

# Good Trouble Labs - Guidance Document

## Introduction

The Good Trouble Labs are aimed at individuals and teams already working in the screen industries who are looking to explore digital storytelling and techniques.

The labs will support the diverse needs of freelancers, micro businesses and small enterprises to allow them to develop their talent in digital storytelling, through training sessions and mentoring. These will be delivered by those who have knowledge, experience and understanding of the screen industries and the essential role that diversity and inclusion plays in developing a culturally rich regional talent pipeline.

Sessions will be a combination of face to face and online. Face to face sessions will be held at the Creativity Lab at the University of York library. Good Trouble Labs will culminate in a showcase to industry experts and creative leaders in the region.

This course is funded by the Screen Industries Growth Network (SIGN), a unique business-facing initiative operating from our base at the University of York. SIGN is committed to boosting the screen industries and creative sector in the Yorkshire and Humber region, by connecting companies, support agencies and universities through a programme of training, business development, research and evaluation.

## Trainers

### Co-Directors of Vanitas Arts: Amanda Huxtable and Shirley Harris

Amanda and Shirley have over twenty years of experience, skills and understanding of the creative sector. They have a shared and unique skills set, with training and experience across theatre, arts and commercial sector reflected through joint working practices.

Over the duration of their careers, they have built networks of practitioners and academics whose own work reflects their interest and commitment to social justice, empowerment and highlighting overlooked experiences and stories.

As practitioners who have inclusion at the core of their practice, the Vanitas Arts team will bring their skills and experience to the labs in recognising the diversity of participants and

their lived experiences. They will work to enable all participants to access content, fully participate in activities and demonstrate their knowledge and strengths to empower learning and development.

## About Vanitas Arts

Vanitas Arts is a female led, Northern based digital storytelling team who work with a diverse range of professional creatives, bringing together writers, digital artists, actors, dancers and musicians, alongside creatives with pioneering technical expertise. They are Black, White, Queer and Hetero, and recognise all our LGBTQI communities. Our working class roots, commonalities & differences connect & teach us. Lived-life experiences reflect our production content.

## What will the course cover?

There are two labs available - one for entry level and one for intermediate level learners.

- **Entry level** is for those with little or no experience in the digital screen industries, but who are keen and committed to working in the screen industries.
- **Intermediate level** is for those with experience in screen industries who have an interest or idea of how they want to develop work in the digital medium.

## Entry Level Lab

The entry level lab will give you an introduction to the equipment, techniques and the real life 'making' of digital content. Course content will include:

- Definitions of digital content
- The artistic possibilities and technical challenges of a digital application for storytelling
- The role of digital technology in shaping story
- The barriers to entry into the industry and how to overcome them
- Developing original artistic productions
- Researching and implementing new digital solutions for productions
- Creating digital storyworlds for adapting stories across different environments
- Opportunities for collaboration and cross discipline participation
- Case studies from across the disciplines
- Support and funding routes in the region and UK wide
- Showcasing and evaluating work

## Intermediary Level Lab

The intermediary level lab will allow you to further explore digital storytelling. Course content will include:

- Developing collaborations
- Negotiating contracts
- Ideation
- Budgets and funding
- Vertical commissioning
- Pitches and presentations
- How to you sell your concepts
- Building your portfolio and reputation
- Developing original artistic productions
- Developing resilience
- Information on support and funding in the region and UK wide

## When does the programme run?

The programme will be delivered through a hybrid approach.

Most of the face-to-face sessions will take place in the SIGN Creativity Lab, Harry Fairhurst Building at the University of York. Lunch will be provided for the face to face sessions, with opportunities for networking alongside speakers and practitioners.

### Entry level Course Dates:

- Tuesday, 15 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 21 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 29 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 6 December, 9am - 12pm Online
- Tuesday, 13 December, 9am - 12pm Online
- Thursday, 12 January, 9am - 12pm Online
- Thursday 19 January, 9am - 12pm Online
- Friday, 27 January, 9am - 1pm Face to Face
- Thursday, 2 February, 9am - 5pm Face to Face

### Intermediary level Course Dates:

- Tuesday, 15 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 21 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 29 November, 9am -1pm Face to Face
- Tuesday, 6 December, 9am - 12pm Online
- Tuesday, 13 December, 9am - 12pm Online
- Wednesday 14 December, 9am - 1pm Online
- Wednesday 11 January, 9am - 1pm Online

- Thursday, 12 January, 9am - 12pm Online
- Thursday 19 January, 9am - 12pm Online
- Friday, 27 January, 9am - 1pm Face to Face
- Thursday, 2 February, 9am - 5pm Face to Face

## Who can apply?

SIGN's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion underpins everything we do and we aim to increase opportunities for people presently excluded from the screen industries in general and specifically across Yorkshire and the Humber. This includes disabled people, those from ethnically underrepresented backgrounds, those who identify as LGBTQ+, people from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, women and those entering the sector over the age of 35.

To apply, you must:

- Be a UK resident, or be eligible to work in the UK, have a personal UK bank account and a UK postal address
- Have a connection to Yorkshire and the Humber (for example, you could live in the region, work here, or have been educated at a Yorkshire and Humber based institution)

Applications from individuals and pairs are welcome. Participants will be expected to attend all sessions in their chosen lab level. Since places are limited, please only apply if you can commit to attend all of the sessions.

## How do I apply and what are the next steps?

In order to apply, please complete an [application form](#) (this should take approximately 30 minutes to complete).

**Application Deadline: Friday 4 November, 2022.**

Successful applicants will be notified of their place on the course by Wednesday 9 November, 2022.

Programme starts: Tuesday 15 November 2022

If you require the application form in a different format, please don't hesitate to contact [enquiries@screen-network.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@screen-network.org.uk).