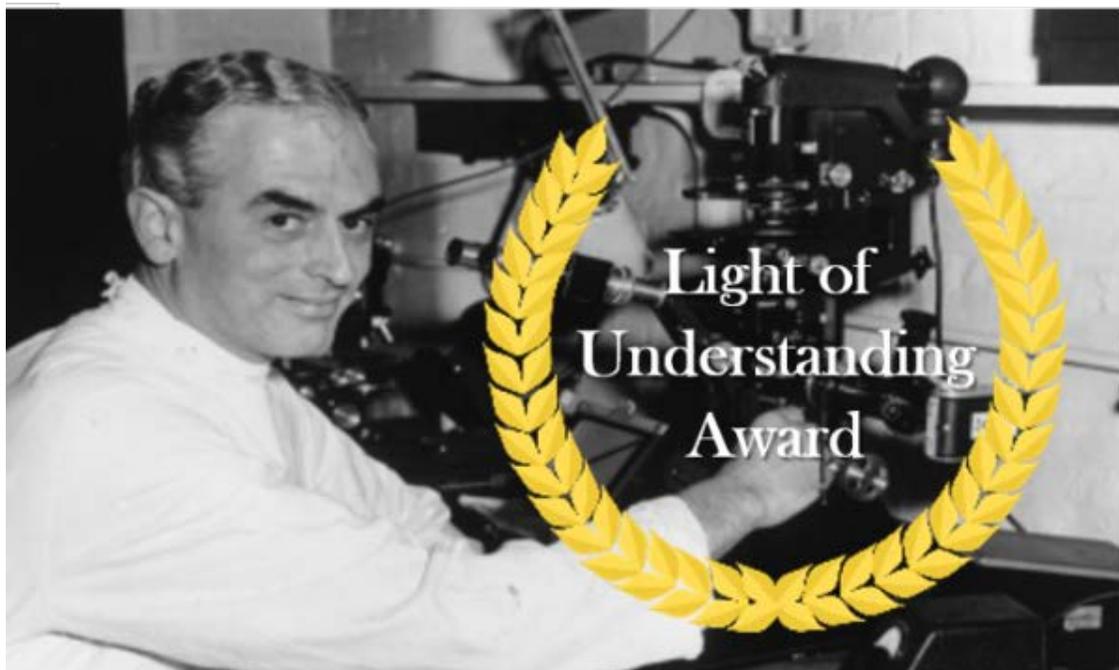


[View this email in your browser](#)



## November 2019

As we rush headlong towards the end of 2019, now is the time to think ahead. Whether it's moving on from doing engagement to writing your first PER grant or experimenting with a different approach, start planning now for your 2020 endeavours.



## Looking for those who light the way

Whilst a lot of PER Team's work is focussed on removing barriers for researchers to get involved in engagement, through creating opportunities or helping with funding or logistics for activity, we also want to ensure that those doing great engagement get the recognition they deserve. The first

ever [Light of Understanding Award for Excellence in Public Engagement](#) was awarded in [April 2018](#) and nominations are now open for the 2019 prize. Like last year, the award will be given to an individual or group that not only carries out amazing engagement, but also wants to share their expertise with others. The winner(s) will receive a grant of £2,000, which will be presented at [PER Day](#) on 24th April, 2020.

The name of the award was inspired by [Sir Peter Medawar](#), Nobel Laureate and Alumnus of University of Birmingham, who was also a pioneer of research communication and storytelling. Nominations can be made by anyone and self nominations are encouraged. Applicants should take care to stipulate what makes the work outstanding in terms of quality and/or innovative approach. Details and nomination form can be found [here](#), deadline, 5pm on 29th February, 2020.

The new year will also be full of opportunities for new skills. Our next training day will be 7th January where you can attend [The Engaged Researcher: Intro to Engagement and Impact](#) (10am–12:30pm), [Design-a-Demo: How to Make Research Hands-on](#) (1–3pm) or [Newsworthy: How to Navigate the Media](#) (3–4:30pm). Come along for one, two or all three! Or if your thing is non-traditional media we've got you covered with [Creative Engagement: Digital strategies for engaging public audiences with research in the sciences and arts](#), coming up on 22nd January.

Or for a bit of festive inspiration, why not get a behind-the-scenes look at the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures as they're filmed with our live screening event, [Hidden Figures](#) on 12th December, 6–9pm, in Bramall Music Building. Dr Hannah Fry (UCL) will be uncovering the hidden power of maths alongside activities based on UoB's maths, artificial intelligence and algorithm-based research. [Get your free ticket now](#) before they sell out – all welcome!

## Engaged Researcher



What does it mean to carry out 'engaged research' and how can you create 'impact'? Find out everything you need to get started in engagement and impactful research in this workshop session, 7th January, 10am–12:30pm.

[Sign Up Now](#)

## Breakfast Brainstorm



Our next monthly drop-in session will be 27th November, 9–11am. Open to all who want to learn more or get advice and support on public engagement. Find us in Muirhead Tower Starbucks, upper level seating.

[Brainstorm Info](#)

## Design-a-Demo



Simple demonstrations can be worth their weight in gold for public events, but it can be hard to translate complex information into a hands-on activity. Join us on 7th January, 1–3pm, to learn how it's done and get creative to develop your very own demo.

[Sign Up Now](#)

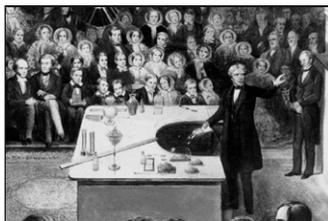
## Demystifying the Media



Want to engage with the media, but don't know where to start? Or have ideas but are worried about how to get your message across without becoming fake news? Join us for a skills and myth-busting workshop on 7th January 3–4:30pm.

[Sign Up Now](#)

## Christmas Lectures



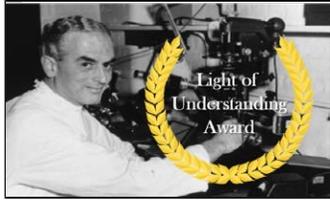
The University of Birmingham and Thinktank Museum will be hosting live screenings of this year's Royal Institution Christmas lectures on 12th & 14th December. Come along for a peek behind-the-scenes

## Creative Engagement



The latest in our #CreativeEngagement series looks at what is needed for success in digital engagement with Prof Alice Roberts, Christopher Wakefield of the Must Farm project and experienced UoB researchers. Taking place on 22nd January

## Light of Understanding



Our institutional award for excellence in public engagement is back. Winner(s) receive £2,000 to further their engagement. Self nominations encouraged. Deadline 29th February.

**Nominate Now**

## Thai Astronomy Grants



The STFC is offering promotion funds for astronomical research in Thailand in collaboration with the National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT) to support STEM outreach projects. Deadline 5th December.

**Find Out More**

## Wellcome Photo Prize



The annual Wellcome Trust Photography Prize is back. Awards go to pictures that capture compelling imagery that encourages conversations about current health challenges. Each of the five categories has a prize

as the lectures are filmed.

**Get Inspired**

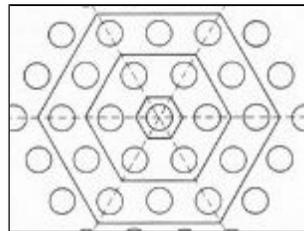
## Longitude Explorer Prize



Grants <£25,000 for winning ideas, from schools or youth groups (11–16 years old), on how to use artificial intelligence to help people live longer, together and/or greener. Deadline 29th November.

**Apply Now**

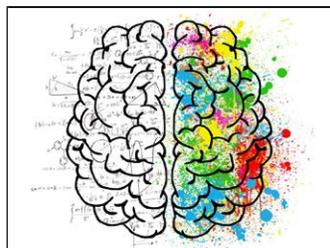
## Astronomy Networking



The Royal Astronomical Society education & outreach training day is taking place at the Life Science Centre in Newcastle Upon Tyne on 5th December. Anyone involved in astronomy or geophysics engagement is welcome to attend.

**Info and Register**

## Mental Health Grants



2020, 12–4pm.

**Sign Up Now**

## Rare Film Festival



Genetic Alliance UK are looking for short films that raise awareness of rare disease. Winning films will be screened at Regent Street Cinema, London on 10th February. There is also opportunity to be matched with a charity to create a short film, deadline 30th November.

**Find Out More**

## #SciShopsPitChallenge



The Science Shop community are seeking short video pitches on participatory research. Anyone carrying out community-based research can enter and the prize is 2 all-expenses paid spaces to the SciShops Symposium in Brescia, Italy (30th–31st January 2020). Deadline 10th December.

**Details & Apply**

## Cheltenham Festival

worth £1,250, with the overall winner receiving £15,000. Deadline 16th December.

[Apply Now](#)

### Interdisciplinary Award



Emerald Publishing are awarding £10,000 to an interdisciplinary, collaborative research project in the Social Sciences that can demonstrate real world impact on a societal 'grand challenge'. The award can be used for dissemination and engagement to further the impact of the work. Deadline 20th December.

[Details & Apply](#)

### BIG Little Event



The BIG (British Interactive Group) Little Event, is a one-day training session on STEM communication skills and careers, in Birmingham on 14th January, 10am–4:30pm. Tickets cost £45 and attendees must be BIG members, however bursaries are available (deadline 2nd December).

[Details & Register](#)

Adolescence, Mental Health and the Developing Mind Awards: these MRC / AHRC / ESRC engagement awards aim to build a cross-disciplinary community in the mental health related research. The scheme supports awards < £100,000 each at 80% FEC for up to one year. Deadline 17th December.

[Find Out More](#)

### BSF Award Lectures



British Science Festival 2020 will take place in Chelmsford and Essex 8th–12th September. Award Lectures are for engaging Early Career researchers in 7 different categories. Deadline 6th January.

[Details & Apply](#)

### Inclusion Grants



These enable current Wellcome Trust grant holders to increase the impact of their work in regards to diversity and inclusion. Grants are < £20,000 and last until the end of the main Wellcome grant. Deadline 16th January.

[Apply Now](#)



Applications are now open for the 2020 festival being held 2nd–7th June. You can apply to be part of their interactive zones until 20th December. The festival attracts thousands of members of the public so is a great event to be part of.

[Apply Now](#)

### European PER Awards



To recognise ERC grantees (current or within the last 2 years) who engage with audiences beyond the scientific community in effective and original ways. Categories are: public outreach, press & media, and online & social media. Deadline 10th January.

[Details & Apply](#)

### American Studies Grant



The British Association for American Studies invites applications for its postgraduate and early career public engagement and impact award worth £750 to cover costs of meetings, workshops or conferences to bring together partners and to showcase projects. Deadline 17th January.

## BSF 2020 Activities

### British Science Festival

British Science Festival 2020 will take place in Chelmsford and Essex on 8th–12th September and event applications are now open. Festival proposals should be aimed at non-specialist adults (16+) with a broad interest in science, deadline 17th February.

[Details and Apply](#)

### Reaction Awards



Grants up to <math>\pounds 5,000</math> available to any researcher for public engagement activities provided the application includes research in an STFC-funded area of science or technology. Applications open year round.

[Apply Now](#)

### NC3Rs Grants



Up to <math>\pounds 1,500</math> to support NC3Rs-funded researchers (past and present) to engage the public with approaches to replace, reduce and refine animal use in science. Deadline: quarterly.

[Apply Now](#)

### Animal Behaviour Grant



Grants <math>< \pounds 2,000</math> from the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour to promote an understanding and awareness of the importance of Animal Behaviour to a wider audience than its membership. Open year-round and to non-members.

[Apply Now](#)

### Plant Pathology Funds



Grants <math>< \pounds 2,000</math> from the British Society of Plant Pathology to promote an understanding and awareness of the importance of Plant Pathology to a wider audience than its membership. Rolling quarterly deadlines.

[Apply Now](#)

### PhysioSoc Funding



Grants of <math>< \pounds 500</math> for members and non-members year-round or <math>< \pounds 20,000</math> once a year to increase understanding of physiology. Collaborative / creative applications encouraged

[Apply Now](#)

### Details and Apply

### Genetics Society Grants



Grants of up to <math>\pounds 500</math> are available to members of the Genetics Society to cover costs associated with travel and materials for PER activities relevant to genetics. Open year round.

[Apply Now](#)

### ESRC Impact Account



The ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) is a flexible and dynamic fund to support knowledge exchange and impact to engage non-academic users in generating positive change. Several different levels of grant are available, <math>< \pounds 20,000</math>. First deadline Autumn 2019.

[Info and Guidance](#)

### PharmaSoc Bursaries



The British Pharmacological Society offers members funding for engagement activities – <math>< \pounds 250</math> available year round.

[Find Out More](#)

## [UoB PER Fund](#)

Don't forget!! PER Team has a small pot of funding available to help researchers to get great PER ideas off the ground. Up to £250 can be applied for year round with quarterly calls for <£2,000; next deadline 28th November. [Find out more and apply HERE.](#)

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