

Koestler Arts Mentoring

Our Mentoring Scheme supports ex-prisoners wishing to maintain their creative practice beyond release by matching successful applicants with a specially trained arts mentor.

Koestler Arts Mentors are experienced artists, writers, musicians and craftspeople. Once matched, mentors and their mentees meet between 7-10 times over a one-year period. Together they identify and work towards the mentee's goals.

Goals could include applying for a course or higher education, creating a portfolio of work, developing techniques, or getting to know the local arts community.



Kim: Kim and her mentor regularly attended major exhibitions together; something she had not felt comfortable doing previously, and which enabled her to see artwork she admired, expand her knowledge of art history and contemporary art, and take inspiration to apply to her own ongoing arts practice.

Mentoring sessions might involve going to an art exhibition, working on an application, being introduced to local artists or creative groups, or receiving feedback on your work.

If you are interested in applying or have any questions about Koestler Arts Mentoring, please contact us!



Wayne: Wayne's mentor helped him write a CV and artist statement, set up a website to promote his work, and introduced him to local galleries. He became increasingly involved with his local art scene and grew in confidence. With his mentor's support, Wayne submitted work to galleries, successfully applied for work placements, signed up with a creative agency, secured and carried out commissions, and sold his work at art fairs. Together they attended exhibitions at major galleries to gain inspiration and knowledge to apply to Wayne's own developing arts practice.



Nick: During his time as a mentee, Nick joined a local writing group, had his poetry featured in online publications, ran poetry workshops, and edited his Koestler Award-Winning poetry collection into a manuscript with which he could approach publishers. He continues to write and perform poetry, and organises poetry reading events.

Please note: Koestler Arts Mentoring is currently only available to people living and resettling in England and Wales. All artwork and poetry reproduced on this poster were made by Koestler Arts Mentees.

Write to: Outreach Department, FREEPOST KOESTLER ARTS
Email: ellie@koestlerarts.org.uk Telephone: 020 8740 0333

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