



**APPLYING FOR  
THE ASSOCIATES  
LEADERSHIP  
PROGRAMME**

**APRIL 23 - APRIL 24**

**BRIEFING PACK**





# WELCOME

Welcome to the Associates Programme Briefing Pack.

In this pack, you will find out more about what the programme involves, and why we run it. You'll find out how it works, how to apply, and how you can help shape the contents of the programme. We hope it showcases some of the reasons you would choose to be an Associate, and answers any questions you might have.

If you have any more questions, or would like to chat through your application, please email us at [samra@artshomelessint.com](mailto:samra@artshomelessint.com).





## A MESSAGE FROM BETH KNOWLES

Thank you very much for your interest in taking part in our Arts & Homelessness International (AHI) Associates Leadership programme.

AHI is the leading network for the arts & homelessness sector. We work to bring positive and political change to people, projects & policy in homelessness through arts & creativity. We want to see a future where people who are or have been homeless thrive as creatives, have equal access to the arts and an active voice in decisions that affect their community; where the arts are integrated in local government homelessness policies across the UK; & where the sector is creatively active, connected and working sustainably.

AHI is committed to the idea and practice of co-creation: Working equitably with (not for) people who are or have been homeless including a series of practical commitments (like maintaining at least a 50% representation across the company, both at Board and staff level). We are excited you are considering joining us as an associate and we are keen to receive applications from all artistic practices. If you are not sure whether this opportunity is right for you, we would strongly encourage you to get in touch for an informal chat.

**Beth Knowles**  
**Co-Chair of Arts & Homelessness International**



# WHAT IS THE AHI LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME?

The Associates Leadership Programme is a year-long professional development programme for artists who are, or who have been, homeless. It is the first of its kind in history and offers tailored practical and emotional support to each new member developing their artistic practice.

AHI celebrates inclusion and co-creation. The Programme is shaped by the interests and needs of the members so that it is a personal and valuable experience.

## THE STORY SO FAR

We launched the programme in April 2022 with 8 exceptional leaders and artists with a diverse range of artistic practices, including photography, film directing, writing, producing and more.

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**THE IMPACT THE AHI LEADERSHIP PROGRAM HAS BEEN PHENOMENAL! AHI HAS BOOSTED MY TEAM-WORKING CONFIDENCE AND I AM CONSTANTLY LEARNING FROM THE EMBEDDED GOOD-PRACTICE CULTURE OF CO-CREATION. THE PROGRAMME HAS EMPOWERED ME TO FINALLY REALISE WHAT I KNOW WAS BUBBLING INSIDE OF ME BUT DIDN'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY AND CONFIDENCE TO PURSUE.**

LISA OGUN'  
AHI ASSOCIATE (2022/23)





# COULD YOU BE A PART OF THE NEXT COHORT?

This year will be the second year of the AHI Associate Programme. We're looking for 8 new Associates with a wide range of interests, and who reflect and represent our society. They might be artists, producers, activists, policy makers, students, grafters, go-getters – but all with a common passion for creativity, culture, and equity for people who are or have been homeless. New members don't need to have a developed artistic practice but should have a creative curiosity that they are ready to explore.

## **HOW DOES THE PROGRAMME WORK?**

The group is kept small so that we can work consciously with each cohort and really experiment with what is possible. We aim to cultivate a safe and open culture so that members can shape the sessions to be as valuable as possible to them. The group will have full access to what AHI has to offer – knowledge, networks, and training – and we hope that, in time, the Associates will feed back into the organisation and help us to continue to develop our work.

***Important note -  
You will be paid to attend all meetings,  
events, and training sessions, and in addition  
your travel, accommodation, meals, and  
refreshments will be covered.***





## THE PROGRAMME OFFERS:

- 5 meetings throughout the year with the AHI team.
- Capacity building workshops and Professional Development Modules. Workshops will explore everything from resilience, confidence, and agency to evaluating and fundraising for your future projects.
- A Placement or Residential stay with another organisation in the cultural industries
- The opportunity to collaborate on an artistic project with your cohort

## AND, YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO:

- A personal and flexible creative budget to use to develop a final show or artistic presentation.
- Peer support and mentoring
- Coaching from a qualified coach, and wellbeing support tailored to individual needs
- Paid freelance opportunities throughout the year. Work might include (but is not limited to); Co-facilitating capacity building workshops; attending panels, events and talks on behalf of AHI, and offering consultation on topics and projects. Where necessary, extra training will be provided by the AHI team.





# WHY CHOOSE TO BE A PART OF THE PROGRAMME?

The programme offers artists the space to grow and the flexibility to grow in the direction of your choice. There is freedom within the framework and it is an exciting opportunity to shape your learning and pathways, to connect with others and connect with yourself. The programme builds a community of people with the confidence to say “I am an artist” and the tools and resources to bring your ideas to life.

We celebrate and care about people who are or who have been homeless and are actively creating a space that gives people the opportunity, to play, to experiment and to dream.

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**BY CHOOSING TO BECOME PART OF THE AHI LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME, YOU WILL BE HELPING TO SHAPE THE WORLD IN WHICH WE, AS ARTISTS LIVE. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HONE YOUR SKILLS AND POTENTIALLY LEARN NEW ONES, AND YOU WILL BE BREAKING DOWN WALLS AND SHATTERING STIGMA AS YOU SHOW THE WORLD (AND YOURSELF) JUST WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF...NOT DESPITE YOUR CHALLENGES, BUT BECAUSE OF THEM.**



**DENISE HARRISON  
AHI ASSOCIATE 2022/23**



## TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAMME, YOU SHOULD:

- Live in the UK and have a creative practice or keen creative interest (e.g. in film, poetry, producing or photography)
- Experience of homelessness in the past or present (e.g. you have experienced temporary accommodation, sofa surfing, staying in hostels, street homelessness etc.)

**APPLY BY**  
**12TH FEBRUARY 2023**

To apply, please send:

- A letter (of no more than two pages) via email to [samra@artshomelessint.com](mailto:samra@artshomelessint.com)
- OR
- A video or audio recording of no more than 5 minutes. Send your recording via [wetransfer.com](https://wetransfer.com) to [samra@artshomelessint.com](mailto:samra@artshomelessint.com)

And tell us:

- Why you would like to be considered for the Associates Leadership programme
- How do you imagine this programme will help you achieve your artistic & development aims?
- A bit about yourself; your creative practice and projects you are working on.

**Deadline: 12th February 2023, 12pm.**



# TIMELINE

Applications open  
16th Jan

Successful applicants invited  
to interview  
w/c 6th March

Successful applicants appointed  
Late March / Early April

Applications close  
12th Feb

Interviews  
March



“WHILST THERE IS SO MUCH FOR YOU TO EXPERIENCE AND LEARN AND DEVELOP, AND TO TAKE WHAT IS AHEAD FOR YOU; REMEMBER THAT YOU TOO, ALL OF YOU, HAVE STUFF YOU CAN TEACH, AND THE PEOPLE CAN LEARN FROM YOU AND THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE TO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU AS WELL. YOU HAVE SO MUCH, SUCH A WEALTH OF RICHES, TO BRING TO EVERYTHING THAT LIES AHEAD. DON'T FORGET THAT!

MICHAEL SHEEN,  
TO THE AHI ASSOCIATES 2022/23

The AHI Associates and team 2022/23



Thank you for reading!  
We look forward to hearing from you.

If you have any questions or suggestions  
please get in touch with:  
[samra@artshomelessint.com](mailto:samra@artshomelessint.com)



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
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