



GEM Conference Consultant 2021

GEM is seeking a freelance consultant to help appraise options for the 2021 GEM Conference and support the GEM team to plan and programme conference. This consultancy has been made possible through support of the Culture Recovery Fund round 2 grant programme.

Background

GEM is a membership organisation which supports everyone delivering learning in museums, heritage and cultural settings.

GEM's **VISION** is of a connected and equipped community of people enabling learning across museum, heritage and cultural settings, creating inspiring experiences, relevant for everyone; that promote equality - transform and enrich lives.

GEM's **MISSION** is to support and empower our community of colleagues to connect and develop their knowledge and skills to deliver learning.

GEM conference used to be solely in person with approximately 100-200 delegates attending. Our last conference took place in Torquay in 2019. The conference has in the past consisted of:

Keynote speeches

Member presentations

Workshops (led by learning practitioners)

The GEM AGM

Exhibitors

Museum tours and social activities

Lunchtime meetings (for area reps or on a specific theme)

In 2020 GEM held its first virtual AGM later than usual in early November. GEM took part in the MA virtual conference programming three events with input from Engage which were attended by 1000 participants.

Provisional Theme for 2021

The provisional theme for the 2021 conference is as follows:

Theme:

Future of Museum and Heritage Learning

Learning from the challenges and innovations of lockdown

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has encouraged the sector to pivot and provide increased learning opportunities by delivering programmes and resources like socially-distanced learning opportunities, webinars and videos, digital resources and more... The tireless work of museum and heritage education professionals to respond and reimagine what cultural engagement looks like during a pandemic continues to inspire and inform the future as we navigate this new learning landscape.

GEM Conference 2021 will explore what the future of museum and heritage learning looks like by weaving in future trends and important areas of focus like social justice, anti-racism, accessibility and representation.

Possible Dates:

- 8, 9 (AGM), 10 September 2021

Proposed Location:

- Digital, weaving in Historic Dockyard Chatham in Kent if possible (where GEM Office is located) and the possibility local area and nation events hosted by GEM volunteers.

Options for 2021

This consultancy has been included in GEM's CRF R 2 bid to help GEM determine the best option for the 2021 conference. Options could include:

- Digital only (preferred method)
- Blended – in person and digital live stream
- Possible additional nation / area events (though networking more broadly may be welcomed by members)

Expected outcomes include

- Confirm and agree best option for GEM conference in liaison with the GEM Board and Team by the end of June 2021.
- Support GEM team with the theme, programming, marketing copy, pricing, call for contributions and confirmation of keynote speakers
- Arrange conference platform as needed and support the development of conference booking system options

Timescale

May - June 2021

Fee

£2800 (8 days @£350)

Proposals

Please send a brief proposal – 1 side of A4 outlining interest in the project, skills and experience related to digital conferences and event planning. Please provide CV/website details and availability to GEM Director Rachel Tranter, Rachel@gem.org.uk by Monday, 10 May at 12pm.

Contact details

Rachel@gem.org.uk

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