

ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE

PROFESSOR SIMON MORRIS FOLDING THE PAGE





KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK DATA COLLECTION

February 2023

The University's Research & Enterprise Service has requested information on knowledge exchange and engagement with the public and communities. Please complete the form below and return it to Professor Simon Morris (S.DC.Morris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) and Dr Tina Conkar (t.conkar@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) by 21 February 2023.

Many thanks for your support with information gathering for this submission.

Name:	Professor Simon Morris
Job Title:	Director of Research: Art & Design
Email:	S.DC.Morris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk
School:	Leeds School of Arts

Please use the template below to detail information on all projects you have undertaken since 1 January 2019 that involved public and community engagement. Please use one form per project.

Project Title:	'Folding the Page' - Origami Bottari book making workshops			
Project Date(s):	July 2022			
URL Link to Project:	https://vimeo.com/687465144			
Brief Description of Project (250-1000 words max.)				
In the field below please give a brief outline of the project and what it entailed.				

Professor Simon Morris, Director of Research at Leeds Beckett University's Leeds School of Arts worked with 246 primary school children across Yorkshire to deliver engaging art workshops.

Professor Simon Morris with Zara Worth and Tom Rogers from Leeds Beckett University hosted workshops at six primary schools across Bradford and Selby to teach origami bookbinding to primary school children as a cultural enrichment activity to develop their craft skills and introduce them to the Japanese art form.

The project and workshops are part of a collaboration between Leeds Beckett University, Professor Adam Smyth, Oxford University and Dr Gill Partington, Fellow in Book History at the Institute of English Studies, University of London alongside Tate Britain and Chelsea College of Arts.





Professor Simon Morris, said, "At Leeds Beckett University, we work to make a positive difference to the lives of others. We hope the cultural enrichment workshops play a small part in the vision for our organisation."

"Teaching 246 primary school children in six primary schools in Bradford and Selby how to make their own special origami book and introducing them to the work of South Korean contemporary artist Kimsooja was a real privilege. Just the look of absolute delight and wonder on the faces of the children when they completed their book design was more than enough to make this activity feel completely worthwhile."

"We've engaged the children in creative paper-folding, developing their craft skills and teaching them the history behind the art, including furthering their knowledge of the contemporary artist Kimsooja whose brilliant art inspired these outreach workshops."

The workshops will accompany the launch of Issue three of *Inscription: The Journal of Material Text* on 'Folds' focusing on the structure fundamental to the very existence of the book, which historically involved the complex origami of large, printed sheets folded into books. The journal is edited by Professor Simon Morris, Dr Gill Partington and Professor Adam Smyth.

The Inscription journal will feature creative pages which showcase the art and history of origami and will be displayed at the Tate Britain in London and Chelsea College of Arts once completed.

During the project, Professor Simon Morris, Tom Rodgers and Zara Worth attended six schools across Yorkshire.

Organisations Engaged with: Please list the names of any organisations engaged with, such as Schools or Community Groups.	Friday 01 st July 2022, 09:00-12:00, Staynor Hall Primary Academy , Staynor Link, Selby YO8 8GE, 26 year 6 children, contact: Alexandra Winter, Interim Headteacher	Total participants: Please give an approximate figure for the number of people who engaged with your project.	246 school children across six Schools.
	Monday 04 th July, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bradford, BD5 0RB, 48 children booked		





into the botari book-making workshop, contact: Amy Fox, Art & Design Technology coordinator

Wednesday 6th July, 09:00-12:00, **Camblesforth Community Primary Academy**, Selby YO8 8HW, 26
year 5 & 6 children and 4 Year 4 children, contact: Dave
Card, Headteacher

Friday 08th July 2022, 09:00-12:00, **Brotherton & Byram Community Primary Academy**, Low Street, Brotherton, Knottingley, West Yorkshire, WF11 9HQ, 26 year 6 children, contact: Bev Fletcher, Headteacher

Tuesday 12th July 2022, **Girlington Primary School**, Girlington Road, Girlington, BRADFORD, BD8 9NR, 60 children in Year 5, contact: Clare Buckley, UKS2 Phase Leader

Wednesday 13th July 2022, **Feversham Primary Academy**, Harewood St, Bradford BD3 9EG, 60 children in Year 5 Contact: Alisa Yates

Knowledge Exchange Outcomes: If relevant, in brief, please describe any knowledge exchange outcomes such as new approaches to working with a community.

Creative enrichment for level five and six primary school children. Workshops led by Morris, Partington and Smyth, each experienced not only as critics, scholars and curators, but also as teachers working with non-traditional audiences. The fold is a crucial concept here in reaching these new audiences as it is both familiar and everyday (we all fold pages) and richly suggestive (for instance, if text is organised across the fold, rather than the page break, how does it change?). The workshops will lead children through a series of origami and basic bookbinding activities. There are two main ambitions here. First, the children will develop their own practical craft skills, and, as a result, their patience, care, and confidence. Second, workshop leaders will encourage





children to take inspiration from the work of internationally renowned South
Korean artist Kimsooja, fostering in children a sense that works produced by
artists are relevant, alive and available as models for their own creativity and
thinking.

Quotes

In the field below please include any relevant quotes that you would like to share which evidence the knowledge exchange and engagement your project received.

Alisa Yates, the Art & Design, Specialist Teacher and Practise Educator at Feversham Primary Academy said:

"I cannot say it enough and the fact the children didn't want to go for lunch, just says it all, the children absolutely loved it and I have some quotes that the children would like to share with you, Tom and Zara.

I liked it because it had cool shapes when you opened it. It was hard but then I got to making it and then it was easy!

I loved making the Bottari. It was super fun!

I loved the day when I made the Bottari book, it was the most creative project ever!

I liked it because it was new to me and I think it was very interesting!

I loved the bit when you had to fold it!

I really enjoyed making the origami book because it was unique.

I like the cover of the book. Xxxxx"

Images

In the field below please include any relevant images you would like to share.



















