



COVID-19

We are mindful in this changing situation that public engagement might not be at the forefront of people's minds but want to continue to support those who might be keen to develop their engagement skills at this time. Therefore, we will be continuing to provide support to anyone who would like it via email, online meetings and our Slack channel, where we host monthly drop-ins. Please get in touch at engage@contacts.bham.ac.uk for more information.

Internal Events & Opportunities

Breakfast Brainstorm – our next monthly drop-in is due to take place on **28 October**. We can now be found on Slack, [click here to join our workspace](#). We also regularly share opportunities through Twitter [@UoBengage](#).

External Events & Opportunities

Moving Dialogue Online – is a five-part series of online workshops aimed at professionals working in public engagement with science to explore how to create, facilitate and evaluate online dialogue events. Workshops run on **13, 29 October, 12, 26 November and 10 December**. The first workshop is free, but the following 4 are charged at €89 per session. Details and registration [here](#).

Science Film-making Training – Blue Fire Films, run by ex-BBC science documentary filmmaker and academic, George Chan, is running one-day online courses on developing the skills to make engaging films in isolation. The next training date is **13 October, 10 November and 8 December** and the course costs £85+VAT. Details and book [here](#).

2022 Cultural Activities Funds – the Cultural Development Service is providing feasibility funds for the development of activities to take place in 2022 that have been co-designed with Birmingham artists, residents and communities. The funding is to get projects developed enough for commission stage. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **16 October**.

Public Speaking Course – Royal Observatory Greenwich have launched a new, free course called Become A Better Presenter: Improve Your Public Speaking Skills on FutureLearn which is now open for enrolment. The course starts on **19 October** and runs over 3 weeks. Find out more and sign up [here](#).

BIG SciComm Socials – are regular online, evening social gatherings for people who work in, or are interested in, science communication, outreach or public engagement in STEM to chat and share ideas and opportunities. Sessions are roughly fortnightly with the next session due to go ahead on **19 October**. Sessions are free and you do not need to be a Member of BIG to participate. Sign up [here](#) to receive log in details.

Online Dialogue Grant – the Natural Environment Research Council is inviting tenders for their Healthy Environment public dialogue scheme for innovative approaches to creating public dialogue around the natural environment online. Maximum contract value £120,000. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **21 October**.

Knowledge Frontiers Grants – the British Academy has launched a call for their grant scheme Knowledge Frontiers: International Interdisciplinary Research with <£200,000 available per project. The programme aims to support work to explore the relationship between expertise, public understanding and policy delivery internationally. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **21 October**.

Agar Art Competition – the American Society for Microbiology is running its annual Agar Art Competition. The contest is open to everyone and aims to creatively engage audiences with microbiology using amazing microbe inspired artworks. Entries can be 'traditional' and feature images of real microbes or 'open' and use any media. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **23 October**.

Science Writing Fellowship – The Open Notebook/Burroughs Wellcome Fund Fellowship for early-career science writers is now open for applications. The fellowship will be remote, part-time and each fellow will receive a stipend of \$4,200 for writing six articles for The Open Notebook. Applicants must have less than 2 years' professional science writing experience. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **25 October**.

Standing Up For Science Workshop – charity Sense About Science will be running the next of their popular Standing Up For Science workshops online on 17 November. Workshops are free, though places are allocated by application and include the chance to hear from public and policy engagement specialists and experienced researchers. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **26 October**.

SciComm 101 – is a new, 2-hour introductory course on science communication from SciComm experts, Hana Ayoub and Sarah Cosgriff, taking place on **28 October**. The session will include all the key info and tips and tricks for those starting out and is offered on a pay-what-you-can basis (recommended £25, minimum £1). More details and sign-up [here](#).

NCCPE Training – the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement will be re-running their popular online courses on various dates from **29 October – 23 February**. Topics include community engagement, evaluation and meaningful online engagement. Each session lasts 2.5 hours and costs £60 per delegate. Details and book [here](#).

Medical Talks Opportunity – St John Ambulance Cadets are seeking biomedical students and researchers to speak about medical conditions with the Cadets. Talks could cover diagnosis, causes, treatments etc and the group are particularly interested to hear about chronic conditions. Sessions will run via MS Teams from late November, those interested should email Karen.Atkins@sja.org.uk by **1 November**.

Science Writing Seminars - Neuwrite London has launched a series of seminars to help early-stage science writers from under-represented backgrounds take the next step in their careers. The free events take place on **4, 10, & 17 November** at 7pm. They aim to demystify pitching, writing, selection, editing and publication and feature expert panels. All details [here](#).

Stephen Hawking Fellowships – this funding scheme provides support for the next generation of visionary scientists in theoretical physics, mathematics or computer sciences. Successful applicants receive 4 years' funding support to develop new, high quality research and to access training on public engagement with the aim of continuing Stephen Hawking's work in bringing science into popular culture. All details and application information [here](#), deadline for expressions of interest **18 November**. Or to discuss a Fellowship idea with the PE Team email engage@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Wolfson Fellowships – awarded by the British Academy support early-career academics by releasing them from some administration and teaching duties to pursue research and public engagement. Applicants must currently be employed at a UK University or research institution and be within 7 years of completing their doctorate. The grant maximum is £130,000. Details [here](#), deadline **25 November**.

Knowledge Exchange Fellowships – the Natural Environment Research Council is providing salary support for researchers for up to three years to enable the sharing and flow of knowledge and expertise between the NERC-funded researchers and their user communities, and boost the impact of NERC-funded research. Fellows can be at any career stage. Details [here](#), deadline **2 December**.

Wellcome Enrichment Grants – researchers with funding from Wellcome can apply for enrichment funds for public engagement related to their Wellcome-funded research. A maximum of £250,000 is available and the success rate for this scheme is high compared to research grants. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **12 January**.

Nucleus Awards – the Science and Technology Facilities Council Nucleus Awards support novel public engagement programmes that inspire and involve target audiences with stories of STFC science and technology, and build and sustain public engagement networks that develop communities of practice. Awards are worth <£100,000. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **14 January**.

Online SciComm Course - The [Science Communication Unit at UWE Bristol](#) is running an online course on 'Science communication: connecting people, creating events' lasting 10 weeks from January – March 2021. Cost is £750 per student (UK and overseas). Details [here](#), apply before **18 January**.

STEAM Digital School – is a science communication course with a focus on combining arts and science covering topics including social media, digital engagement and event management, arts and performance. This year the summer school will take place entirely online from **18-23 January** and costs €250/€150 (students). Some bursaries are also available. Find out more and register [here](#).

Sustainability Challenge – is a video competition for students (and teachers) of all ages to share their messages on biodiversity. Winning videos will be shown at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in May 2021 and receive a trophy and £500 prize. Videos must be 1 minute or less and can be from individuals or groups. Details and apply [here](#), deadline **28 February**.

External Events & Opportunities – Rolling/No Deadlines

VR, AR and MR Course – the University of Lancaster and Institute of Coding have launched an Introduction to Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality course on Future Learn. The course runs over two weeks and is free to enrol. Details and sign up [here](#).

Youth Futures Grants – The Youth Futures Foundation provides grants of <£6 million for projects that support young people who face barriers to finding and keeping decent jobs to secure high quality employment. Grants are available under two schemes, Development and Impact, with Development covering smaller projects (<£300,000). Further details and apply [here](#), **no deadline**.

Science Writing Resources – [Science Writing News](#) is a regularly updated set of newsletters featuring advice, guidance and opportunities for those interested in or working in science journalism. The latest round-up including advice from leading science writer, Ed Yong.

Community Health Grants – the Burdett Trust for Nursing offers <£10,000 through their Small Grants Scheme to empower health visitors to promote public health with vulnerable groups and communities. [Details and apply here](#).

Population Studies Grants – the British Society of Population Studies offers grants <£1,000 to members to organise meetings and events aimed raising public awareness of human population research from any perspective (e.g. biological, economic, historical, medical, social). Applications reviewed January, April and November. [Apply here](#).

Ocean Events Funds – the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) is offers grants < £10,000 to support workshops and events (including public-facing) relating to ocean discovery (e.g. plate tectonics, Earth structure and composition, ancient oceans, climate change). Details and apply [here](#).

Severn Trent Community Fund – awards grants of up to £250,000 for projects that relate to water and generate tangible community benefits. There are three tiers of award: <£10,000, <£75,000 and <£250,000. Applications **assessed quarterly** and you must submit your application at least 5 months before your project is due to go ahead. Details and apply [here](#).

Infographics Guidance – with the move to increased online engagement many researchers are seeking guidance on how to make and use infographics. See Q&A and tips from science expert designers and artists [here](#).

Museum Fellowships – the Smithsonian Institutions (US) is seeking applications from researchers who want to carry out research of relevance to museums and education, and to improve knowledge exchange through research at their sites and with their collections. Fellowships include a \$3,500/month stipend and travel grant and can last up to 6 months. No deadline, further details and apply [here](#).

Ecological Society Training – the British Ecological Society has made a [suite of workshops available on their website](#) to members and non-members (membership is free for students). Topics include inclusivity in engagement, Zine production, and digital content creation. Most courses are free to members and some bursaries are available.

Science Communication and Public Engagement – is a free short course aimed at early career researchers available on Futurelearn. It requires 6 hours' study over three weeks. [Find out more and sign up here](#).

Talking Science YouTube Course – experienced science communicator and presenter, Greg Foot, has launched a free online training course on YouTube that covers core content on the importance of engagement, audience targeting, how to use storytelling, creating demos and how to use video. [Find it here](#).

NCAS Community of Practice - the National Centre for Atmospheric Science (NCAS) has started an online community of practice to support public engagement with atmospheric science. [Find out more here](#) or [become a member here](#).

Omani Culture Grants – the [Anglo-Omani Society](#) invites grant applications to support events and meetings that enable British nationals to gain wider knowledge about Oman and its culture, people, history, geography, economy, literature, art, music, languages, beliefs and customs. No maximum award value is specified and there is no deadline – applications are assessed **quarterly**.

Community Buddy Scheme – is a new initiative from the British Science Association that seeks to connect researchers with their existing group of local [Community Leaders](#). Find out more and get involved [here](#).

Community Resilience Grants – the Heart of Engagement Community Foundation has grants available for those supporting communities through the coronavirus outbreak, including those carrying out some types of outreach. For more details see [here](#).

Science Journalism Resources - [Script](#) is a free training and networking resource for journalists, scientists and others to communicate science in an engaging and accurate way. Find **free** online courses [here](#) and practical guides [here](#).

ACE Emergency Funding Guides - Arts Council England has opened a new round of applications for emergency funding to support projects related to Covid-19/coronavirus, [details here](#). They have also released details on [access support](#) and [BSL guidance](#) to ensure these opportunities are accessible.

Being Human Training – the [Being Human Festival](#) have released a new set of downloadable training resources covering; event formats, partnership working, venue selection and audience targeting. Find training [here](#), case studies [here](#) or apply to take part in the Being Human Festival [here](#).

AHRC Funding - follow-on funding of £30,000 available for AHRC-grant holders to explore innovative and creative engagements with new audiences which stimulate pathways to impact. Details and apply [here](#).

NCCPE Guides – the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement publishes a number of useful guides to help you plan your engagement ([PER Team does a couple too!](#)). They cover all aspects of planning, delivering an evaluating your PER project. [Find them here](#) (search 'Guides').

Child Development Grants – are available from the Waterloo Foundation to support the dissemination of knowledge and best practice to children and their carers, and to related professionals. Maximum award is £10,000. No deadline for submission, but end of February or mid-June 2020 preferred (to align with research funding dates). [Details here](#).

Animal Welfare Grants – the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust supports organisations and individuals with projects that encourage initiatives designed to improve animal welfare, promote alternative methods to animal experimentation and their practical implementation or promote and encourage practical work in alleviating suffering and preventing cruelty to animals. [Details here](#), or [apply here](#).

Community Engagement Online Course - a new FREE online course for community engagement practitioners in low and middle-income countries is now live on The Global Health Network. [The Practice and Ethics of Participatory Visual Methods for Community Engagement in Public Health and Health Science](#) helps community residents to generate creative visual materials and foster discussion and learning about health and health research.

Heritage Grants – the National Lottery Heritage Fund supports projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional and local heritage of the UK. Grants are worth £10,000 <£100,000 each for up to 5 years. Applications open **year-round**. [More details and apply here](#).

Otto Harpner Fund - supports short visits to Austria by UK residents (or vice versa), to undertake specific cultural activities that help foster relationships between the two countries. Awards are generally in the region of £500 but may be worth up to £1,000. Apply **year-round**. [Details here](#).

Plant Pathology Promotion fund – from the British Society for Plant Pathology to support projects aiming to promote an understanding and awareness of plant pathology to a wider audience. Funding is worth up to £2,000. **No deadline**, applications considered quarterly. [Apply online here](#).

Animal Behaviour Grants – the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour offers Public Engagement Grants of <£2,000 to members and non-members to create activities aimed at young people and/or the general public, to communicate the science of animal behaviour. **Open year-round** with outcomes in June and November, [details here](#).

British Pharmacological Society Engagement grants – grants up to £1,500 available to support outreach activities related to innovative pharmacology. Seed-corn grants of £250 available **all year round**. [Details here](#).

Physiological Society Funding – grants of <£500 available to members and non-members **year-round** to increase understanding and awareness of physiology, engaging study at higher education and beyond, and to promote The Society, its vision and its activities. Collaborative / creative applications encouraged. [Details here](#).

Reaction Awards - <£5,000 available to any researcher for public engagement activities provided the application includes research in an STFC-funded area of science or technology. [Full details here](#), applications **open year-round**.

NC3Rs Public Engagement Grants - up to £1,500 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 here](#).

Genetics Society Public Engagement Grants - <£500 available to Society members to cover costs associated with travel and materials for public engagement activities relevant to genetics. Deadline: rolling, [apply here](#).

Public Engagement Jobs - career opportunities in Public Engagement and SciComm are often advertised through relevant JISC mailing lists. If you would like to hear about such vacancies please sign up to the [NCCPE JISCmail](#) and/or the [SciComm](#) list.

For more information, to ask questions or to let us know about other opportunities, contact us via, our blog at <https://thinkpe.net> by email: engage@contacts.bham.ac.uk or Twitter [@uobengage](#)