

Learning Styles in Gallery Education

Thursday 21 February 2008, 10:00 – 16:00

Gallery education is complex, dynamic and context-specific. There is no 'right' way of researching or evaluating it. Saville Kushner, commenting on the difficulty of evaluating arts projects, once observed that *'Evaluation – as a representation of human experience – is an intractable a problem as the art it observes and all evaluators can ever do is their best'*.

Key questions

- What is contemporary gallery education (CGE) – what activities does it embrace?
- What does CGE set out to achieve?
- How is learning framed within CGE?

Questions for seminar participants to consider in relation to the case studies and their own practice:

- Are you interested in doing research or evaluation?
- What are you more concerned with – examining process, outcomes or both?
- Why are you trying to map or assess the practice?
- Who is the evaluation for?
- Who do you want to involve in the exercise?
- What are your budget constraints and resources?
- What is the timescale?
- What challenges do you consider you might face?

Useful references:

Galloway, S. & Stanley, J. (2004) *Thinking outside the box: galleries, museums and evaluation*. *Museum and society*, 2 (2) 125 -126.
(<http://www.le.ac.uk/ms/museumsociety.html>)

Harland, J. Lord, P. Stott, A. Kinder, K. Lamont, E. Ashworth, M. (2005). *The arts-education interface: a mutual learning triangle?* Slough: National Foundation for Educational Research.

Hall, R. (2005) *The value of visual exploration: understanding cultural activities with young people*. West Bromwich, The Public.

Pringle, E. (2006). *Learning in the gallery: context, process, outcomes*, London: Arts Council England/engage. (<http://www.en-quire.org/cpd.aspx#resources>)

engage Scotland

Seminar

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For information on the Generic Learning outcomes and examples of their use:

<http://www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk>

www.le.ac.uk/museumstudies/research/rcmgpublicationsandprojects.html

Bow Arts Trust www.bowarts.org

National Museums of Scotland www.nms.ac.uk

engage, National Association for Gallery Education, exists to promote access, understanding and enjoyment of the visual arts and galleries

**engage in the
visual arts**

