

## **Astronomy Ambassadors Group Aims and Explanation**

### **Our Vision**

#### **We want to:**

- Provide opportunities for young people to engage with the Royal Observatory Greenwich in a long term setting.
- Provide opportunities for young people to develop skills that contribute to their formal and/or informal learning and career journeys.
- Provide opportunities to involve young people in the co-create Royal Observatory content to ensure our educational program is relevant for this audience.
- Showcase the creativity, skills and learnings of ambassadors developed via this program.
- Encourage group members to promote programming to family, friends and peers.

#### **We believe that:**

- Young people should have a voice in the museum - this will enable us as a museum to better understand how we can improve offerings targeted at young people.
- Young people should be provided with the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to the work that the Royal Observatory does.
- Young people can gain useful skills and knowledge from their participation in our programs and/or activities.
- Young people deserve support and the opportunity to increase their science and culture capital.

### **Why is the Astronomy Ambassadors Group needed at the Royal Observatory?**

- It fits with our strategy and provides a way of delivering outcomes we could otherwise not deliver.
- We have a social responsibility to provide a way for this audience to be able to follow on from experiences they have had with us to continue their educational journey.
- To allow our programs to be as open and accessible as possible.
- To raise science capital of young people in and around London.

#### **Benefits for attendees:**

- An opportunity to develop specialist skills outside of school or work, or that a school or work environment wouldn't be able to provide.
- An opportunity to meet other young people.
- An opportunity to see how the Astronomy Engagement team works and see behind the scenes at the Royal Observatory.
- An opportunity to gain professional experience in a work setting.
- An opportunity to develop their science and astronomy knowledge.

### **What is the age range?**

- 16-21 years

### **How will we allocate spaces in sessions?**

Although there is no cap on the number of students that can join the group, some sessions will be capped at twelve attendees. Spaces are allocated on a first come first served basis where young people must respond to a session invitation that is sent out via email.

### **Who needs parental permission?**

As defined by the Royal Museum Greenwich's Safeguarding Policy, anyone under the age of 18 is defined as a child and parental permission is required. We will ask any member defined as a child or adult at risk to provide a completed parental permission form for the purposes of safeguarding.

### **What is expected of the participants?**

- To provide a parental permission form if under the age of 18.
- Be committed and do their best to attend each session, and arrive on time if possible.
- Treat each other, and all people they interact with, politely and with respect. Any unfair or inappropriate treatment of others will not be accepted.

### **What is the role of the astronomer?**

The astronomer's role is to run the program and facilitate all sessions. They will:

- Accompany young people at all times while they are onsite.
- Answer queries that young people may have about the program.
- Encourage young people to participate in as many activities as possible.
- Guide young people through the activities and help out where needed.