

Internship Title:	Christmas Lectures Assistant
Date	March 2020
Location:	Albemarle St, London
Contract type:	3-month full-time (35 hour) internship Payment through University/Research Council Stipend September to December 2020

Background

The Ri is an independent charity dedicated to creating opportunities for everyone to think more deeply about science and its place in our lives. For over 200 years, our wonderful building, has been home to some of the most eminent scientists in history, and we have hosted more public events in the past year than ever before.

We provide science education and heritage activities for people of all ages and backgrounds across the UK and around the world. These activities include the world-famous CHRISTMAS LECTURES; public talks from the world's greatest thinkers in our historic lecture theatre; a national programme of Masterclasses for young people in mathematics, engineering and computer science; hands-on science workshops in our L'Oréal Young Scientist Centre; animations and films from our award-winning video production team and the preservation of our scientific legacy through the Faraday Museum and archival collections.

Find out more at <https://www.youtube.com/user/theroyalinstitution>.

The project and the role of the CHRISTMAS LECTURES Assistant

This placement will involve joining the Ri at its busiest and most exciting time of year; the planning, filming and broadcast of the CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

Started by Michael Faraday in 1825, and now broadcast on national television every year, the CHRISTMAS LECTURES are the UK's flagship science series. The three-part series is filmed in front of a live audience in the Ri's famous lecture theatre and watched by millions on the BBC over the festive period and on BBC iPlayer and the Ri YouTube channel afterwards.

The intern will be a key part of the delivery team for the lectures, working alongside the Ri Team. They will assist with preparations for the creation, development and implementation of the CHRISTMAS LECTURES and associated activities. The role will involve working with the Ri team, a TV production company, partner organisations around the UK, and a variety of unpredictable children, animals, academics and props.

Every day will be different but potential tasks and responsibilities include helping to coordinate the multiple partners who come together to make the Lectures happen. This may include researching items for scripts, sourcing and building props, and managing events. There may be heavy lifting or access to hazardous material, but full Risk Assessments will be carried out and training and support given where necessary.

The intern will also be provided with opportunities to work with Ri staff working in other departments, so they end their placement with a full understanding of how the Ri meets its mission.



Who are we looking for?

This placement would be ideal for anyone interested in learning more about science communication and informal education through demonstrations, live events, and mass media. There is no need to have any prior TV or presenting experience, but the following experience is highly desirable:

- Experience working on projects with multiple stakeholders to a rigid timetable.
- Experience of taking science communication and/or informal education projects from conception through to delivery

Practicalities

This is a three-month placement running from end of September to end of December. It will be based at the Royal Institution in Mayfair, London and the intern will be supervised by the Head of Education. The placement is full-time, 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday with occasional evening and weekend work. The intern will be paid by a Stipend from the University/DTP/Research Council.

As the position involves working with young people, the post holder will be required to undergo an Enhanced DBS clearance and related checks as mandated by UK laws and regulations.

This opportunity is only open to PhD students who are eligible to undertake an internship as part of their studentship and receive a stipend from their Doctoral Training Programme (DTP). Please check with your university/DTP to ensure funding is available before applying for this internship.

Please note there is no formal agreement in place between RI and UKRI, and each placement will be reviewed by the grant holder and approved at their discretion. You will need to obtain the grant holder's written permission to undertake the placement, outlining any funding arrangements, before a position can be offered

To apply please send your CV to recruitment@ri.ac.uk, along with a short supporting statement, no longer than 500 words, to explain why you are interested in the internship and how you meet the experience set out above.

Please also complete the Recruitment Monitoring Form and return this along with your application.

Read the Science Magazine article on the career benefits of expanding your skills through a professional internship [here](#)

<http://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2017/06/through-internships-phd-students-expand-their-skills-and-explore-their-options>

The Ri is an Equal Opportunities Employer

