced by Wysing Arts Centre. Supported by Arts Council England and Art Fund with the John Armitage Charitable Trust. Photo: Lucy Rose Shaftain-Fenner.

Image Description: The image features a long building structure that fills the centre. Above the building is a blue sky with white clouds to the right. In front of the building is a patch of grass with two small trees in the centre and the edge of a path to the bottom left. The building has a flat roof and is in the shape of a grid. There are two rows of tall rectangular windows. There are long brightly coloured artwork banners hanging over the two levels of windows at the third, seventh, tenth, thirteenth and fifteenth windows. The artworks in purple, yellow, blue, and pink depict flowers and fauna shapes.



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DASH x WYSING ARTS CENTRE HOME BASED FUTURE CURATOR (ASSOCIATE CURATOR) APPLICATION & INTERVIEW PROCESS

If you have any questions about the application process, please email DASH Executive Director Peter Bonnell: peter@dasharts.org

A dedicated Q&A page will be available on the DASH website for inquiries about the role. We will update the content in response to incoming questions. Please keep checking the website: www.dasharts.org

If you would like to speak with someone in confidence about the role and to learn more

about what DASH and Wysing Arts Centre do, the following individuals are available for a Zoom/ Teams or telephone conversation:

- Heather Peak (CEO/ Artistic Director, DASH)
- Rosie Cooper (Director, Wysing Arts Centre)

To book a meeting, please email Peter Bonnell at peter@dasharts.org with the subject header '**Home Based Future Curator Confidential Chat**' and the name of the individual – Heather or Rosie - you would like to speak with.

Thank you and good luck!

- If selected for interview you will be notified by **Thursday 29 January 2026.**
- Interviews to take place: **w/c 2 February 2026.**
- The panel will include 3-4 people from the DASH and Wysing Arts Centre teams.
- Questions will be provided 1 week in advance of the interview.
- Interviews will take place online on either Teams or Zoom.
- Contact us if there are issues with the interview date.
- Please tell us about any additional accessibility requirements.
- Feedback will be given to all applicants on request.
- Decisions will be made **w/c 9 February 2026.**
- Successful applicant will be in place in Spring 2026.



Spring celebration, April 2025. Wysing Arts Centre.
Photo: Ali Mohamed.

Image Description: A cropped close-up image of four people sitting at a table, eating. The person at the centre is wearing a black baseball cap and dark green velvet top and is looking down, smiling. The person to the right has long chestnut brown hair and is in profile. They are wearing a light brown coat, and their arm is reaching across the person in the middle and is pointing at something on the table. A person, seen from the rear, sits to the left in the foreground and is blurred. They are wearing a beige jacket and green hoodie, their hair tied up in a bun. A person to the left is wearing a grey baseball cap, their face mostly obscured.

FUTURE CURATORS PROGRAMME PARTNERS

The Future Curators Programme brings together seven partners from across the UK to deliver different opportunities, in different regions, for emerging disabled curators to work within visual arts organisations. The Programme is designed and managed by DASH. Programme partners Disability Arts Online, Arts Catalyst and Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange have already completed recruitment for their curators.

The four partners below are part of this recruitment round, with this pack offering a 'Home Based Future Curator (Associate Curator)' position, part of the Future Curators Programme, in partnership between DASH (who work remotely, UK-wide) & Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge. John Hansard Gallery and Midlands Arts Centre (MAC) will each have recruited their curators by mid-December 2025. Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA) will recruit their curator in Spring 2026.



John Hansard Gallery
(Southampton)



Wysing Arts Centre
(Cambridge)



Midlands Arts Centre
(MAC, Birmingham)



MIMA
(Middlesbrough)

ABOUT: DASH



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DASH is a disabled-led visual arts charity that creates opportunities for Disabled, Deaf and Neurodivergent artists to develop their creative practice. Our vision is a society in which Disability Art is core and equally valued in the arts sector.

Over the past twenty years DASH has delivered pioneering programmes — including Future Curators Programme, Disclosure, The Quiet Room, and Home Based Situated Practice (HBSP) — that have reshaped how the sector supports disabled artists and curators.

We work with artists, audiences, communities and organisations to challenge inequality and

implement systemic change across the arts. For more information visit: www.dasharts.org



‘The Future is Disabled’ a key text informing the work of the FCP Network, 2024. Photo: Ayesha Jones. 2024.

Image Description: The book, ‘The Future is Disabled’ by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is laid open and faces page down on a table. The spine of the book is the focus of the camera, emphasising the name and author of the book.

ABOUT: WYSING ARTS CENTRE



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Established in 1989, Wysing Arts Centre is a leading centre for artistic experimentation and learning, in a rural setting ten miles from Cambridge city. It holds 20 subsidised studios, accommodation for up to 80 visiting artists annually, recording and ceramics studios, flexible space to experiment, present and learn, fields, woodland, and several outdoor outworks.

Wysing's mission is to support artists, and to be leading in the way we do it. We provide artists, curators and publics with time and space to expand their creative practice. Our rural site is a creative sanctuary: we believe that everyone should have time and

space away from the pressures, habits, and conventions of daily life.

Wysing supports artistic experimentation, research, risk-taking and skills development. We do this through national and international artist residencies, commissions, innovative partnerships and civic connections, events, a youth-led learning programme and affordable studio provision.

In 2026, Wysing will complete a capital project focused on making Wysing's rural site more accessible, welcoming, environmentally sustainable, and biodiverse. For more information visit: www.wysing.art



Rika Nakashima, *When the Hive is Burning*, June 2025, Wysing Arts Centre. Photo by Lucy Rose Shaftain-Fenner.

Image Description: The image depicts a group of people sitting or crouching on the ground, many on yellow sheets, in a green field, listening to a central speaker who is kneeling, dressed in white and wearing a grey cap. To the right of the image is a large ramshackle house-like structure that towers low over the group and is made of reclaimed wood, shingle, planks, and glass units. It has an open doorway with black and yellow hazard tape pulled across it and the entire bottom level of the structure. The background has a row of trees, the sky overcast and grey.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



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DASH is a disabled-led visual arts organisation and our values and those of our partners in the Future Curators Programme are based upon equality of opportunity and the Social Model of Disability. To maintain our commitment to support and develop a future where Disabled-leaders are prominent, the role featured in this pack is open primarily to Disabled, Deaf and Neurodivergent applicants, as their lived experience and understanding will enable us to better achieve our aims of creating opportunities for disabled artists and curators to develop their creative practice.

For this opportunity we are encouraging and prioritising applications from people who face the highest barriers to accessing careers or volunteering in the arts. This includes a focus on those whose access requirements are less likely to be met in other spaces and those who experience intersecting racist and classist barriers.

DASH and our partners are equal opportunities employers. Applications are welcomed from all suitably qualified persons regardless of age, sex, sexual orientation, religion, nationality or ethnic origin, disability, marital status or pregnancy.

DASH and our partners are committed to the safeguarding and welfare of adults, children

and young people with care needs and expects its staff and volunteers to share this. The position in this pack will require a DBS check, either enhanced or basic, depending on the specific role.

If you have any inquiries regarding the DBS process, please feel free to enquire at either the individual partner organisations in this pack, or with DASH at: info@dasharts.org

As a Disability Confident Committed Employer DASH is committed to:

- Ensuring our recruitment process is inclusive & accessible.
- Communicating and promoting vacancies.
- Offering an interview to disabled people who meet the minimum criteria for the job.

- Anticipating & providing reasonable adjustments.
- Supporting any existing employee who acquires a disability or long-term health condition, enabling them to stay in work.
- At least one activity that will make a difference for disabled people.

GDPR personal data notice:

During our recruitment process, DASH and our partners will collect and processes personal data relating to applicants. We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use data to meet our data protection obligations. Please be aware that we will share the personal data received in your application with the shortlisting and interview panel. Access will be restricted to those involved in the recruitment process.