

Facing the past - uncovering the legacy of slavery and history of enslaved Africans in Lancaster



The project aims to reflect, reveal, and redress omissions in our collective memory of the role Lancaster played in the transatlantic slave trade and of the enslaved people who came through, or stayed in the city.

The slave trade made a number of Lancastrians very wealthy, and their family names are reflected in the city's buildings, collections, institutions, streets and in the Priory churchyard itself, whilst the names and the stories of those enslaved remain largely unknown. We want artists to help bring our communities face to face with this part of our past, revealing the agency and actions of Black individuals in the past.

- We are looking to work with young people in schools and colleges in the region to consult them on their thoughts, feelings and opinions on how to memorialise these important histories, and how? You will take part in our 6 session programme, meeting historians, artists, creatives, community leaders and activists who can share their experience to help you reach informed decisions. The outcome of this experience will be a presentation to the Facing the Past steering group where you will present your set of guidelines for the steering group to work in accordance to for future work on the project -

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Guest speakers include:

- Professor Griselda Pollock - Professor of Social and Critical Histories of Art at the University of Leeds
- Lela Harris - artist
- Professor Alan Rice - Director of the UCLan Research Centre in Migration, Diaspora and Exile and Co-Director of the Institute for Black Atlantic Research
- Lancaster Black History Group
And more TBC...

This pioneering project is a nationally one of a kind project exploring the pervasiveness of the legacy of the slave trade today in our local area.

