

APPENDIX G: EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS – WESTON JERWOOD CREATIVE BURSARIES 2017-19

Evaluation from the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries 2017-19 edition shows how the programme had an impact on three fronts by: supporting change at organisational level; having significant impact on the employment prospects of the latest Fellows; and transforming the employment potential of alumni.

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

- 71% of hosts said the programme made them think differently about recruitment and interview processes (with some host organisations widening publicity of work opportunities, simplifying application processes and making interviews more informal). One host reported: “The [programme’s recommended] recruitment process has made a real impact on our recruitment process and these insights will be of real benefit to the industry.”
- 87% of hosts said the Fellow contributed new ideas/perspectives to the organisation.

TRANSFORMING EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR THE NEW COHORT OF FELLOWS

- 90% said the programme had raised their aspirations & had increased their confidence
- 58% had never had a paid job in the arts before and 73% had never had an internship in the arts
- 88% said it had helped equip them to find a job
- 90% are currently either in a job or have set up a freelance practice
- Over half are staying on with their hosts either on a short-term or permanent contract.
- “The WJCB was an added bonus for me, it propelled me at a rate I couldn’t have done on my own - I was aware of what I wanted to do and this has affirmed that passion and well equipped me.”

TRANSFORMING EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE

- 95% of alumni responding to the survey said the programme had helped progress their careers (many stating this strongly)
- 74% said it had had an important influence on them
- Alumni are moving into leadership positions, such as Director of Chisenhale Dance Space in Tower Hamlets; Artistic Director of Birmingham's Fierce Festival; Curator at the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester; Producer with English Touring Theatre; Classical Music Programme Manager for the British Council; Arts Development Officer, Orkney Islands Council; and Creative Producer, National Science and Media Museum in Bradford. Others are developing successful freelance careers as artists, photographers, performers, musicians and producers.

With many thanks to our evaluator, Annabel Jackson Associates Ltd
<http://annabeljacksonassociates.com/>

