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Press release: Mentoring a new generation of Oxfordshire artists

Three Oxfordshire-based cultural organisations, Oxfordshire Artweeks, OYAP Trust and OVADA, are getting together to support a new generation of visual artists in the county.

They are inviting creative professionals who have a commitment to the development of emerging visual artists in Oxfordshire to volunteer as mentors for a new cohort of emerging visual artists and support them in gaining skills and experience over the next six months as they take their first steps on a career path as fine artists.

'Who in the arts has not known how important it is to have the guidance of a good mentor? It's vitally important that we support our young artists to have a fulfilling career, or we risk losing a whole creative generation.' says Helen Le Brocq, Director of OYAP Trust.

After initial training by OYAP Trust, studio-based professionals across the county will work with young artists producing a number of collaborative artworks that will be exhibited during Oxfordshire Artweeks in May 2014.



Notes to Editors:

Oxfordshire Artweeks is Oxfordshire's largest visual arts festival, a three-week celebration in May each year of the county's artistic and creative talent, and the UK's oldest and biggest Open Studios event. *Oxfordshire Artweeks* 2014 will run from Saturday 3rd – 26th May. www.artweeks.org

OYAP Trust is an award-winning youth arts charity based in Oxfordshire with experience of mentoring young artists and developing the talents and skills of a new creative generation. www.oyap.org.uk

OVADA exists to facilitate and promote access to high quality visual arts for all the residents of and visitors to Oxfordshire, putting artists, the development of their practice and its successful promotion to audiences at the heart of their work. www.ovada.org.uk