

Museums & Heritage Arts Award

Discover

Museum info form

Lauderdale House

Location

Lauderdale House
Waterlow Park
Highgate Hill
London N6 5HG

Website

<http://www.lauderdalehouse.co.uk>

Art forms

- Music
- Dance
- Drama
- Storytelling
- Drawing
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Poetry
- Photography
- Live/performance art
- Arts marketing
- Curation
- Interpretation

Museum info

Lauderdale House is a multipurpose Arts and Education Centre in North London serving the local community and beyond.

A Grade II* listed building of national importance, it has been the home of many fascinating individuals throughout history. The original house was built in 1582 for Sir Richard Martin – The Lord Mayor of London. The house retains beautiful Tudor architectural details and there are rich stories about its occupants. The house has

undergone many changes under its different owners resulting in neoclassical features alongside the remains of the surviving timber-frame. In 1645 Earl of Lauderdale inherited the house (hence its name). One of the celebrated residents was Nell Gwynn, theatre actress and the mistress to King Charles II (1630-1685). It was also the home to William Mead (1628-1713), a Quaker who was famously put on trial with Quaker William Penn for holding a religious meeting with more than five people, after a fraught case it paved the way for our modern impartial judicial system. In 1882 the then owner, Sir Sydney Waterlow, the famous printer, donated Lauderdale House and park 'for the enjoyment of Londoners'.

As a hub for the arts, it runs a broad programme of performances, workshops, outreach projects, and exhibitions for all ages.

Arts Award Discover Programme

Name and theme of programme

Time Travellers: a local history study

Duration

1hr 30mins

Programme outline

The house spans a rich history of over 400 years and can be revealed by taking pupils 'back in time', through exploring the architectural features at Lauderdale as you walk through the house. For example, Tudor timber and brick work, Nell Gwynn's bath (Stewarts) and 18th century neoclassical design. The stories behind the people who were residents in the house are uncovered using archival records, photographs and, most famously, the hidden good luck charm objects consisting of chickens, shoes and candlesticks unearthed from the Tudor fireplace during restoration of the house that are now held at the Museum of London.

Activities

This will be a self-directed visit using activity sheets (trail) that follows 3 stories about the house (with additional highlights mentioned such as references to Samuel Pepys & Nell Gwynn):

1. Tudor lives and the mystery of the odd objects – this will involve looking at photographs, drawing, observations and writing activities
2. William Mead & making legal history. Drama/role-play activity

3. The Victorian - Sydney Waterlow, lending out Lauderdale as convalescent home and his legacy. Storytelling and writing activities

Producing a 'human timeline', a creative writing activity, a piece of prose and illustrated in the form of 'time-travellers' diary entries.

Objects to look out for

Statue of Sir Sidney Waterlow in the park. Bas-relief. Nell Gwynn's bath.

Photographs of archival objects including medals, the preserved chickens, shoes, goblet and candlestick holder found in the Tudor fireplace, milk bottles, Tudor Timber (romantic tale which could link the timber to the Golden Hinde) and St Barthomew's medicine bottles.

Object maker information

Nell Gwynn's bath - maker is still to be identified. Historians and freelance interpreter working on identifying the maker of Nell Gwynn's bath.

A drawing from 1858 of Lauderdale House by John Wykeham-Archer:

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=3206845&partId=1

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=3206831&partId=1&searchText=lauderdale+house&page=1

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=3206801&partId=1

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=3439528&partId=1&searchText=lauderdale+house&page=1

We do not have this picture, but we could use a print of the picture as part of the trail.