



Centre for Learning Disability Education

Courses for people with learning
disabilities

2025-26

Winner of the Inclusive Provider of Adult
Education Award at the 2022 Mayor of London
adult learning awards



About Us

Welcome to our course offer for 2025/26. We have over 45 years of experience teaching people with learning disabilities from all over London and beyond. Our classes are all arts based, providing an environment for students to develop their creativity. Students negotiate their personal learning goals with the tutor, and classroom activities encourage independence and choice-making for the wide spectrum of our learners. Our courses include regular visits to galleries and museums, opportunities to perform to audiences, and to collaborate with diverse arts organisations like the Royal Academy of Art, Outside In gallery and the Royal Academy of Music.

Term Dates 2025-26

Term 1

Monday Sept 22 – Friday Oct 24

Break week: Oct 27 – Oct 31

Monday Nov 3 – Friday Dec 5

Term 2

Monday Jan 12 – Friday Feb 13

Break week: Feb 16– 20

Monday Feb 23 – Friday Mar 27

Term 3

Monday April 13 – Friday May 22

Break week: May 25 – 29

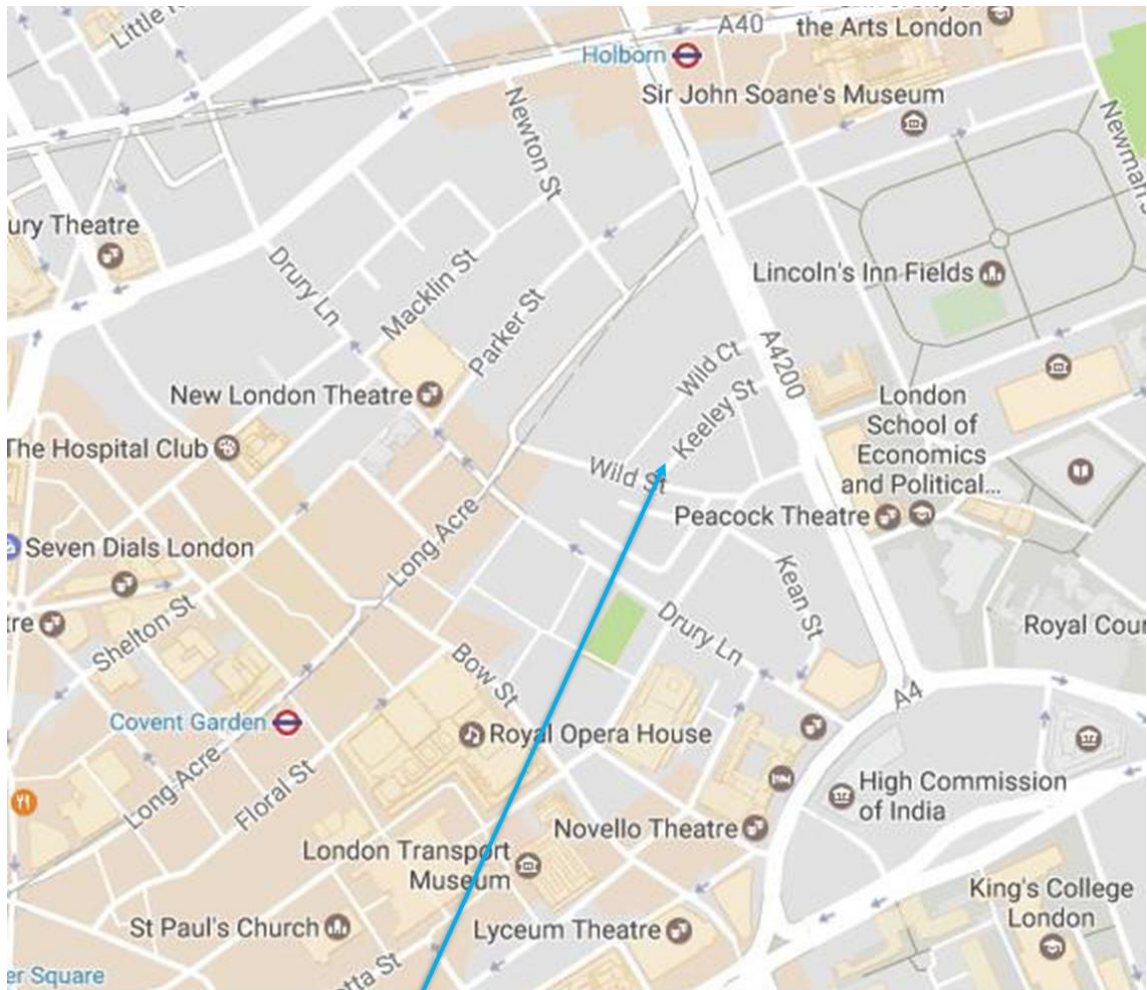
Monday June 1 – Friday June 26

Term 3 Monday classes end on June 29

Our 30-week courses offer outstanding value at £3.65 an hour.

Fees for our 2 hour classes for the year are £219,
and for our 4 hour classes £439

How to Find Us



The City Lit is at 1-10 Keeley Street, London **WC2B 4BA**, midway between Holborn and Covent Garden tube Stations.

Buses to Holborn and Kingsway: 1, 59, 68, 91, 188, 243, SL6.

About our courses

This is our course offer for 2025-26



Our classes are for adults with a learning disability.



Email us at

learningdisability@citylit.ac.uk

for an application form



We will invite you to an interview. You can tell us what you want to learn, It's your choice.



If you're new to our programme, you can try out a class for two sessions to see if it's right for you.



We expect you to attend class every week.



Be on time!



We have experienced subject tutors to teach you



We want you to enjoy your time here

Mon



Inclusive Choir
10.30-12.30 pm
Room 101



Photography
10.30-12.30 pm
Room 301



Performance Art
1.30-3.30 pm
Room 109

Tue



Discover Music
10.30-12.30 pm
Theatre



Art of London
10.30-12.30 pm
Room M03



Art of Science
1.30-3.30 pm
Room M03

Wed



Art Workshop
10.30 – 3.30 pm
Room 302



Percussion Orchestra
10.30 – 3.30 pm
Theatre

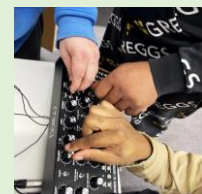
Thur



Video Stories
10.30-12.30 pm
Room 301



Dance
1.30-3.30 pm
Room 109



Sound Art
1.30-3.30 pm
Room M03

Fri



Soundscapes
10.30-12.30 pm
Room 309



Discover Art
10.30-12.30 pm
Room 302



Mixed Media Art
1.30-3.30 pm
Room 302



Inclusive Choir

with Sam Poppleton

SD134

ROYAL ACADEMY
OF MUSIC 200

Monday
10.30-12.30 pm
In room 101



Sept 22nd – June 29th

£219

Explore your voice with singers from the Royal Academy of Music

Create new and original
music in the group

Learn to sing songs old
and new



Gain confidence and make choices

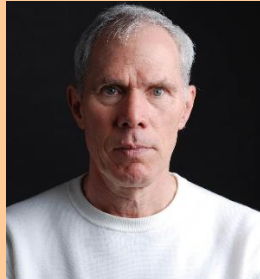
Improve your performance skills and
present your music to an audience



Photography SD126

with Michael Harding

Monday
10.30 am-12.30
pm
In room 301



Sept 22nd – June 29th

£219

Get skillful at taking pictures with your smartphone or digital camera provided.



Edit your pictures by cropping and adding effects and filters.

Print your pictures for people to look at in a book or an exhibition.





Performance Art

with Marcus Orlandi

SD102

Monday
1.30-3.30pm
In room 109



Sept 22nd – June 29th

£219

Your body and everyday objects can be sculptures - use them to create a piece of performance art



Explore body shapes and actions

Use objects and art materials as part of a performance

Perform in front of an audience - you could make a video too

Find out about famous performance artists for inspiration





Discover Music SD103

with Alex Thomas



Tuesday
10.30-12.30pm
In the Theatre

Sept 23rd – June 23rd

£219

A foundation course for students new to music making. You will discover a range of musical instruments and study the basic building blocks of music



Try out different instruments and find the right one for you

Learn to listen and respond in a group to develop musicianship skills

Use your voice and learn to sing in a group



Art of Science SD120 with Alex Thomas

Tuesday
1.30-3.30pm
In room M03



Sept 23rd - June 23rd

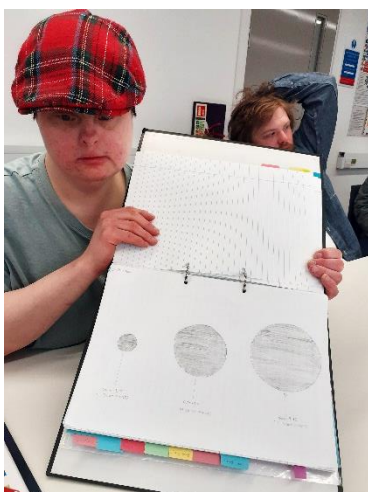
£219

Explore science subjects using your creativity, discuss and share your ideas and science news

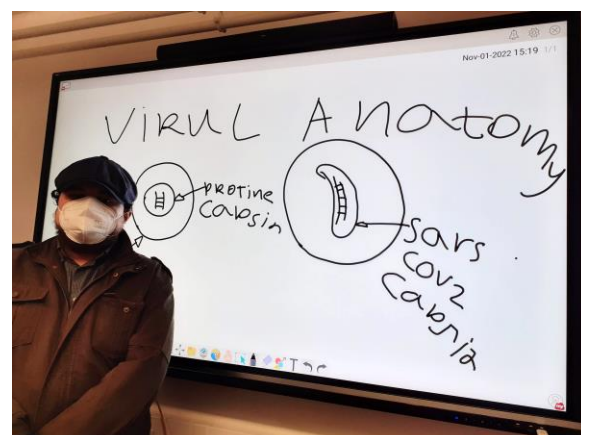


What shapes and patterns can you see in the world around you?

Visit museums and do experiments



Present your work and ideas to the class





Art of London SD127

with Michael Donlevy

Tuesday
10.30 – 12.30pm
In room M03



Sept 23rd - June 23rd

£219

Visit galleries and museums in central London every fortnight
Make drawings, take photos and make videos on visits



Work on personal
research projects and
share with the class

Make a piece of work
with the group and
share your interests





Art Workshop SD125 with Michael Donlevy



Sept 24th - June 24th

£439

**Wednesday
10.30-3.30pm
In room 302**



For students with a recognized ability in drawing and painting who want to extend their skills and knowledge in new directions



Build a portfolio of work and participate in a group project

Visit galleries and museums for ideas and inspiration.

There is an annual opportunity to show your work in an exhibition and online.



Percussion Orchestra

SD140

with Alex Thomas

Patron: Dame Evelyn Glennie



Wednesday
10.30-3.30pm
In the Theatre

Sept 24th - June 24th

£439

This class is for students with a recognised instrumental ability



Picture by Frances Marshall



Make music with students
from the Royal Academy of
Music

Listen and respond to group
members.
Perform your music in front of
an audience.



Video Stories

SD119

with Fiona Walsh

Thursday
10.30 – 12.30pm
in room 301



Sept 25th-June 25th

£219

Make a video about a favourite subject and tell your story



Learn to use a video camera and record sound on location

Research and prepare presentations



Work on a group video project

Learn about lighting and editing



Sound Art

with Paul Chivers

SD138

Thursday
1.30-3.30pm
In room M03



Sept 25th - June 25th

£219

Explore sound, music and noise and create soundtracks



Learn how to use synthesizers, computers and microphones

Record your sounds and make changes to them using effects

Share your sounds on SoundCloud



There's No Such Thing As Normal X64os - B

crazynoizyot

1 year ago

Sound Art





Dance

with Francis Angol

SD128

Thursday
1.30-3.30pm
In room 109



Sept 25th – June 25th

£219

Learn dance and movement skills and create a dance piece in a group



Learn about
contemporary
dance styles and
techniques

Improve your
fitness and
wellbeing

Gain confidence
and perform your
dance piece in
front of an
audience





Soundscapes

with Alex Thomas

SD146

Friday
10.30-12.30pm
In room 309



Sept 26th– June 26th

£219

Compose your music with computers, keyboards and synthesizers



Record yourself using a microphone

Edit and arrange your sounds

Share your sounds with the class
and get feedback

Share your work on Soundcloud

 **tori golden tory**
Soundscapes at City Lit

17 days ago



2:52



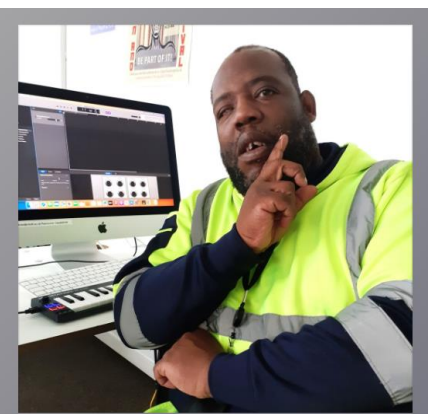
 **8 Bars by Richie Slick**
Soundscapes at City Lit

10 months ago

Storytelling



0:18 4:56





Discover Art SD116

with Michael Donlevy

Friday
10.30am-12.30pm
In room 302



Sept 26th – June 26th

£219

This is a foundation course for students with an interest in developing art skills



Explore a wide range of art materials and techniques

Find inspiration from the internet and art reference books

Share and talk about your work





Mixed Media Art

SD104

with Renata Minoldo



Sept 26th – June 26th

Friday
1.30-3.30 pm
In room 302

£219

This is a course for students with an ability and interest in expanding their art skills



Use different kinds of materials and techniques like cutting, tearing and gluing to make art

Explore using textiles and 3D in your work

Take part in a group project on a chosen theme



About our team

Michael has over thirty years' experience of advocating for the education of adults with learning disabilities. As Head of Learning Disabilities Education at City Lit he leads a programme which offers a unique, creative arts-based education for students with learning disabilities. He studied Fine Art at Edinburgh College of Art and Goldsmiths College London followed by a PGCE at the Institute of Education. Michael is a Trustee on the board of Community Living Magazine.



Alex is a tutor coordinator and teaches Soundscapes, Percussion Orchestra, Discover Music and Art of Science. He is from the typically English tradition of Fine Artist (Slade School of Art/Chelsea) who got involved in sound and composition, and performs music with orchestras including, recently, CoMA ensemble, with a focus on violin. His Fine Art background informs his interest in developing alternative ways of creating music that are contemporary and inclusive.

Marcus is a textile and performance artist based in London. He creates movement based performances that cross slapstick, sculpture and dance with his influences ranging from historical performance art from the 1960's to the silent films of Buster Keaton and the strange world of professional wrestling. He has performed at Camden Arts Centre, Camden Peoples Theatre, Artsadmin and The London Art Fair. He was a recipient of the Kingsgate Emerging Artist Award and has curated a number of performance art events across London.



Sam is a singer, conductor and musical facilitator. He is a graduate of Oxford University and King's College London, the founder of Zeitgeist Chamber Orchestra and one half of The Classical Music Pod. He has taught singing to groups of all ages and abilities, worked with La Folia charity on special educational projects, and continues to lead a song-writing choir at All Saints Fulham. Sam has composed for London Cinema Museum, St George's Cathedral Southwark and fused 90s Rock with 16th Lute music for the Classical Transmission concert series.

Renata is an artist and educator exploring body memories, art as a healing practice and slow crafts by making objects and facilitating experiences with people. She works with a wide variety of media including textiles, ceramics and natural dyes and aims to make her practice accessible, sustainable and circular. Renata is interested in alternative ways to approach art education, aiming to stimulate intuitive learning and focusing on the individual processes and needs, as well as in collective connection. At City Lit she has been working as a Textiles Tutor since 2018 and has been recently appointed as a Mixed Media Art tutor within the learning disabilities department. Her work has been awarded with residencies internationally

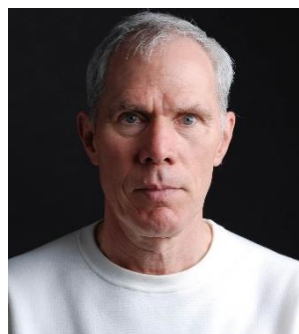
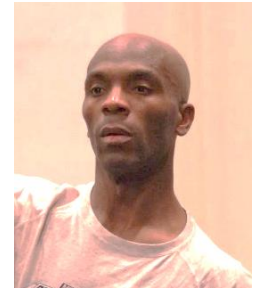


<https://www.renataminoldo.com/>



Paul says: I have spent most of my adult life playing with sound, making music, and helping others to do the same. In the late 1980's, with half a megabyte of digital memory, I played my own compositions at clubs and parties around the M25 and I taught my first music technology class in 1990. I was a student of jazz drummer and pedagogue John Stevens, and I've studied with West African, Brazilian, and Cuban drummers. My interest in audio editing and in performing has brought me into the world of sound art, leading to a masters degree. I have taught mostly for Community Music, WAC Arts, and now at The City Lit and the Guildhall, where I am a professor of Electronic and Produced Music. I have run three recording studios and now like to spend time enjoying the countryside and the sounds of nature.

Francis is a dance specialist with over 35 years of working in arts education, and performance practice. Trained in various modern and traditional dance styles, Francis synthesises his accumulated knowledge of dance and the arts with that of his lived experience, to help individuals bring about clarity, meaning and understanding to their mental and physical flow through movement and dance.



Michael is an award winning photographer from Canada. He studied cinema and photography at Concordia University, Montreal before moving to the UK. Since then, he has created striking images of architecture, art, people and landscapes for use in editorial, advertising and corporate applications. Michael also works on fine art projects for exhibition and publication and has exhibited in the UK and Canada.

Fiona is an artist practitioner, working as a Tutor and Digital Arts Technician at the City Lit since 2017. She previously trained and worked in the Film Industry for twenty years and has worked on productions of feature films through to TV Dramas and Documentaries. She also makes her own films which range from music videos, experimental films and dramas through to documentaries. She studied Fine Art at UAL in 2012. She brings her Fine Art, Film and Wellbeing knowledge and experience to all her teaching.



Our Partnerships

Many of our students have benefited from our partnerships, performing at famous venues and working on projects with renowned Arts organisations. Our work with Books Beyond Words has allowed students to learn about relationships, wellbeing and employment opportunities.

ROYAL ACADEMY
OF MUSIC 200



What parents, students and carers say about the City Lit:

“The quality of the teaching is outstanding on the courses accessed by my son.”

“Hands down, it is the best thing our son has ever experienced from the education system. We are very grateful to you all.”

“I do not know of another provider that provides what City Lit does. The dedication of the staff has always impressed us as a family and the end of year performance shows clearly what the students achieve and no other provider has done that.”

“I went through a period when I wasn’t interested in science much but this class has got me interested again, especially the question of what is reality and the purpose of things, like humans, computers and viruses”

“City Lit courses have an excellent core philosophy of listening to the students and allowing the students to speak for themselves, treating people as adults.”

“The impact on my son’s life has been enormous! He has found his confidence. He has always been encouraged and City Lit is the only place where he really feels part of the world. His life has been greatly enriched by coming to the City Lit.”