

Leeds Museums
& Galleries

Access in Museums Conference 2026



LEEDS CITY MUSEUM LS2 8BH

Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th April

GEM
We connect &
learn together

DAY 1

Thursday 23 April

-
- 9:15am **REGISTRATION, TEA AND COFFEE**
Broderick Hall
- 9:55am **WELCOME**
Welcome and housekeeping from Carl Newbould
- 10.00am **INTRO FROM GEM**
Shannen Johnson
Event partner introduction from GEM
(Group for Education in Museums)
- 10.20am **SPOTLIGHT - LIVE TRANSCRIPTION**
Oliver Webster from StageText will discuss what live transcription is and why it is important for access
-
- 10.35am **BREAK**
-
- 10.45am **KEYNOTE JESSICA STARNIS**
Inclusive Artists in Museums
Broderick Hall
-
- 11.30am **BREAK**
-
- 11.45am **WORKSHOP CHOICE**
Choice A: Fostering hope, optimism and inspiration: South Shields Museum and Art Gallery ESBA programme
Leslie Palanker-Jermyn
Thoresby room

Choice B: Out of Sight, Out of Mind? Making Museums Accessible and Engaging for People with Visual Impairments

Amy Jo Kearton
Broderick Hall

12.30pm

LUNCH

1.15pm

SPOTLIGHTS

Broderick Hall

- What is the UK Disability History and Heritage Hub? - Louise Bell
 - The Disability Badge Scheme - Emily Elsworth and Pen Foreman
 - Museum Development Supporting the Sector - Liz Denton, Access Cohort
-

2.00pm

BREAK

2.15pm

WORKSHOP CHOICE

Choice A: Advancing Accessibility: Disability Work Culture in Museums

Alexandra Morris
Broderick Hall

Choice B: Belonging in Museums: Creative Experiences for SEND learners

Dionne Matthews
Thoresby room

3.00pm

BREAK

PROGRAMME

3.15pm

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Choice A: Education and Community

Conversation Group

Broderick Hall

Choice B: Staff and Volunteers

Conversation Group

Thoresby Room

4.00pm

END OF DAY 1

DAY 2

Friday 24 April

-
- 9.15am **REGISTRATION, TEA AND COFFEE**
Broderick Hall
- 10.00am **WELCOME**
Welcome and housekeeping from Carl Newbould
- 10.15am **SPOTLIGHT SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS**
Sophie Hewitson
-
- 10.30am **BREAK**
-
- 10.45am **KEYNOTE JULIE COLLAR: COLLAR AND CUFFS**
**The Ball that Cam Back: Sensory Archetypes and
the Everyday Access Revolution for People with
PMLD**
-
- 11.30am **BREAK**
-
- 11.45am **WORKSHOP CHOICE**
**Choice A: Included and Understood: What we
have learned from prioritising deaf audiences**
Wellcome Collection
Broderick Hall

**Choice B: Artist-Led Creative Access in Museums
and Galleries**
Michelle Duxbury
Thoresby

12:30pm

LUNCH

Broderick Hall

1.15pm

WORKSHOP CHOICE

Choice A: Sensory Storytelling in a Box

Sharon Healy

Thoresby room

Choice B: Creating Equitable Museums with and for Neurodivergent People

Justine Reilley

Broderick Hall

2.00pm

BREAK

2.15pm

SPOTLIGHTS

Broderick Hall

- Showcasing the “Creative Access Toolkit”- Jennifer Gilbert
 - Making Employability and Skills Programmes more accessible for more Young People - Adam Duckworth
 - Learning and Adapting as we go: Accessible Volunteering at Wolverhampton Art Gallery- Michelle Hallard
 - Enhancing the Approach to Developing Large Print Guides at the Postal Museum - Danny Figg
-

3.15pm

CLOSING STATEMENTS

3.30pm

END OF DAY 2

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#CareersForAll



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