

# Youth Engagement Project of the Year

## Guidance Document

***Please read this guidance document in full before submitting your nomination.***

The Youth Engagement Project of the Year Award is for a project that has made an outstanding contribution to archaeology and youth engagement, ensuring that the participation of young people was central to the delivery of the work. The winning project will receive £1,000.

### Eligibility

Project participants must be under 18 years of age.

All archaeology projects directly working with young people or supporting youth engagement work in the UK are eligible for the Award. The work cited in the nomination must have been undertaken during the previous three years, although earlier work can also be included as additional supporting information. The work must have been carried out within the United Kingdom, including its coastal and offshore waters.

A group can nominate themselves. If you are nominating your group, you must include a testimonial from someone else who knows your project.

### Judging

The winner will be selected by Brian Marsh OBE of the Marsh Charitable Trust, the sponsor of the Award, from a shortlist drawn up by a selection panel chaired by the Executive Director of the Council for British Archaeology.

### Criteria

The Award will be made on the criteria outlined below. Nominations must demonstrate **at least one** of these criteria has been met.

Below we have provided some examples of things to think about when writing the nomination. These are not exhaustive but are meant to help you identify where the criteria has been met.

- **Contribution to developing and sustaining the participation of young people in archaeology.**

***Things to think about:*** youth engagement is more than just running drop-in activities for young people at events. Done well, youth engagement develops long-term relationships with the young people it benefits. It provides them with the opportunity to be involved in regular activities with their peers, sustained knowledge and/or skills gained, and the chance to develop and shape their interests and the community with which they undertake their participation.

*For example, does your project regularly work with a core group of young people over the duration of the project and/or does it have plans to continue working with those young people beyond the lifespan of the project? Has your project developed into new, sustainable ways of*

*working with young people? This might be a whole new project, or it may have led to the creation of a new group who are self-led, for example.*

*Your project may be the first to engage young people in archaeology/heritage in your local area. Can you tell us about how you identified the need and how you shaped the project to work with the particular needs of the young people partaking in your project?*

- **Contribution to broadening understanding of the historic environment among young people.**

**Things to think about:** *many young people (and adults!) think that archaeology is about dusting off sand in some faraway place. How does your project break down this perception and demonstrate the wealth of skills, knowledge and focus for research/investigation?*

*Have you created a project that allows young people to learn and develop a broad range of skills? From photography to film making? Does your project look at hidden or untold stories that demonstrate new ways of exploring their local area? Does your project take a non-traditional approach to archaeological topics, such as through creative practice (art, poetry, or spoken word, for example)?*

*Have you successfully worked with groups of young people who do not traditionally engage with archaeology and/or heritage? How did you do this? What were the successes, and how will you use this learning in the future?*

- **Evidence of young people actively involved in the development and delivery elements of the project.**

**Things to think about:** *one of the best ways to create sustained engagement with young people is by providing opportunities for them to co-create or lead the development and eventual delivery of a project. Did your project consult young people about what they might like to do? Did young people help decide on the focus for the project, the methodology/approach to the subject matter, and/or what skills/training they would like to participate in?*

*During delivery, were young people part of the delivery team? Did they support their peers to participate and learn? They might have created activities or events for people to get involved with or provided mentoring to younger members of the project.*

*Evaluation is an important way of developing successful youth engagement projects. Did you work with young people to evaluate the different elements of your project to assess what worked well and what might be improved in the future?*

## **Entry procedure**

**Nomination forms should be submitted by the closing date on 31 May 2024.**

The nomination form can be downloaded from the CBA website here:

<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/what-we-do/archaeology-awards/the-marsh-community-archaeology-awards.html>

All enquiries should be directed to the CBA by emailing [awards@archaeologyuk.org](mailto:awards@archaeologyuk.org).

## Example of the Online Form with Instructions

**1. Name of the nominated project:**

**2. Project Details:**

You can add a work address and telephone number if more appropriate

**3. Name and contact information of the person nominating:**

This is so we can inform you of the outcome and, on occasion, follow up regarding contacting the nominee.

**4. Is the project aware of the nomination? Yes / No**

**5. Would you like the identity of those nominating to be kept anonymous? Yes / No**

You may wish to keep your nomination anonymous. If not, we will inform the nominee who nominated them when we announce the shortlist.

**6. Please tell us in no more than 1000 words why they deserve the award and how they meet one or more of the following criteria:**

- Contribution to developing and sustaining the participation of young people in archaeology.
- Contribution to broadening understanding of the historic environment among young people.
- Evidence of young people actively involved in the development and delivery elements of the project.

Text can include website and video links and other content.

If the project is nominating itself, please include a testimonial of no more than 500 words from someone else who knows about the project, such as an archaeologist or fellow volunteer. This section should support the details given in Q6 and include any other relevant information. Please ensure that the name and contact details of the person giving the testimonial are included in this section.

**7. Accompanying material:**

Please submit a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 5 high-resolution (1-2MB) images to support the nomination and for use in the publicity of the Awards.

Please provide an image description and details of who to credit for each image here:

Please ensure these are named so we can identify which project they belong to, e.g. Chester Amphitheatre 1.

a. Please provide details of any relevant social media channels or websites here:

This might include a project blog and platforms such as Twitter or Facebook.

**8. Authorisation:**

☐ I confirm that I have read the Nomination Guidance document and that the nominated project meets the eligibility criteria.

☐ I confirm that the image(s) supplied with this application can be used by the CBA to promote the Marsh Community Archaeological Awards.