

Choosing your AMA Mentor

This presentation has been developed to provide you with accessible information to help you think about your mentor choice.

If you have any other questions please email us – cpd@museumsassociation.org#

Your AMA

The logo for the Museum Association, featuring the words "MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font centered within a solid orange square.

MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION

The AMA is a professional development award that aims to develop a well-rounded museum professional.

Your AMA is supported by a development framework, AMA support groups, guidance and one of the most important elements – a mentor.

Your mentor is your key contact during your AMA journey.

Your Mentor

During the course of your AMA you will meet with your mentor between 3-4 times a year.

The location, method, frequency of those meetings will be explored during your 'contracting' stage where you talk through both your expectations – this is your first mentor conversation.

This conversation results in an agreed Mentoring Agreement which guides your mentoring relationship.

Choosing your Mentor

Your mentor is one of the most important elements of your AMA and so you need to think about what you want or need in a mentor:

What characteristics or skills?

What experience?

What specialism?

Where are they located?

What type of museum do they work in?

Who else do they know?

Choosing your Mentor

The extent to which having someone similar to yourself or very different really does depend on **your** situation.

If you are the only person working in learning in your organisation you may want to choose a specialist in learning.

If you feel your career to date has been too narrow you may want to have a mentor from a different discipline.

You may want to find out about different museum types.

Choosing your Mentor

To have an idea about what you want can help you long-list potential mentors.

Once you have completed your Knowledge Journal and registered we will send you the Mentor List which highlights all mentors by nation and region.

Where a mentor is listed in **green** they are available.

Where a mentor is listed in **red** it means they are not available.

Choosing your Mentor

Look through your nation or region and based on what you want in a mentor create a long-list.

You may want to Google, look them up on LinkedIn or perhaps follow them on Twitter to get a better idea of their approach and recent work.

Let us know your long-list and we will then send you the detailed mentor profiles.

Choosing your Mentor

Once you have looked through the detailed mentor profiles you should be able to create a short-list.

We recommend that you prioritise and then contact your preferred mentor first and work your way down the list.

Don't worry about losing time whilst you find a mentor you can still begin to think about your CPD Plan in readiness for your first meeting.

Contacting your Mentor

Email your mentor outlining briefly who you are and your experience; what attracted you to choose them and why you think it will be a good fit.

You could attach your completed Knowledge Journal or CV to give them insights into your current experience

They will email you back either to say they are not available and/or to arrange next steps. This first conversation could be face to face or by telephone.

Contacting your Mentor

In the majority of cases this first contact will start your mentoring relationship.

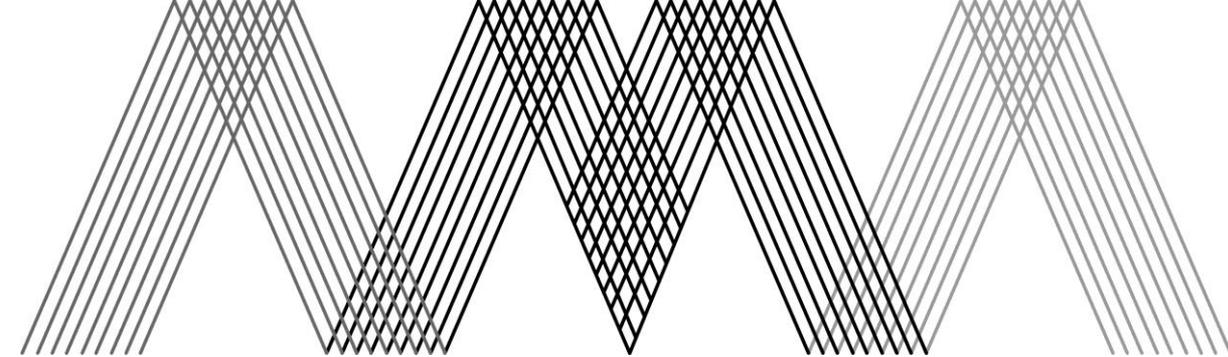
In the event that your chosen mentor doesn't think there is a good fit then they may suggest you contact another mentor on your short-list.

Equally, if you feel that they are not going to meet your needs then it is fine to let them know this and then continue down your short-list.

Choosing your Mentor

If you want more information about any of the mentors on this Mentor List or any other guidance then please contact cpd@museumsassociation.org

We are happy to give you some suggestions and advice about people that may meet your needs.



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