

## Transcript

### MK Gallery - Experience

#### Voiceover:

#### **Patrick Phillips**

I'm the house manager at MK Gallery and I've been working here about three years. So I did a degree in Fine Arts BA, also Masters in Fine Arts, also studied PGCE in secondary school arts education, which I worked in for about 20 years.

Then I had a change of career, came and started working at front of house in the gallery, so the day-to-day elements in my role are ensuring that staffing is in place for the gallery to kind of operate safely. Opening up and setting up elements of the current exhibitions, whether that's AV, looking at events that we've got going on during the day, whether it's technical, setup or programming for cinema and so on.

#### **Annette Parmar**

I am the volunteer manager for MK Gallery for over three years. I built the team from nought to 220 volunteers.

I have a degree in arts, I studied art in a community context with sociology. My original plan was to be an art therapist, but I have worked in marketing, fundraising, events management and I think they all contribute to being a volunteer manager because it's all about people and community.

#### **Sam Matthews**

I'm the head of marketing and audience development at MK Gallery and I've been here for 18 months.

So I studied at the University of Leeds, I studied a degree which was called performance management, I freelanced as a stage manager for a couple of years at a local theatre, the Auburn Arena, as one of their technicians and stage management crew, the marketing manager just happened to have a vacancy as his marketing assistant, and that is really how I got into marketing. But my management degree was a really great background in terms of getting a management experience and also understanding the theatre world as well.

#### **Frankie Nielsen**

So I am the deputy director for MK Gallery and I've been here for seven months now.

I studied a BA honours in art history and fine art and I can say that it contributed to skill sets for my role, but definitely wasn't part of my career pathway.

What I would say is I did a wide range of jobs and roles in this sector, getting as much experience which all contributed to my career pathway and ultimately to become a deputy director.

#### **Charlie Baker**

So I'm the retail manager and box office manager and I've been here for eight months.

So I studied visual merchandising and so we learn all the techniques for retail. And then I went and worked on Oxford Street for 20 years as a window dresser and worked my way up and then trained as manager there to transfer my skills into this role.

So we move the fixtures around a lot in the retail space and the stock looks new and fresh and then we get in touch with a lot of local artist makers to see if we can sell their products to bring in that

community feel. I enjoy working with creative people and being within the arts and there's so many opportunities here for everyone and for people to grow, so it's a great place to work.

***Tara Sheldon***

My name is Tara Sheldon, I am the producer for public programming for children and young people. I've been at the gallery now for about 3 years.

I studied theology and primary school teacher training at university, so while that course doesn't immediately sort of linked to an art gallery, the teacher training made me aware of how children learn, how they interact.

We're really happy to work with MK College to provide real life briefs for their students. They create the outfits, the students can have real life evaluations from families and children who are trying them on and that for students is invaluable, because it means that they actually have a way to review their work that's tangible and real life.

***Roisin Callaghan***

My name is Robin Callahan. I am producer of public programs at MK Gallery for Communities and Partners. I've been here for three years.

So my role is about expanding our offer for our existing audiences and also bringing in and working with new communities to get them through our doors.

I did a foundation year in art and design, during which I volunteered at MK Gallery, which then led me to realise that I wanted to go into curation.

I then did a fine art degree for a BA and then did a Masters in art history and curation. While I was studying, I was volunteering at the same time, so that when I then entered the art world, I had a network of connections and was able to work my way into the position which I wanted which is where I am now.