

TCDT



Annual Review
2022-23

*“Do not rule out
working with
your hands.
This does
not preclude
working
with your head.”*

Andy Rooney

Annual review:
Autumn 2022 – Summer 2023

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Cover image: Whatnot Puppet Making at Cockpit Arts, Summer 2023

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The Creative Dimension Trust (TCDT) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registration no. 1166443) established in 2016.

TCDT offers workshops and work experience opportunities designed to give talented young people the skills and confidence to pursue a career in which core hand skills - i.e. a high degree of manual dexterity, draughtsmanship and the ability to understand and (re)construct 3-Dimensional structures - are prerequisite.

Workshops are taught by craft specialists who are acknowledged leaders in their professions. These are not kid's art courses – the goal is to learn, experiment, gain confidence, take inspiration from the best, and have exposure to career opportunities. Students gain an awareness of what is possible, and how to achieve it.

Participation in arts subjects is on the decline in both secondary and higher education. Data suggests a move away from material and equipment intensive teaching, and thus a reduction in the focus on 3D learning. The decline in uptake of arts subjects in schools has been associated with the introduction of educational performance frameworks, perceptions of the value of arts education among pupils and parents, and a political emphasis on STEM.

Crafts promote precise hand-eye coordination, and the ability to understand and construct 3-dimensional shapes – core skills for any young person considering a career in architecture, design, surgery or the engineering and construction industries.

Roger Kneebone, Professor of Surgical Education at Imperial College, says young people have so little experience of craft skills that they struggle with anything practical. He warns that medical students *"might have high academic grades but cannot cut or sew."*

In November 2019, the Crafts Council project 'Supporting Diversity and Expertise Development in the Contemporary Craft Economy' reported barriers for people in minority groups to become professional makers which are social, cultural, and economic. It concludes that *"For those who are not from a relatively privileged background or with the necessary networks and educational level, it is particularly difficult to make a career and be adequately recognised in the sector."*

While extra-curricular courses and networks support and nurture talent in activities such as music or sport, there is no equivalent for crafts. Industry professionals recognise there is a particular gap in the school curriculum for two of the core skills taught on TCDT workshops – hand skills and visual sensitivity. Other skills such as organisation and planning, focus and concentration, and teamwork apply to professional practice in general.

A WORD FROM THE FOUNDER

The magic of turning a 2D design into 3D reality is at the core of The Creative Dimension Trust.

This transferable skill is essential to a multitude of careers, ranging from architecture to fabrication to patisserie. Each year we add more workshops to help further develop this capability in students, with Hat Making at Lock & Co., Architectural Drawing at AHMM, Bookbinding at Shepherds Bindery, and Perfume Making at Floris newly added to our portfolio which now exceeds 90 subjects.

This year, we received over 750 applications and taught 43 skills to 373 students.

TCDT piloted in-school workshops at Maria Fidelis in 2022/23. When student evaluations clamoured, *"We want more and longer sessions!"*, we added six more in-school workshops in Camden and Tower Hamlets.

Also driven by demand from our highly ambitious students, we re-launched our work experience programme in 2023 with 24 students taking part. This will continue to expand, helping young people to make informed decisions about their future and realise their full potential.

Partnerships are fundamental to our success, as working with some of the best practices in the world allows us to really deliver value to our students. This year's opportunity to create a mural for permanent display at Fortnum & Mason's flagship store in Piccadilly provided both tremendous inspiration and challenge.

We are delighted to announce our new partnership with the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, and will co-deliver Manufacto the Skills Factory, an original programme designed to introduce schoolchildren to craft trades, in UK schools in January 2024.

We are extremely grateful to all our funders, supporters, and partners, without whom none of this would be possible. Having eight years of workshops behind us, with students coming from over 650 different schools, our alumni are thriving and forging their own paths.

All good things for the next year!

Penny Bendall



"This workshop has helped me gain information about more art-based career opportunities as well as providing me with a wealth of skills and artworks that will benefit me in the future."

Student, Hand Painted Illustration

"I found confidence when working with my hands and I am now confident producing a piece of art. I am proud of the pieces I left the workshop with."

Student, Stained Glass

"I've learnt new skills that I've always thought were difficult and that I would struggle with. As well as confidence that I can do something I enjoy as well as something I can find work in."

Student, Jewellery Making

SKILLS TAUGHT

ARABESQUE AND THE ART OF PATTERN
ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING
ARCHITECTURAL GILDING
ARCHITECTURAL MODEL MAKING
BACKDROP FOR WINDOW DISPLAY
BLUEPRINT PHOTOGRAPHY
BOOKBINDING
CABINET MAKING
CALLIGRAPHY
CASTING AND GILDING
CERAMIC TILE MAKING
CHOCOLATE MAKING
COMMERCIAL CINEMATOGRAPHY
CONTEMPORARY COUTURE
EMBROIDERY
CONTEMPORARY SUGAR AND GUM PASTE FLOWERS
CREATIVE COUTURE BEADING
DESIGN FOR MURAL DECORATION
DRAW AND PAINT THE TREE OF LIFE
ECO FASHION FACE MASKS
EMBROIDERY
ENAMELLING
ETCHING
FASHION IN MINIATURE
FLAME WORKING
FLORAL DESIGN MASTER CLASS
FORTNUM & MASON EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME
FROM DREAM TO PRODUCT
FURNITURE AND WOOD WORKING
FUSED GLASS
GEOMETRIC DRAWING
GEOMETRY OF STRUCTURE
GILDING ON LEATHER
GILDING ON TEXTILES
GILDING TECHNIQUES
GLASS CASTING
GOLDWORK EMBROIDERY
HAND ENGRAVING
HAND PAINTED ILLUSTRATION
HAT MAKING
HIDDEN GEOMETRY OF BRITISH NATIVE FLOWERS
HIDDEN GEOMETRY OF THE OCEAN
HOT GLASS
INTRODUCTION TO ARCHITECTURE
INTRODUCTION TO ILLUSTRATION AND PAINTING
JEWELLERY MAKING
LEATHERWORKING
LOCKSMITHING
MAKING A CHILD'S CHAIR
MARBLING
MARIONETTE PUPPET MAKING
MARQUETRY
METAL CHASING
MIXING COLOUR
MURAL PAINTING
ORNAMENTAL DRAWING - SCROLLWORK
PAINTING A GRISAILLE PANEL
PAINTING WITH SPECIALIST BRUSHES
PAPER FOLDING
PARQUETRY
PARTNER A CONSERVATOR
PASTIGLIA
PENWORK
PERFUMERY
PLASTER CARVING
PRINTING ON GLASS
PUPPETRY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
RE-CRAFTING GLASS
REGENCY WAISTCOAT MAKING
SCREEN PRINTING ON GLASS
SEWING AND DRESSMAKING
SHADOW PUPPET MAKING
SIGNWRITING BRUSH SKILLS
SIGNWRITING ON SKATEBOARDS
SILHOUETTE DECORATION
SILVERSMITHING
STAINED GLASS
STENCILLING
STONE CARVING
STONE LETTER CARVING
SURREALIST HEAD PIECES
TABLE LOOM WEAVING
TABLE TOP PUPPET MAKING
THEATRICAL MASK MAKING
TRADITIONAL FRENCH-STYLE SQUAB CUSHION
TROMPE L'OEIL
UPHOLSTERY
VERRE EGLUMISE
WATERCOLOUR PAINTING
WEAVING
WHATNOT PUPPET MAKING
WOODCARVING
WOODTURNING
WORKING WITH WOOD, PLASTER AND GOLD LEAF

PARTNERSHIPS

FLORIS LONDON

World-renowned perfumers Floris extended a rare opportunity to TCDT students to delve into the art of perfume-making during a two-day workshop in February 2023.

Floris counts royalty, historical figures, and celebrities as customers. Founded in 1730 by Juan Famenius Floris and his wife Elizabeth, the perfumery has remained in the hands of their descendants who have passed down skills through nine generations and counting. Current Perfumery Director Edward Bodenham underscores the company's commitment to excellence through membership in the British Society of Perfumers, founded over 50 years ago to help champion recognition of perfumery as a profession.

Edward commented, *"It was great to meet your students who, it was lovely to see, were so interested and engaged throughout the whole experience. [We] found them such a pleasure to teach and to work with on the brand new TCDT Eau de Parfum, which the students decided to call 'HEJJ No.8g', named after the initials of their first names and the street number of the shop. It is a lovely fragrance."*

The workshop took place at the brand's shop on Jermyn Street, which boasts a museum space exhibiting a collection of Floris' archive items. Among them is a letter written by Florence Nightingale in 1863, expressing gratitude to Mr Floris for his *"beautiful sweet-smelling nosegays"*. Other notable artefacts include a receipted invoice for fragrances purchased by Winston Churchill in 1933, which are still available for purchase today; a receipt dated 1959 for a purchase made by Marilyn Monroe; and evidence of a longstanding relationship with James Bond creator Ian Fleming, who first mentioned the brand in his novels in 1955.

One student enthused, *"I was really able to grasp a new type of craft in depth. I was able to use the knowledge of fragrances I learned from the workshop to analyse my own perfumes."*

The TCDT fragrance formula has been privately recorded in Floris's formula book and database for future generations to enjoy in years to come.



"I just loved every minute of it and I was so inspired, I am determined to work my way into the industry. I thought it was amazing."





FORTNUM & MASON

Parfum Glorieux!

Designer/curator and TCDT Trustee Simon Costin designed a mural based on Fortnum & Mason's theme of "Joy". Company Archivist Dr Andrea Tanner contributed research and the poem. Tutor Sarah Hocombe, Assistant Tutor alumnus Clive Edwin and three students painted the mural inspired by the style of Eric Ravilious. The work will be installed in the autumn as a permanent display on the second floor of the flagship Piccadilly store.

Another World

Work created by TCDT students came together in a window display designed by Simon Costin at 181 Piccadilly for 16 days in September. Inspired by the idea of living in outer space, work from four different workshops was included:

- Three architectural models constructed in workshops at Allford Hall Monaghan Morris Architects, where students benefitted from one-to-one guidance from AHMM's head model maker
- Glass planets and shooting stars cut and blended at the fused glass workshop at the National Glass Centre in Sunderland
- Silver and enamel comets created under the tutelage of award-winning Tomiko Ravn in a workshop at The Goldsmiths' Centre
- Marionette spaceman puppets designed and built by students during an online workshop with puppeteer Siân Kidd.

This is the third window display created by TCDT for Fortnum & Mason.

Fortnums X TCDT Employment Programme

Through a series of workshops, students met with different departments at the iconic London department store to learn about their roles, growing the business, what they love doing and the challenges they face. Students heard from team members working in the Human Resources, Visual Merchandising, Buying, Finance, Retail, Merchandising, Marketing and Archives departments.

The speakers offered CV and interview advice and also described their own, sometimes unconventional, career paths, proving to our students just how valuable transferable skills really are.



"I get great pleasure in discovering the story behind the hats and being part of the transformation of these objects."



LOCK & CO. HATTERS

TCDT partnered with Lock & Co., the oldest hat shop in the world, to deliver a five-day workshop as well as a work experience week over the summer. We caught up with Lock & Co.'s hat restorer, Eliska, to find out more about the fascinating world of hat making.

Q: What motivated you to pursue working in hat restoration?

A: From a young age I have always worked with my hands. My Czech grandfather was a carpenter, and I spent all my holidays as a child in his workshop. I went on to study sculpture in Paris and London.

I have always loved making and creating things from whatever I can find, especially when it comes to dressing up. Wild outfits and headwear can be made from any material, from actual fabrics to objects found in flea markets. This is what really sparked my interest in hats – I loved the idea of creating sculptures for the head!

During my time as a milliner making ladies wear, I found my true passion was for restoring old hats. I loved that they weren't just objects. Each mark tells a story.

Q: How did you become a hat restorer?

A: My grandmother taught me how to sew from a young age – it's in my blood! Attention to detail and the use of fine needlework techniques are essential in hat restoration.

I did a millinery course in London and became an assistant for a British milliner making couture hats. I went on to start my own business making 'bespoke hats for bespoke people'. Finally, I realised it was restoration that I was really passionate about.

Q: What has been the most interesting hat restoration project you have worked on?

A: The full refurb of a client's grandfather's hat. In full refurb, everything has to be completely stripped back to the main body of the hat, whether it be wool, felt or straw. In this case, I peeled back the lining to uncover a hidden photo of the gentleman's wife. This was such a lovely surprise for the family – a gift of a previously unseen photo of their grandmother!

Q: Hat restoration is a true art that involves a high level of craftsmanship. What is the process of restoring a hat?

A: Every hat arriving at the hat surgery comes with a different story or need. No hat will be

treated the same. Often, the idea is to restore the hat as closely as possible to its original appearance. Before starting work, I make notes on what must be done and give the hat a good clean.

Next, I remove anything that needs replacing or might be in the way. The hat may need reshaping, resizing or re-blocking, using specific tools designed for each purpose. There could be loose seams, embellishments that need reattaching or tears that need mending.

If a piece is missing, I replace it with a piece from my stock of hats donated specifically for this purpose. I also use replacement parts when we want to change or tailor the hat to make it more bespoke.

The hat is finished off with another clean, brush and steam.

Q: Why do Lock & Co., who make such incredible new hats, feel the need to restore old hats?

A: Here at Lock & Co., we feel the need to restore old hats because they have both historical and commercial value. Some of the hats we come across are important artefacts. We do everything we can to restore them back to how they once might have looked.

We receive hats that may hold huge sentimental value and memories. Once mended, the customers can literally carry their memories on their heads.

Ever important is sustainability! The fashion industry is known to have a negative impact on the environment. Repairs increase the lifespan of a hat and contribute to a greener planet.

Repair is cost effective – a hole can be repaired at a minimal cost compared to the purchase of an entirely new hat.

Q: What advice would you give to someone interested in learning the art of hat restoration? Are there any specific skills or qualities that would help them to find success in the field?

A: I believe you have to start with the basics. By learning how to make a hat from scratch, you will also know how to take one apart. Fine needle work, an eye for detail and mastery of stitching techniques is essential. The key is to be able to identify and repair damage accurately.

Knowing the history of hats and where each one fits in is important. The idea is to remain true to the hat's heritage.

Patience is a virtue. Hat restoration can be time consuming. Some repairs require intricate work, creative problem solving and a splash of innovation. The rest comes from experience and study. In the world of hat restoration, there is always more to uncover.

COCKPIT ARTS



TCDT has partnered with Cockpit Arts to deliver six workshops a year, three at their Bloomsbury space and three in Deptford. This summer, Whatnot Puppet Making, Ceramic Tile Making, and Sewing & Dressmaking took place in Bloomsbury.

IMPACT

The Creative Dimension Trust continues to grow from strength to strength.

We enable young people to work with leading global specialists to develop fine hand skills to inspire future careers.

Courses are free of charge to all successful applicants.

All direct recruiting is at schools located in areas of social/economic deprivation or geographic isolation.

We aim to have **80%** of participants from underserved backgrounds.

Since TCDT's inception in 2015, we have reached over **650 schools, colleges and universities**. This year alone, we reached **210**. We also received **84 applications** from young people who are home-schooled.

TCDT received over **750 applications** this year – **up 25%** from last year.

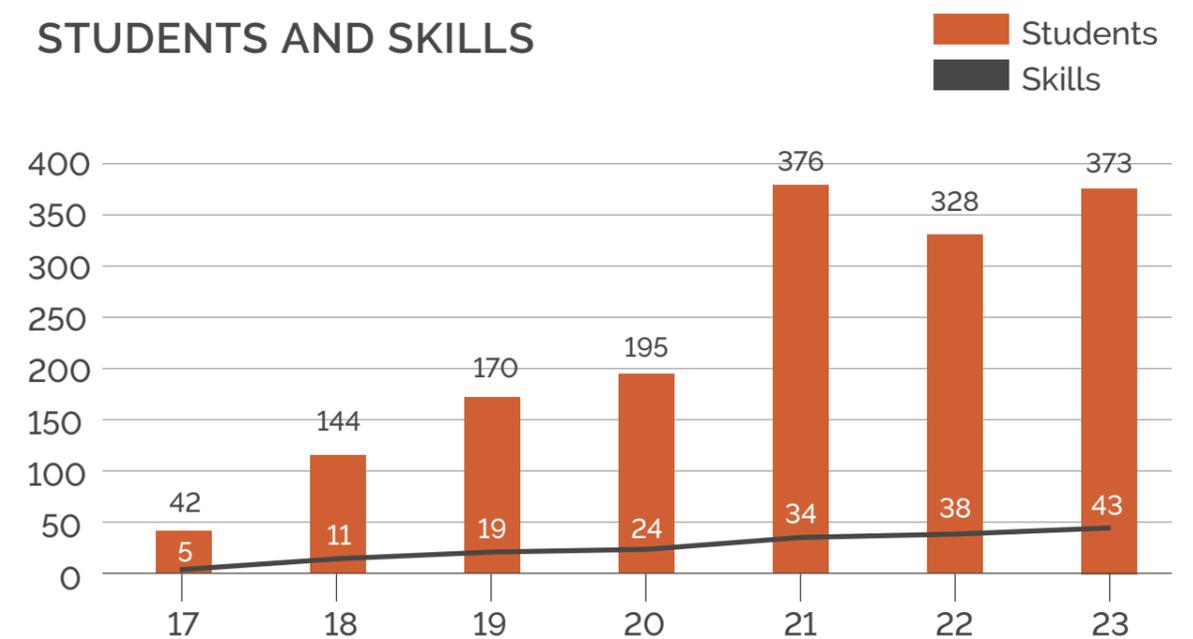
We delivered a record **41 workshops** to **349 students**.

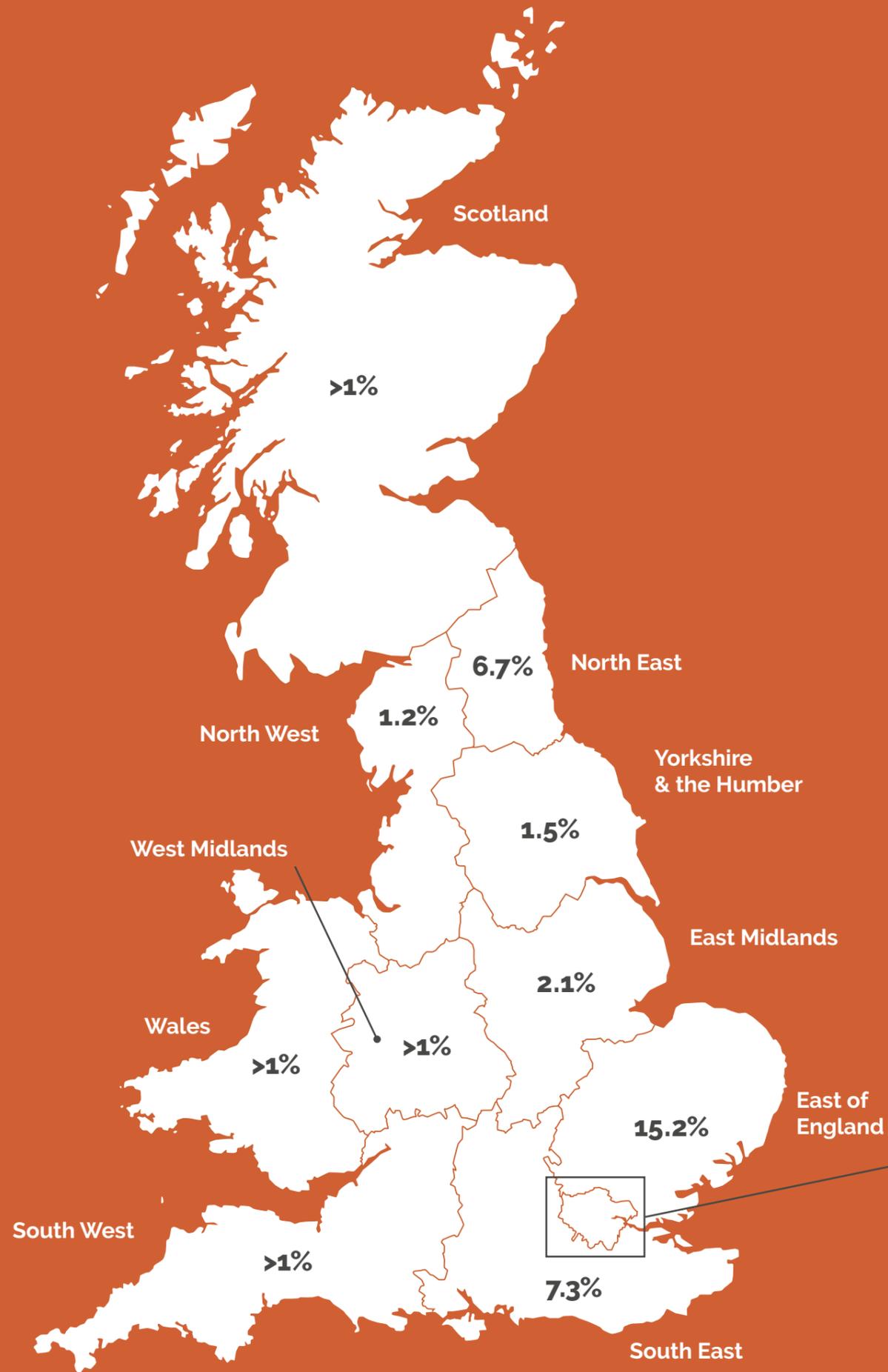
At the end of a workshop, each student is assessed by the tutors. For three-day or more workshops, the Trust's credential is awarded with a grade reflecting the student's level of attainment in the relevant transferable skills. The skills evaluated include Manual skills, Visual sensitivity, Organisation and planning, Focus and concentration, and Teamwork.

Over the past year, **15% of students gained Distinction, 33% Merit, 48% Pass** and the remaining **4% received Working Towards**.

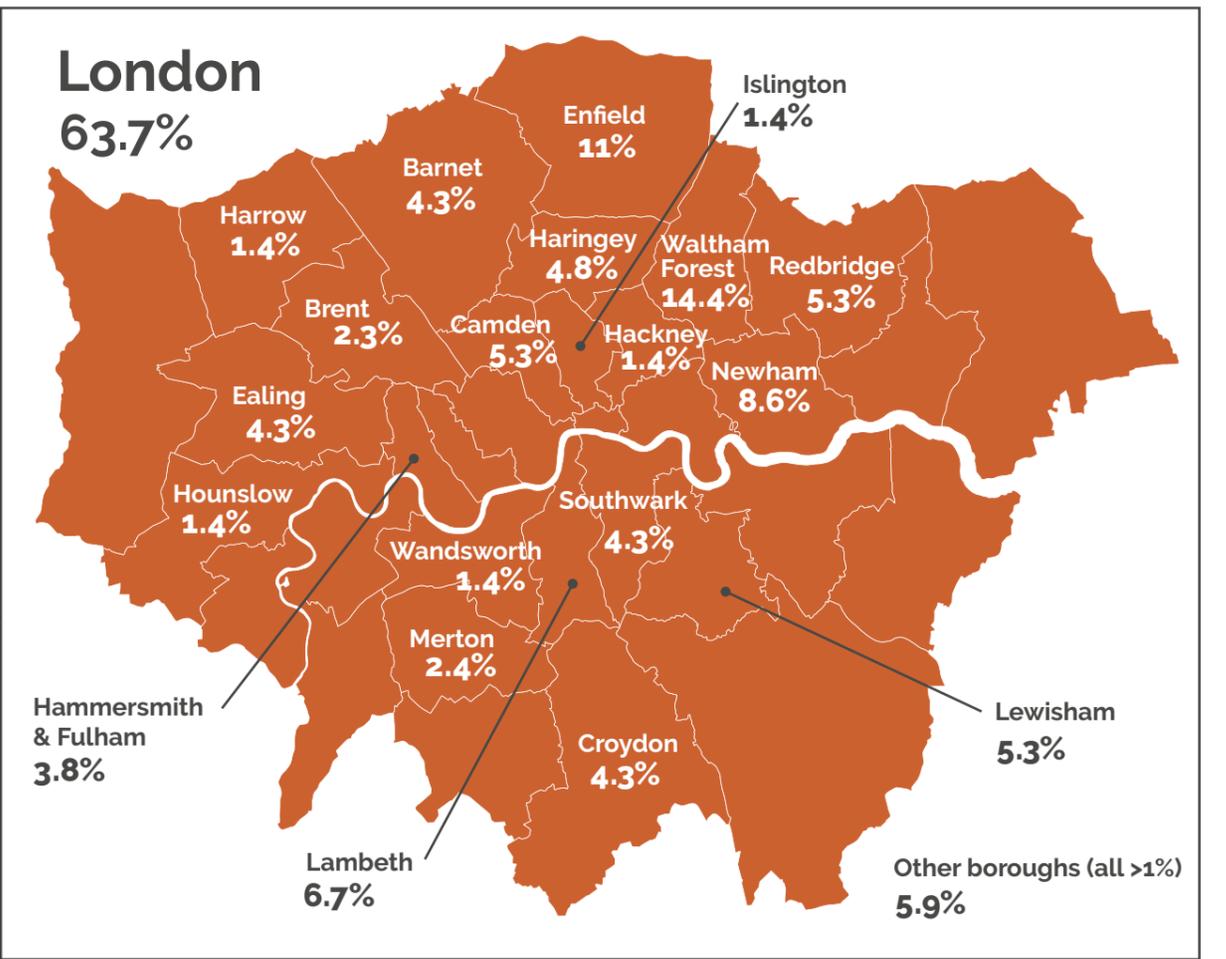
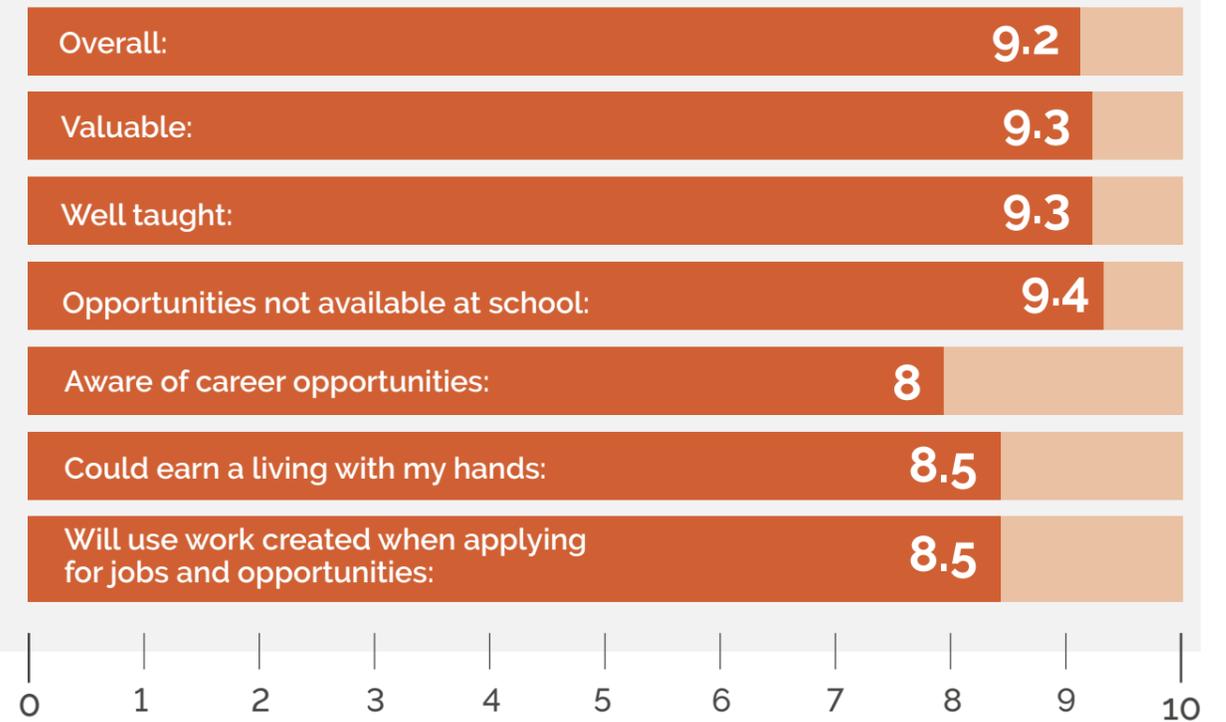
We are determined to show our talented young attendees the vast range of potential employment opportunities. This year, our rebooted work experience programme provided **24 students aged 18-23** with opportunities at some of the UK's most prestigious creative companies.

STUDENTS AND SKILLS





HOW STUDENTS RATED OUR WORKSHOPS OUT OF 10:





Architectural Drawing at Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, Autumn 2022



Woodcarving at Artists Studio Co., Summer 2023

IN CONVERSATION WITH OUR TRUSTEE FIONA RUSHTON

Director of Windows Creation and Art Buying at Hermès

Please can you explain a little bit about your current role at Hermès and the exquisite standards the company believes in?

Hermès is an artisan company, committed to the perseverance and transmission of the craft and the savoir-faire they have been working with for more than 180 years. The craftspeople are really at the heart of the company, their dedication to excellence in the design and making of objects is at the core of everything that Hermès does. So too is a passion for the joy of creation and the delight in surprise!

I am the Director of Windows Creation and Art Buying at Hermès. The windows at Hermès are spaces that we always dedicate to storytelling and to building a connection to a local audience. Each Hermès country creates their own window concepts, my role is to help each local team find artists and creators who can help tell these stories and to guide them in a way that continues Hermès' long history of presenting magical window displays.

Can you explain why you took on the role of a Trustee of The Creative Dimension Trust?

I believe deeply in the transformative nature of craft and working with your hands. The work that the Trust does to expose these benefits to children and young people is truly admirable. It is providing a service to young people that can be missing in schools, imparting skills and experiences that can not only help them find a fulfilling career, but it can also build confidence and self-worth. Through a TCDT course they can find possibilities for their future and skills they didn't even know they had.

TCDT provides opportunities for young people to interact with and learn from world class experts – experiences and connections that would be unobtainable for many – especially poorly served young people within our communities.



Leatherworking at Maria Fidelis School



Hat Making at Lock & Co. Hatters



SPOTLIGHT
ON TUTOR:
**ADAM
WILLIAMSON**

In the world of craftsmanship, few people embody dedication and artistry as brilliantly as master carver and pattern specialist Adam Williamson. Adam was introduced to TCDT in 2016 when he met Penny to discuss their shared passions for preserving traditional crafts and empowering teenagers through practical experiences and contact with established artists. The initial conversation sparked a collaboration that led to Adam's invaluable contributions to annual workshops in a range of skills.

Coming from a family of craftsmen and artists, Adam's desire to explore his passion led him to train with artists from diverse backgrounds across the globe in locations such as Mount Athos in Greece, Spain, Morocco and Turkey. His eclectic approach to craftsmanship led to a documentary focused on his journey to rural Malaysia and Indonesia to study traditional woodcarving with masters such as Norhaiza Noordin.

Adam has spearheaded numerous craft-based initiatives for The Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts, including a remarkable two-year woodcarving collective in Jamaica. His influence extends to China and Azerbaijan, where he dedicated his time to preserving traditional craft skills. One endeavour took Adam to a remote reservation in British Columbia for three months where he worked alongside the Nu Ch Nuth First Nations Tribe, focusing on craft preservation.

Adam's mastery transcends borders, exhibiting internationally and undertaking a long list of prestigious commissions including carvings for HRH the Prince of Wales, Oxford University, Shakespeare's Globe, Kew 'Gardens, Westminster Abbey, the British Council, the Foreign Office in Vienna, and London Zoo.

In addition to his artistic endeavours, Adam has generously shared his knowledge as a sessional lecturer at Birkbeck, University of London, and has conducted workshops and public lectures at renowned cultural institutions worldwide including the British Museum, Cambridge University, The British Library, the V&A Museum, and the National Portrait Gallery.

With a wealth of knowledge and a fervour for sharing it, Adam became a cornerstone of TCDT's tutoring team, leading a range of annual workshops.

Signwriting on Skateboards teaches traditional brushwork and pinstriping techniques to paint boxes and skateboards. With mahl sticks in hand and enamel paints at their disposal, students hone their design, shading, and lining talents while mastering the art of brushwork.

Calligraphy for Beginners offers fundamental techniques to write cursive Italic script, allowing participants the opportunity to explore the world of calligraphy under his expert guidance.

Geometry of Structure teaches students to use a variety of materials to craft an array of 3-dimensional static and kinetic structures. From spherical models to a full-size bamboo tetrahedron and geodesic dome.

Plaster Carving focuses on the geometric and biomorphic patterns and techniques of the Islamic lands whilst also drawing on a multitude of tradition designs. Participants practice relief and piercing carving techniques and receive an introduction to plaster casting and mould making.

During lockdown, Adam successfully transferred his teaching skills online and led a series of TCDT workshops focusing on paper folding, model building, geometric designs and pattern.

In addition to these workshops, in May 2023, Adam collaborated with three TCDT alumni on an exciting community project painting a geometric mural outside his studio in Bow, east London. Commissioned by Bow Road's Studio Manager Bethany Parkinson, the mural, entitled 'Jewel of Attarine', depicts a tenfold geometric pattern in various shades of opaque and iridescent blue.

Looking forward, Adam will be leading a **Stone Carving** workshop in October 2023 run in collaboration with the V&A Museum. Fifteen TCDT students will learn to draw, carve and inlay precious stones into arches inspired by the Agra Colonnade, to form part of a semi-permanent display at V&A Storehouse in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in east London.

New for 2024 is Adam's **Architectural Drawing** workshop. His expertise across a full spectrum of artistic schools will infuse this workshop with a unique perspective, equipping students with skills essential for a career in architecture and transferable to other artistic pursuits.

WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOLS

In Autumn 2022, TCDT began a new programme where tutors are sent to teach workshops directly in schools. The programme was piloted at Maria Fidelis School, Kings Cross, with the aiming of rolling out to other schools across London.

World-renowned fresco painter Sarah Hocombe and decorative surface conservator/artist Jane Wallis taught 11 students and three teachers skills in design, drawing, modelling, and gilding during six one-hour weekly sessions.

"By gilding to a fine level, students can consider different careers and unusual applications in art and craft. It's a fantastic project and the high level of enjoyment shows how much students gain from their time with the teachers from the Trust." - Art Teacher, Maria Fidelis School

The second programme was also held at Maria Fidelis in Spring 2023. Paul Ravn, a Fellow of The Goldsmiths' Livery Company, taught 10 students and three teachers jewellery making in five 90-minute sessions. The students made a silver ring and a brooch.

"Paul was fantastic, he explained everything really well and demonstrated everything. He'd designed really lovely things for us to make and he is obviously an expert in his field" Art Teacher, Maria Fidelis School

In Autumn 2023, ten Maria Fidelis students will be selected by the school to attend a leather working programme over five weeks under the tutelage of Candice Lau, an award-winning master leatherworker. During the sessions, students will make small leather goods including card holders and A5 pouches.

Following the successful pilot, TCDT has expanded the programme to other schools across London with at least six workshops running during the 2023/4 academic year.



PREVIOUS WORKSHOPS

Gilding

Maria Fidelis, Kings Cross
Autumn 2022

How students rated the workshop out of 10:

Overall: **9.3**

Valuable: **9.1**

Well taught: **9.2**

Opportunities not available at school: **9.6**

Aware of career opportunities: **7.3**

Could earn a living with my hands: **7.8**

Will use work created when applying for jobs and opportunities: **8.3**

Jewellery Making

Maria Fidelis, Kings Cross
Spring 2022

How students rated the workshop out of 10:

Overall: **9.4**

Valuable: **9.4**

Well taught: **9.8**

Opportunities not available at school: **9.9**

Aware of career opportunities: **8.5**

Could earn a living with my hands: **8.8**

Will use work created when applying for jobs and opportunities: **8.6**

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

AUTUMN 2023

Mixing Colour & Special Effects

Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar

Gilding

LSU, Camden

Leather Working

Acland Burghley School, Camden

Leather Working

Maria Fidelis, Kings Cross

SPRING 2024

Jewellery Making

Maria Fidelis, Kings Cross

Leather Working

Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar



WORK EXPERIENCE

In January 2023, TCDT rebooted its work experience programme halted by Covid-19.

This year's work experience opportunities included:

- **Leather Making at Bill Amberg Studio.** Eight students spent an afternoon with world-renowned designer and craftsman Bill Amberg who shared his extensive knowledge on the history and sustainability of leather used in the creation of bespoke leather products, interiors and furniture.
- **Contemporary Painting Conservation at Julia Nagle Conservation Studios.** Four students spent a day with expert conservators learning about the world of conservation of Modern and Contemporary Art, from Bacon to Banksy.
- **Bookbinding at Shepherds Bindery.** One lucky student spent a week learning the ancient craft of bookbinding with the team at Shepherds, one of the oldest bookbinding companies in England.
- **Architecture at HKS Architects.** One student spent a week at the London office of HKS, an international design firm of more than 1,400 architects, interior designers, urban designers, scientists, artists, anthropologists and more.
- **Jewellery Making at Ravn School of Arts and Crafts.** One student worked with the highly skilled Goldsmiths' Company Fellow Paul Ravn and gained an insight into how a professional jewellery studio works.
- **Architecture at Allies & Morrison.** One student spent a week at this renowned practice of architects and urbanists who strive to design beautiful buildings that have long life and can adapt over the generations.
- **Silver and Goldsmithing at Mayfair Goldsmiths.** One student spent three days at this family run business, which makes and restores for the Royal households using traditional and modern methods.
- **Architecture at Allford Hall Monaghan Morris.** One student was given the opportunity to spend a week with one of the most prestigious architectural firms in the UK.
- **Hat Making at Lock & Co. Hatters.** Four students were given an insight into the running of a creative retail business, learning from the various departments across the business, including Marketing & PR, Website, Finance, HR, Millinery and Buying.
- We also ran TCDT work experience opportunities where students supported tutors during our summer workshops.





MEET CAMILLA

Camilla is a sculpture and installation artist of Uyghur ethnicity who works out of her Brixton studio. She recently completed her MA in Fine Art at City & Guilds of London Art School, where her talent and hard work earned her a well-deserved Distinction.

Camilla serves as an important member of the TCDT Alumni Committee, demonstrating her ongoing connection with the Trust. As a schools ambassador, she actively engages with students to let them know first hand about workshop and work experience opportunities. In 2021, she exhibited in the TCDT Alumni Exhibition at Bonhams.

Camilla participated in several TCDT workshops to build her repertoire of skills. These included Marquetry, Gilding, Mural Painting, Etching, Plaster Carving and Geometric Drawing. She has since assisted with the TCDT Geometric Structures workshop led by Adam Williamson and has also worked alongside three students to create a community mural at Bow Road Studios.

Recently, Camilla took part in the Young Barbican exhibition *What Do We Become* in London. The exhibition originated from ongoing research around ideas of language, belonging, and origins by artist-curator Tobi Alexandra Falade, who is exploring how separation from homelands impacts identity and cultural expression. Camilla was one of four artists whose new work was showcased. Her work revealed insights on identity for those who have not yet returned 'home'.

Looking ahead, Camilla will be returning to TCDT as assistant tutor on the upcoming V&A Stone Carving workshop and as assistant tutor for Manufacto, a woodwork programme supported by Hermès GB starting in January.

Outside of the TCDT landscape, Camilla will be showcasing her own work at the *Embodied* exhibition at the Morley Gallery in London this October. The exhibition, which brings together works from six artists in a range of mediums including sculpture, installation, painting and moving image, explores the complexity of lived experience and conscious emotion by way of the bodily form.





MEET RONNIE

Ronnie embarked on his journey with TCDT by participating in a Jewellery Making workshop at The Goldsmiths' Centre during the Autumn of 2019. The immersive workshop spanned five Saturdays, providing students with the opportunity to delve into traditional jewellery crafting techniques such as filling, soldering and annealing. Their ultimate goal was to create a personalised piece of jewellery to take home.

Ronnie returned to TCDT the following year to broaden his skillset, enrolling in a five-day Enamelling course in Spring 2020. The comprehensive workshop covered an array of techniques including shaping, bending, hammering, sawing, soldering, texturing and enamelling. Materials such as silver, copper and brass were explored in the process.

With two workshops successfully under his belt, Ronnie continued his journey in the Summer of 2021, this time at Zone Creations, a prominent manufacturer of display products. His first workshop was From Dream to Product, a four-day multidisciplinary course where students were tasked with designing and crafting a Perspex candlestick. Ronnie returned to Zone Creations later that summer for a five-day workshop led by TCDT tutor and world-renowned fresco painter Sarah Hocombe. Here, students worked together to craft a dramatic sky, which would serve as the backdrop for a window display at Fortnum & Mason. This project not only honed their practical skills using acrylic sky effects but also fostered teamwork as they critically discussed the intricacies of crafting temporary installations for retail settings.

Armed with a repertoire of new practical skills and theoretical knowledge, Ronnie realised his passion for jewellery making and chose to pursue a TCDT work experience opportunity with prominent Mayfair Goldsmiths in June 2023. Operating for over 35 years, Mayfair Goldsmiths blends traditional craftsmanship with modern methods to achieve exceptional results. Ronnie commented, *"Everything was perfect, a 10/10. I acquired invaluable silver smithing skills and gained a really interesting insight into the inner workings of the business itself"*.

Fuelled by his talent and commitment to mastering the art of jewellery making, Ronnie has now secured a remarkable work opportunity with Mayfair Goldsmiths, devoting three days a week to honing his craft. The transformative TCDT workshop experiences have unearthed his passion, propelling him toward an exciting and promising future in the industry.





MEET ADAEZE

Meet Adaeze – this year's **TCDT Achievement Award winner** and a true testament to TCDT's impact on student progression.

Adaeze's TCDT journey began in Spring 2020 with a Denim Upcycling course, followed by a diverse range of workshops including Signwriting on Skateboards and Stone Carving over the next two years.

Arriving with limited prior experience, Adaeze's enthusiasm for learning fuelled her growth and allowed her to flourish. The array of TCDT's courses gave Adaeze the opportunity to explore different disciplines, ultimately unlocking her passion and setting her on a trajectory for her future.

Guided by experienced and dedicated instructors, and within the supportive environment fostered by TCDT, Adaeze honed her artistic abilities, gained confidence, and uncovered a passion for architecture as her future career path.

After the Architectural Drawing workshop in Autumn 2022, Adaeze's dedication and potential led her to gain TCDT work experience opportunities in three of the most prestigious architectural firms in the UK – Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, Allies & Morrison, and HKS Architects. During a week spent at each firm, Adaeze seized the opportunity to gain practical skills, work alongside established architects, and gain insights on her potential career options.

Reflecting on her architectural work experience, Adaeze reflected *"I was fortunate to have three immersive work experience opportunities that offered me a thorough introduction to the world of architecture. I gained practical skills, including using architectural software, crafting scaled models by hand, and presenting my ideas. I was able to see the inside day-to-day workings of an architecture practice, ask questions, and get advice about my future in the industry. The opportunity to meet and learn from experienced architects was invaluable. The experiences have helped me to solidify my interest in architecture and to prepare for a career in the field."*

Adaeze began studying Architecture at Kent University in September 2023.



Adaeze's TCDT progression:

2023

- Allford Hall Monaghan Morris work experience
- Allies & Morrison work experience
- HKS Architects work experience

2022

- Architectural Drawing workshop
- Wood Turning workshop
- Geometry of Structure workshop
- Signwriting on Skateboards workshop
- Gilding Techniques workshop
- Stone Carving workshop

2021

- Geometric Designs workshop
- Design a Hand Painted Wallpaper
- From Dream to Product

2020

- Theatrical Mask Making
- Denim Upcycling



Weaving at
Clothworkers' Hall



Making a Child's Chair
at Windsor Castle,
Autumn 2022



Sewing & Dressmaking
at Cockpit Arts,
Summer 2023



Blueprint Photography
at Bow Road Studios

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

- A S HANDOVER
- ACLAND BURGHLEY SCHOOL
- ALLFORD HALL MONAGHAN MORRIS
- ALLIES & MORRISON
- THE ASHLEY FAMILY FOUNDATION
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*“We must come
down to earth from
the clouds where
we live in vagueness
and experience the
most real thing there
is: material.”*

Anni Albers



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