

This is a very short Newsletter this month, as there are two urgent topics for members.

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STOP PRESS

The Artists' Access to Art Colleges Scheme:

The Artists Access to Art Colleges (AA2A) scheme at Lincoln has just extended their application deadline to ensure they reach minimum numbers to run this scheme. The University is one of 37 institutions offering 'mini residencies' to artists and makers. We would appreciate it if you could circulate this information to colleagues and friends who may be interested in this opportunity.

University of Lincoln is hosting an AA2A scheme which will offer four places to artists & makers, giving them the opportunity to undertake a period of research or realise a project using art college facilities eg. workshops, studios, IT facilities, lending library, & lecture programme; for an application pack contact :

Medina Hammed (Coordinator) mhammad@lincoln.ac.uk 0152 289 5011
Linda Georgeson (Administrator) lgeorgeson@lincoln.ac.uk 0152 288 2000

Facilities offered: printmaking (etching, screen, wood/lino cutting) sewing and knitting machines, digital media, video editing. More details of the scheme available on the AA2A website – see <http://www.aa2a.org/colleges/lincoln>

For general information on what you will need to apply and eligibility see <http://www.aa2a.org/apply>. Access is free, for at least 100 hours, between October 2009 and April 2010 and a materials / travel grant of £220

Closing date for applications is Fri 9th Oct 2009.

Applicants must have at least one years professional practice and should be able to work with minimal technical support.

Artists on AA2A schemes run from 2006 to 2007 or before can reapply.

AA2A particularly welcomes applications from applicants with disabilities, from culturally diverse backgrounds and non-graduates.

AA2A is a C.H.E.A.D project, funded by the Lottery through A.C.E.

AOTM AGM on 21st October 2009

Wednesday 21 October 2009 at 7.00 p.m. The Solo Club, the Market Place, Sleaford

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Chairman's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Membership Secretary's Report
5. Election of Officers and Steering Group Members
6. Future Amendments to the AOTM Constitution
7. AOB
8. Date of Next Meeting

Immediately after the AGM there will be a short presentation, and discussion, on the Strategy for the Future of AOTM. This will include a brief summary by Angela Porter, from the Lincolnshire Co-operative Development Agency, who is kindly facilitating the current series of Planning Meetings looking at the future of AOTM. This will be followed by a question and answer session, when we hope that you will join in. We look forward to as many members as possible attending the AGM.

AOTM Open Studio Questionnaires for Summer 2009:

Would all members, who have not already done so, now complete your AOTM Open Studio Internal Questionnaires for the summer 2009 sessions? Then please let the Membership Secretary know (or your Cluster Group Co-ordinator, if they have already asked for them) how many visitors you had over the two weekends and the total amount of sales. That personal information will remain confidential and the figures will be added together to give an overall AOTM result, for future planning purposes.

It will take only a few minutes for you to complete the form, or email the results if it's easier, but please do not put it off, as it only makes more work for the volunteers who then have to chase after the details! The results will be analyzed so that we gauge the overall effectiveness of the AOTM Open Studios. Also please return all completed Visitors questionnaires to the Membership Secretary, for the same reasons.

A Warm Welcome to a New AOTM Member for 2009 – 2010

We welcome Derek Harris as our 91st member of AOTM for 2009-2010. Derek is an internationally recognised, award winning photographer, but he is now returning to his early love of painting. Derek lives near Swineshead, in the Fens Cluster Group area.

Membership Secretary's Website Update:

Website Update: The following notes give a brief update on work that has been ongoing to improve the AOTM website. Unfortunately, this article was not ready in time for the emailed October version of the Newsletter, that was sent to members earlier in the month, but it is now included in this website version.

1. We now have “openstudioslincolnshire.org.uk ” and “artonthemap.org.uk” as our AOTM website domains, to improve national coverage.
2. We have moved “Open Studios Lincolnshire” to left and “AOTM Logo” to the right, on the website headers, to increase our national appeal.
3. News: The AOTM Newsletter is now being uploaded onto the website each month, after initial circulation to members by email.
4. Members: “Members Only Documentation” is now changed to “Members Only Information”
5. Members Only Information : The following are now being added, and are available to members (user name and password were emailed to members on 10 October 2009):
 - a. AOTM Constitution and Open Studio Questionnaires.
 - b. AOTM Steering Group Minutes.
 - c. Significant reports from the AOTM Steering Group.
 - d. AOTM Open Studio Visitors Mailing. (Currently being compiled by SG member.)
6. Members: The following note to new applicants has now been added, after the first 1st paragraph: “You also need to forward a CV, an Artist’s Statement and at least six images of your work to the Membership Secretary, preferably attached to an email (less than 1MB each jpg).”
7. News: We can now add images to News Items.
8. The Membership Sec’s access to Members Admin pages on the website has been improved.
9. Members email addresses, in Cluster Groups, should soon be available from the website.
10. AOTM website Visitor Stats may be included in future AOTM Newsletters.
11. Members: The *Forum* may be replaced by an *AOTM Blog*, to remove current problems.
12. A simple description of how members can update their own webpage is being compiled by the web designer and will be printed in the Newsletter, when ready.
13. There has been ongoing contact with the National Open Studios Network and we will be represented at the national Open Studios Network Conference in October (in Coventry).

All of the above have been in the pipe-line for several months and should now help things run even more smoothly.

Future Newsletter Articles

Articles for the monthly AOTM Newsletters should still be forwarded to the Membership Secretary, pending the appointment of a new AOTM Newsletter Editor.