The Association of Art Historians (AAH)





The AAH promotes the professional practice and public understanding of art history. The work of art history is to research and construct interpretations of art works and continuously to rethink the concept of 'art work'. We live in an increasingly visual world where text, sound and scientific research are often experienced visually through new technology. Art history helps us make sense of this visual world and encourages deeper engagement with the visual culture that surrounds us. This engagement enriches all our lives.

The Maintained Sector History of Art Project (MSHAP)

The AAH believes that cultural education should be offered in every school, to give every young person the opportunity to participate in this expanding world of work and leisure. MSHAP is the initiative of the Schools Group of the Association of Art Historians (AAH). It aims to promote awareness and knowledge of what exactly Art History entails, at school and as a life-enhancing experience and debunk some myths about the content and skills involved in order to increase the take-up of the History of Art A Level at 16+.

Outline of the project

Art History is mostly taught in highly academic independent schools, we aim to offer Art History to the full range of 16+ educational establishments. We have a number of strategies:

- 1. Independent & State School Partnerships:
- 2. Outreach Twilight Classes.

Our outreach team will:

- Visit schools to introduce the programme to interested staff and students.
- Offer to teach AQA History of Art AS level in state schools on request. The full programme of weekly classes after school will run from January 2014 until the summer of 2015 for a minimum of 4 students. All materials will be provided. A commitment to two hours homework per week is essential. Schools will be expected to provide a room and digital projector. We also have five venues across London which students can attend after school.
- Speak at assemblies, or teach a one-off session to introduce students to Art History.

An Art History text specifically for Sixth Forms: Enthusiastic and experienced Art History teacher Penny Huntsman has written a text specifically designed to support the teaching of AQA AS level History of Art in schools. It is being published by Wiley Blackwell and is expected to be in schools for the academic year 2014-15.

Online materials for AS level: We are working with a number of national galleries and museums to produce accessible yet intellectually demanding material aimed specifically at AS level rather than the general public. Our first such resource is available from the National Portrait Gallery: http://is.gd/aGjnWV.

For further information please contact: cosborne@godolphinandlatymer.com and title your email MSHAP.