

Understanding British Portraits

www.portraits.specialistnetwork.org.uk

Understanding British Portraits bursary 2010/11 for North East Region museum staff and volunteers

Applications are invited for the 2010/11 *Understanding British Portraits* bursaries. The North East Regional Museums Hub, a key partner in the *UBP* network, is funding a bursary for **one** member of staff or volunteer working in an Accredited Museum (or a Museum working towards Accreditation) in the North East region.

Understanding British Portraits is a Subject Specialist Network led by the National Portrait Gallery, The National Trust, the North East and South West Regional Museums Hubs and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. It aims to enhance the knowledge and understanding of portraits in all media in British collections, and to facilitate future dialogue and debate around research methodologies, interpretation, display and learning programmes. The network has a particular interest in promoting the research and interpretation of regional collections. More information can be found on the *UBP* website: www.portraits.specialistnetwork.org.uk.

This bursary will give the successful candidate the opportunity to devote five working days, over a period of almost six months, to a portrait-focused project of their choosing. Drawing on the North East region's rich collection, the project can involve a particular portrait, artist, collection, pattern of collecting, method of display, interpretation, or learning programme. The Regional Museums Hub will provide a maximum budget of £500 to offset expenses such as travel and accommodation. The successful candidate is free to determine the best means of using their budget in order to complete their project; this might include a visit to the National Portrait Gallery's Heinz Archive and Library to conduct research and meet with relevant members of staff.

Applications should take the form of a concise outline (max. 500 words) of the proposed project. The proposal should include;

- ❖ description of the project
- ❖ outline of the objectives
- ❖ specific partners expected to be involved in your research (e.g. local libraries, private collections, auction houses, museums, etc.)
- ❖ proposed activities involved in your project
- ❖ desired outcomes (including audience benefits)
- ❖ target audience for your research output
- ❖ CPD benefits
- ❖ timescale of research (all projects must be completed by 25 March 2011)
- ❖ estimated use of funds
- ❖ how the outcomes of the *UBP* bursary will be disseminated among professional colleagues in the successful candidate's organisation and region.

The project should be realistically achievable in the limited budget and timescale. Applications must be accompanied by a brief nomination from line managers.

The deadline for applications and nominations is **5pm on Friday 10 September 2010**; please email both to ssnportraiture@npg.org.uk. In the meantime, any queries should be sent to the same address. Applications will be assessed by the *Understanding British Portraits* steering group, and all applicants contacted before the end of September.