

The Auckland Project



Website: www.aucklandproject.org

Twitter: @aucklandproject

Facebook: @aucklandproject

Instagram: @theaucklandproject

Pinterest: theaucklandproject

About our organisation:

Jonathan Ruffer established Auckland Castle Trust in 2012 with an ambitious vision: to transform a 900-year-old bishop's palace from an unknown private dwelling into a world-class art, faith and heritage destination of international significance.

We have come a long way since then and have become The Auckland Project.

The desire to reinvigorate the town of Bishop Auckland and the wider region through social and economic regeneration is at the heart of this plan.

New life is being breathed into historic buildings across Bishop Auckland as plans to create a cultural destination of international significance become reality. But it is the community and people of Bishop Auckland, the community groups, schools and organisations that we work with, that lie at the heart of our mission.

Within five years this project should attract over 200,000 visitors and inject £4 million per year into Bishop Auckland and the surrounding area. When this plan is realised it will give the people of County Durham new opportunities through employment, volunteering and participation, and stimulate opportunities for local enterprise.

How many internships do you plan to offer?

Up to 4

About the internships:

Described as one of the most important episcopal palaces in Europe, Auckland Castle is the magnificent home of England's only Prince Bishop – a position that gave both ecclesiastical and temporal power over a vast area of the North of England.

The Auckland Project is currently undertaking a large-scale HLF-funded project to conserve and represent the palace of Auckland Castle. Comprising the conservation of the state apartments, domestic rooms, and the provision of new learning, catering, retail, and visitor facilities, the project focuses on engaging visitors with the forgotten story of the Prince Bishops and their role and place in the history and faith of the nation.

Aspects of the role:-

Write interpretation for specific objects in the collection intended for display at Auckland Castle, primarily paintings and furniture. This will involve research, working with curators to refine and edit text in line with the Auckland Castle interpretation plan and tone of voice.

Assist with production and collation of information materials for workforce training. Attend workforce training sessions – opportunity to undertake visitor interaction and storytelling training, learning how to communicate effectively with visitors.

Assist with purchasing of set dressing materials and objects, to help to ensure that the rooms of Auckland Castle feel 'lived in'.

Support the collections and curatorial teams during the installation of Auckland Castle. An opportunity to shadow members of the team during various phases of a major exhibition installation – exhibition fit-out, condition checking, loan arrangements, installation of paintings and objects.

Opportunity to undertake conservation cleaning training –for instance learning how to wax and polish historic joinery, clean historic furniture and dust gilt frames.

Opportunity to undertake object handling training with our collections and conservation team.

There will be necessary manual handling training and other health and safety requirements for working on site.

Duration of internship:

6-12 weeks

Dates of internship, if fixed:

Negotiable within June-September

Where will the internship(s) be based?

The Auckland Project in Bishop Auckland (Vinovium House, Sadler Street, Bishop Auckland).

Working hours / hours per week:

37.5 hours - flexible depending on deadlines and business needs.

Do applicants have to be studying a particular subject or in a particularly Faculty, or would a particular subject be preferable?

- History of Art
- History
- MA in Visual Culture
- MA International Cultural Heritage Management
- MA Museum and Artefact Studies
- MA Conservation of Archaeological and Museum Objects

We are happy to discuss training and development opportunities tailored to the applicant's research interests, experience, and career options.

Do applicants have to have any specific skills or existing knowledge? (for example, coding, social media expertise, foreign language ability, etc.):

Ideally studying a relevant discipline – History of Art, Museum Studies, Cultural Heritage Management

A bonus:

- Interest in the Prince Bishops and history of the Palatinate of Durham
- Interest in Art History – in particular 17th century European painting and/or British portraiture
- Interest in historic houses, interiors, and/or conservation

Do applicants have to be DBS checked?

No

Describe your ideal intern in five words:

Enthusiastic, Motivated, Focussed, Conscientious, Flexible

Remuneration:

Expenses only. (Remember that St Chad's College will offer free room-only accommodation in College for the duration of your internship).

We are supporting the Intern:NE initiative because:

The Auckland project has embarked on an ambitious programme of projects in Bishop Auckland to create an internationally significant heritage destination and regenerate the town and surrounding area. This and other major initiatives in the North East are

providing opportunities that mean that individuals no longer need to leave the North East in order to gain job satisfaction and development. Keeping talent in the North East will help to inspire entrepreneurship, develop growth and keep pride in the North East alive. The Auckland project is on an incredible and ambitious journey, having you join us even for a small part of that journey will be both rewarding and inspirational for us and you.

How to apply for this internship:

Please send an up to date electronic CV accompanied by video application of no more than 4 mins telling us a little about yourself, and what you feel you could bring to The Auckland Project, to Michele Armstrong at michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org by 5pm on 8th April 2019.

If you have any further questions about the internship, please contact:

Michele Armstrong at michele.armstrong@aucklandproject.org