

The Art Fund Prize 2011

for museums and galleries

Under strict embargo: 8pm, 15 June 2011

For further information or images contact: Marina Bradbury, mbradbury@artfund.org,
020 7225 4888

Two winners and double the prize money in inaugural year of Clore Award for Museum Learning

The judges of the 2011 inaugural Clore Award for Museum Learning have been so impressed by the outstanding quality of the finalists that they have awarded – for the first year only – double the prize money to joint winners: the South London Gallery and a consortium of the Pitt Rivers Museum and the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. This is an extraordinary outcome that reflects the incredibly high standard of the short listed entries and the Clore Duffield Foundation's intention to celebrate diverse, high-quality, and high-impact learning initiatives, particularly for children and young people.

The South London Gallery and the Oxford consortium have each have won £10,000 – bringing the total of the prize money to £20,000, instead of the planned £10,000 single award. The Award recognises and celebrates quality, impact and innovation in using museums and galleries for learning activities and initiatives. Introduced for the first time this year, it sits under the umbrella of the £100,000 Art Fund Prize for museums and galleries – which recognises and stimulates originality and excellence in museums and galleries in the UK. The winner of the Art Fund Prize is the British Museum for its *A History of the World* project.

The winners of both accolades will be announced tonight at a ceremony hosted by Michael Portillo, Chair of the Judges of the Art Fund Prize.

The museums of the Oxford consortium applied jointly for their project *Making Museums*, in which school children design and make their own museums, from acquisition to exhibition, on the theme of celebrating their identities. The South London Gallery applied for its programme for *Making Play – adventures in creative play through contemporary art*, which involved the children living on a housing estate adjacent to the Gallery.

The Clore Award judging panel was co-chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE, Chairman of the Clore Duffield Foundation and Sally Bacon, the Foundation's Director. They were joined by Cerrie Burnell, presenter on CBeebies, the BBC's TV channel for under 6s; Gerard Kelly, Editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*; and Mark Taylor, Director of the Museums Association and Museum Prize Trustee.

Dame Vivien Duffield said: "This was an extremely tough decision, reflecting the outstanding quality of the short-listed applications. In the end we could not choose between two projects operating in very different contexts: one with primary schools; and the other on a London housing estate. We therefore decided – for this year, as an exception – to award two prizes for museum learning. There is excellent learning work happening in many museums across the UK and we want to highlight some of the brilliant things that go on in order to push all museums and galleries to continue to raise their game."

Award judge Cerrie Burnell will announce the winners at the prize ceremony tonight.

The two museums were part of a short list of five. The other three short listed institutions are: Museums Sheffield: Weston Park, Sheffield for *With Sheba and Arwa (Belonging)*; National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth for *Face to Face: Documenting experiences of conflict*; Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums, Newcastle upon Tyne for *Culture Shock*.

Following the Clore presentation, Michael Portillo will give an overview of the Art Fund Prize and announce the winner.

For more information on the Clore Award for Museum Learning and the Art Fund Prize, visit www.artfundprize.org.uk

Ends

The Clore Duffield Foundation is chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE and has a strong focus on supporting cultural learning, particularly within museums and galleries and at heritage sites. There are 42 Clore Learning spaces in existence – or opening soon – within cultural organisations across the UK www.cloreduffield.org.uk. It is one of the founding partners of the Cultural Learning Alliance, a

collective voice working to ensure that all children and young people have meaningful access to culture
www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk.

Ten museums and galleries were originally long listed for the Clore Award. The five long listed museums that did not make the short list are:

- **Edward Jenner Museum**, Gloucestershire for *Ghosts in the Attic – From Smallpox to MMR: an attic room exhibition/installation uniting contemporary art & science*
- **Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery**, Glasgow for *Touching Lives – exploring access to collections for visually impaired young people*
- **Keats House**, London for *Stories of the World – young people exploring world cultures at Keats House and Garden*
- **The Courtauld Gallery**, London for *Animating Art History – an ongoing project which combines art history and animation for 6th Form & BTEC students from families with no prior engagement in higher education*
- **The Fruitmarket Gallery**, Edinburgh for *Air Iomlaid / On Exchange – an artist-led exhibition/education project involving children from Skye & Edinburgh exploring their language, culture and environment*

The Art Fund Prize

The Art Fund Prize is administered by The Museum Prize, a charitable company created in 2001 by representatives of National Heritage, the Museums Association and the Art Fund and chaired by Lady Cobham. These organisations agreed to put aside award schemes they formerly ran (including National Heritage's Museum of the Year) and lend their support to this single major prize.

The Art Fund Prize is sponsored by the **Art Fund**.

The Art Fund is the national fundraising charity, helping UK museums and galleries to buy, show and share art. It offers many ways of enjoying art through the National Art Pass which gives free entry to over 200 museums, galleries and historic houses across the country as well as 50% off major exhibitions. Over the past 5 years, the Art Fund has given £24 million to 248 museums and galleries to buy art. It also sponsors the UK tour of the ARTIST ROOMS collection – reaching several million people each year, and fundraises: recent campaigns include bringing in £6 million to save the Staffordshire Hoard for the West Midlands and Brueghel the Younger's *The Procession to Calvary* for Nostell Priory. It is funded entirely by its 80,000 supporters who believe great art should be for everyone to enjoy. Find out more about the Art Fund and how to buy a National Art Pass at www.artfund.org.