

PRESS FORWARD

Gold Arts Award — Key Information

Artichoke Print Workshop | October 2026 – July 2027

Press Forward is Artichoke Print Workshop's fully funded Gold Arts Award programme for young people aged 16-25.

Designed to give an insight into life as an arts professional, participants will explore printmaking in depth while developing creative, research, and enterprise skills alongside work experience. It's a nationally recognised Level 3 qualification, worth 16 UCAS points, supporting progression into further education or creative careers.

No previous printmaking experience is needed, but applicants should already have some creative skills in drawing, painting, or a related visual art form.

Fully funded — no cost to take part

Open Evening: Sunday 2 August, 11am - 4pm. See website for further dates or contact outreach@artichokeprintworkshop.co.uk to arrange a visit.

Priority deadline: Friday 28 August 2026, 5pm

Priority applicants notified by: Friday 4 September 2026

Programme runs October 2026 - July 2027 (first session on 30 September)

16 UCAS points | Nationally recognised Level 3 qualification



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

This project is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

About Artichoke Print Workshop

Based in the heart of Brixton since 1992, Artichoke is an open-access printmaking workshop for artists, students and community groups. We teach courses and run technician-aided sessions to make printmaking accessible at every skill level.

The studio hosts a number of highly sought-after professional fine artists working in print, and contemporary art galleries.

Artichoke has a strong track record of supporting young artists. Joining a community of artists is the way forward for networking and continuing your artistic journey.

Who It's For

Young people aged 16-25, including those not in education, employment or training (NEET). Priority is given to applicants living in Lambeth and from low socio-economic backgrounds, though applications from elsewhere are also welcome. No previous printmaking experience is required. Pre-existing skill in a visual art form is required — drawing, painting, collage, photography, or similar. This is one of only two independent Gold Arts Award programmes in the whole of London, and doesn't rely on a school for moderation, so it's open to young people who have left school as well as those still studying.

Key Dates

Open Evening — come and find out more before applying

- Sunday 2 August 2026, 11am - 4pm
- Further dates published and updated at www.artchokeprintworkshop.co.uk/press-forward

Weekend Workshops (10am – 5pm), roughly monthly on Saturdays

- Saturday 10 October 2026 — Bookbinding Workshop: DIY Sketchbooks
- Saturday 17 October 2026 — Open Access Workshop
- Saturday 24 October 2026 — Etching Workshop
- Saturday 7 November 2026 — Open Access Workshop
- Saturday 14 November 2026 — Taught Workshop
- Saturday 21 November 2026 — Taught Workshop
- Saturday 12 December 2026 — Open Access Workshop
- Saturday 30 January 2027 — Open Access Workshop
- Saturday 20 March 2027 — Open Access Workshop
- Saturday 24 April 2027 — Open Access Workshop

Monthly Group Sessions (Wednesdays, 6 – 9pm)

A safe space to share experiments, talk about opportunities in printmaking and the wider arts industry, and plan the final exhibition.

- 30 September, 21 October, 18 November, 9 December 2026 | 13 January, 10 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, 2 June, 23 June, 7 July 2027

Open Access Studio Time

- Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm. Ten 4-hour sessions to use throughout the programme.

1-to-1 Mentoring

- Ten individual 1-hour mentoring sessions, in person or online, available throughout.

Final Exhibition

- 14 – 21 July 2027 — lead and exhibit your own print project publicly.

How To Apply

Complete an application form, available as a printed copy from partner organisations or online. Return completed paper forms by post, in person, or by email. The priority deadline is Friday 28 August 2026 - applicants who apply by then will be notified by Friday 4 September 2026, just over a month before the programme's first group session. Applications received after the priority deadline are still welcome and will be considered on a rolling basis for any places remaining.

As part of the form, applicants are asked to share 1-3 examples of their drawing, painting or other creative work, to show they already have some existing skills to build on. This can be a link to an Instagram or online portfolio, photos attached to an emailed application, printed photos enclosed with a paper form, or simply bringing physical examples (a sketchbook, a few drawings) to the Open Evening or a short informal chat - no formal portfolio is required.

Email your completed form to: outreach@artichokeprintworkshop.co.uk

Or post / drop off to: Artichoke Print Workshop, Ground Floor Unit G5,
Coldharbour Works, 245a Coldharbour Ln, London SW9 8RR

Questions? Contact us any time at outreach@artichokeprintworkshop.co.uk