

**APPLYING FOR
THE ASSOCIATES
LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME
APRIL 2024 – APRIL 2025**

BRIEFING PACK





WELCOME

...to the Associates Leadership 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 samra@artshomelessint.com

A MESSAGE FROM LUCINDA MEREDITH

“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 change to people, projects & policy in homelessness through arts & creativity. We want to see a future where people who are, or have been homeless are thriving 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-production: 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 and creative 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.”

Lucinda Meredith
Co-Chair of Arts & Homelessness International

WHAT IS THE AHI ASSOCIATE 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 associate developing their artistic practice.

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

THE STORY SO FAR

We launched the programme in April 2022 and over the last two years we have worked with 16 exceptional leaders and artists who all have a diverse range of artistic practices, including: photography, film directing, writing, producing and more.

“I am in awe of AHI for understanding the need for this programme and delivering it in a way that truly makes a difference for artists who have experienced homelessness. I experienced homelessness after becoming disabled in my early 30s. I was so used to being thought of as useless I had lost all my confidence and was incredibly isolated.

After the first contact with AHI and the programme I felt I was there because I had something to offer and they have continued to build on developing that in me.”

Bryony Attenburrow, AHI Associate 2023/24

COULD YOU BE A PART OF THE NEXT COHORT?

This year will be the third year of the AHI Associates Leadership 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, writers, students, grafters and go-getters - but all with a common passion for creativity, culture, and equity for people who are, or have been, homeless. New Associates don't need to have a fully developed artistic practice but should have a creative curiosity that they are already exploring.

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 Associates 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 take on freelance work with 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 co-designed placement or training days with another organisation within 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 your artistic practice
- 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 cultural spaces homelessness training, 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 and the flexibility to grow in the direction of their choice. There is freedom within the framework and it is an exciting opportunity to shape their learning and pathways, to connect with others and connect with themselves. The programme builds a community of people with the confidence to say "I am an artist" and the tools and resources to bring their 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.



"AHI creates a community built on kindness and creativity: two words that ought to go together all the time, but all too often do not. We need this to be the way arts leaders are nurtured from now on. I have so much more faith in my practice, so much more confidence in my approaches, so much more willingness to take risks and be bold, because of this programme."

Nell Hardy, AHI Associate 2023/24

ASSOCIATES LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME – ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

We are seeking individuals that meet the following criteria:

- applicants must be 18 or over and live in the UK
- applicants must have experience of homelessness in the past, or present (e.g. you have experienced temporary accommodation, sofa surfing, staying in hostels, street homelessness etc.)
- applicants must have a creative practice or keen creative interest (e.g. in film, poetry, producing or photography)
- applicants must share AHIs values and ways of working. These are equity, creativity, and openness.
- applicants must commit to, and attend in full, all the Associates Leadership Programme meeting dates in-person:

25th Apr 2024, **25th Jul 2024**, 17th Oct 2024, **23rd Jan 2025** & 27th Mar 2025

APPLY BY 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

To apply, please send:

A letter (of no more than two pages) via email to samra@artshomelessint.com

Or

A video or audio recording of no more than 5 minutes. Send your recording via wetransfer.com to samra@artshomelessint.com

And tell us in your letter or video message:

- 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; name of your city, your creative practice and projects you are working on.

DEADLINE – 11:59PM ON 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

TIMELINE

Applications open
30th January

Applications close
18th February

Successful applicants appointed
in late March / Early April *

Q&A session for interested
applicants 9th February

Interviews held
throughout March

use QR code to join
Q&A session on Zoom
16:30 on 9th February



*We will be hosting a feedback
session for unsuccessful applicants.

“I am honoured to be part of a cohort who represent that homelessness does not mean hopelessness. I have felt that my imagination and creative talents are my biggest assets. AHI’s Associates Leadership programme is a unique space and a beautiful example of co-production.”

Nailah Muhammad, AHI Associate 2023/24



The AHI Associates and team 2023/24



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