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Thackray Medical Museum secures Arts Council England NPO funding

The Thackray Medical Museum, in Leeds, has secured new national funding of over £880,000 for 2018-22, by securing a place as a new Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

The museum is one of the organisations that has secured revenue funding from Arts Council England for the very first time in the 2018-22 NPO funding round.

Of 1,160 applicants from across the arts sector, the museum is one of 831 successful applicants, and one of 183 applicants who join the National Portfolio for the very first time.

The funding will be used to create new staff posts which will put the museum's unique collections online, reach out to increase the involvement of diverse audiences and schoolchildren in the museum, support volunteering at the museum, and fundraise for the museum's refurbishment plans. Thackray Medical Museum will receive over £220,000 per year for the next four years to enable this work to happen.

Thackray Medical Museum Chief Executive, Joanne Bartholomew said:

"We are thrilled to be joining Arts Council England's National Portfolio, and to have this incredible opportunity to extend the reach and impact of our work on medicine and healthcare to wider audiences. Medicine and health affects us all, and we are delighted that we will be able to work more closely, with more people, to share our unique medical collections, giving us all an opportunity to think about medicine, health and science as a part of culture and society."

"Our plans to strengthen our digital offer and involve more people from diverse communities are closely aligned with Arts Council's vision for the contribution that arts and culture make to the UK, and we are delighted that has been recognised."

Thackray Medical Museum is currently poised to submit a second round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, for a major capital development project of £4.5m to refurbish the museum, twenty years after it first opened in 1997. The museum would love to hear from companies or people who are interested in supporting the development plans via info@thackraymuseum.org or on 0113 244 4343.

Notes to editors

About Thackray Medical Museum

Formerly the Leeds Union Workhouse, Thackray Medical Museum is now one of the UK's largest medical museums. Through nine interactive galleries, the museum will take you on a journey of discovery to explore the incredible world of medicine. Travel from the Victorian age to the present day to explore the fascinating world of surgery and find out how breakthroughs in science have changed all our lives for the better.

Family activities and events run all year round with a different theme every month. Activities take place Monday to Friday during school holidays and every Saturday during term time. Admission tickets allow unlimited return for 12 months.

As a registered charity, the museum's continued success relies on the generosity and support of individual and corporate sponsors, Friends and Members, fundraising activities, admission fees, and the support of the Thackray Medical Research Trust.

www.thackraymedicalmuseum.co.uk

Twitter: @thackraymuseum

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About Arts Council England

We believe that great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. We champion, develop and invest in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections.

Our National Portfolio Organisations represent some of the best arts practice in the world, and they play a vital role in helping us meet our mission of Great Art and Culture for Everyone. The total investment in NPOs for 2018/19 will be £409.3 million, compared to £366.9 million in 2017/18.

www.artscouncil.org.uk

Major Funding Support

Thackray Medical Museum has received Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding of £221,885 per annum for four years from 2018-22, a total of £887,540.

Thackray Medical Museum has previously received Arts Council England funding of £91,000 in 2012 for *The Magic of Medicine* exhibition, £195,000 in 2014 for *Recovery? From Flanders to Afghanistan* an exhibition remembering the First World War and sharing veterans' experiences 100 years on, and £96,000 in 2016 for new digital systems.

The museum has received a first-round pass for a Heritage Lottery Fund Heritage Grant of £1,670,300, including a development grant of £154,600. A second-round application will be submitted in the coming months for a decision by the end of 2017.



Contact:

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