EDUCATION PROGRAMME

145th Annual Exhibition | Ulster Museum, Belfast | 2026

GUIDED TOURS FOR THE PUBLIC

Enhance your visit with an introductory guided tour offering an engaging overview of the exhibition. Tours last approximately 40 minutes.

Meet in the gallery on the 5th floor. Booking is not required.

Saturday 24 October	**Kim Mawhinney, Senior Curator of Art, National Museums NI** · 2.30pm
Saturday 31 October	**Karen Daye-Hutchinson RUA** · 2.30pm
Saturday 7 November	**Amanda Croft, Specialist in 20th Century & Contemporary Art** · 2.30pm
Saturday 14 November	**Katherine McDonald, Craft NI Director** · 2.30pm
Saturday 21 November	**Maggie Bowen, RUA Education** · 2.30pm
Saturday 28 November	**Julian Friers PPRUA** · 2.30pm
Saturday 5 December	**Peter Richards, President of the RUA** · 2.30pm
Saturday 5 December	**Dan Dowling PPRUA** - Irish language tour · 3.30pm

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

New time: Fridays at 1.30pm, from 30 October.

Join artists for short, informal gallery discussions in front of their work. Sessions last approximately 15 minutes. Hear about the ideas and techniques behind the artworks, ask questions or simply listen in. Visitors and school groups are very welcome.

Gallery, 5th floor. Drop in; no booking required.

Friday 23 October	Dr Angela Halliday ARUA
Friday 30 October · 1.30pm	Anne Marie Robinson
Friday 6 November · 1.30pm	Ann Smyth
Friday 13 November · 1.30pm	Claire Gibson
Friday 20 November · 1.30pm	Jemma Millen
Friday 27 November · 1.30pm	Patricia Molloy
Friday 4 December · 1.30pm	Stuart Marshall ARUA
Friday 11 December · 1.30pm	Barbara Allen RUA

SATURDAY MASTERCLASSES FOR THE PUBLIC

10.00am-4.00pm · Learning Zone, Ground Floor
Fee: **£50 per masterclass, payable in advance.**
Places are limited to 10 participants per masterclass.

BOOK A PLACE NOW →

Paul Walls RUA - Painting in Acrylic: Using Images from Your Phone

Saturday 7 November

This practical masterclass explores composition, colour, brushwork and techniques for working from digital reference images.

Rosie McGurran RUA - Curioser and Curioser

Saturday 14 November

A still life workshop exploring floral painting and unusual objects in the medium of your choice.

Neal Greig RUA - Painting the Air with Oils

Saturday 21 November

Explore the qualities of light, atmosphere and movement through oil painting.

Colin Watson RUA - Clothed Figure Painting

Saturday 28 November

Develop your observational painting skills through the study of the clothed figure.

Ciaran Gallagher ARUA - Acrylic Portrait Painting from Life

Saturday 5 December

Develop your portrait painting skills through direct observation of a live sitter.

SCHOOLS & TEACHERS

All school visits must be booked through schools@royalulsteracademy.org. The RUA will liaise with the Ulster Museum regarding bookings, lunch space and special access requirements.

Teachers' Preview

Saturday 24 October · 12 noon
Gallery, 5th floor

A preview tour led by Margaret Bowen. To book, email schools@royalulsteracademy.org.

Meet the Artist

For Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and A level school groups · Tuesdays and Fridays, 10.15am-12 noon

Each session begins with a guided tour focusing on works in the artist's chosen medium and exploring the techniques used in their practice. This is followed by a demonstration and informal discussion with the artist.

Tuesday 20 October	Paul Walls RUA - Art demo in Acrylic
Friday 23 October	Cara Gordon RUA - Drawing with Collage and mixed media
Tuesday 3 November	Keith Wilson RUA - Daily Drawing
Friday 6 November	Anushiya Sundaralingam RUA - Build a boat - Tell a story
Tuesday 10 November	Stephen Shaw RUA - Introduction to Watercolour
Friday 13 November	Anushiya Sundaralingam RUA - Build a boat - Tell a story
Tuesday 17 November	Ciaran Gallagher ARUA - Great Artists steal, copying the Masters
Friday 20 November	Alana Barton ARUA - The Painting Process
Tuesday 24 November	Cara Gordon RUA - Drawing with Collage and mixed media
Friday 27 November	Cara Gordon RUA - Drawing with Collage and mixed media
Tuesday 1 December	Paul Walls RUA - Art demo in Acrylic
Tuesday 8 December	Paul Walls RUA - Art demo in Acrylic

Guided Tours and Workshops for Schools

Primary and post-primary schools can book a guided tour of the exhibition. Tailored tours for special schools are also available. For information and bookings, email schools@royalulsteracademy.org.

Self-Guided School Visits

School groups of all ages are welcome during Ulster Museum opening hours, accompanied by their teachers. Please email schools@royalulsteracademy.org with your proposed date and time.

SOURCES & INSPIRATIONS

For schools and the public · Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11.00am-12.15pm · Lecture Theatre

Professional artists discuss the origins and development of their ideas, share original studies and preparatory work, and answer questions. These sessions give AS and A2 pupils opportunities to share their thoughts and join the discussion.

Public bookings: book at the Ulster Museum reception desk.
School bookings: email schools@royalulsteracademy.org.

Wednesday 21 October	Eddie Rafferty RUA - Location Unknown
Thursday 22 October	Chris Wilson RUA - A personal practice - inspired by landscape
Wednesday 4 November	Ciaran Gallagher ARUA - An Artist's Journey
Thursday 5 November	Neal Greig RUA - Where the elements meet
Wednesday 11 November	Stuart Marshall ARUA - Modelling the Past
Thursday 12 November	Alison Lowry ARUA - Glass and its Sculptural possibilities
Wednesday 18 November	Ciaran Gallagher ARUA - An Artist's Journey
Thursday 19 November	Ciaran Gallagher ARUA - An Artist's Journey
Wednesday 25 November	Colin Watson RUA - Journeys
Thursday 26 November	Comhghall Casey ARUA - Working from Observation

THE McCORD AUTUMN LECTURE

Shannon Greer: Creative Strategist Working with Some of the World's Biggest Brands

Lecture Theatre, Ulster Museum

No booking required. Simply arrive from 10.30am for coffee, and/or by 11.00am for the start of the talk.

Saturday 7 November 2026 · 11.00am
Lecture Theatre, Ulster Museum

For programme enquiries, contact info@royalulsteracademy.org.