

Reference Group Members (In Alphabetical Order)

Dawn Cameron

Dawn is a self-employed researcher, project manager and evaluator working primarily in the creative arts and cultural sectors. She has attained Masters of Arts degrees in Social and Public Policy and in Creative Writing and combines those areas of artistic and academic interest in her self-employed assignments. She is interested in working on projects which seek to deliver social and cultural change and which enable individuals to engage in creative practice.

Over the past 15 years she has been engaged by clients to carry out several research and evaluation assignments, mainly in the areas of the arts, cultural policy and heritage.

Jasjit Singh

Associate Professor, University of Leeds

Areas of expertise: Religion; Diaspora; Sikh Issues; Religion and Media; Religious extremism; Religion and Identity; Religion and Racialization; Religion and Race; Religion and Representation

Jason Allen-Paissant

Lecturer in Caribbean Poetry and Decolonial Thought, University of Leeds

Areas of expertise: theatre studies; performance studies; African diaspora studies; poetics; critical race theory; performance and justice

Joe Williams

Actor/writer and director of Heritage Corner, exploring African heritage in Yorkshire, since 2014. Joe is a founding member of several community and arts groups, with a focus on education, since the 1980's and has performed nationally. In 2015 he took his one man show – on Pablo Fanque, Victorian circus owner of African heritage, buried in the grounds of Leeds University – to New York.

Khadijah Ibrahiim

Khadijah was born in Leeds of Jamaican parentage. Educated at the University of Leeds, she is a literary activist, theatre maker and published writer, who combines' inter-disciplinary art forms to re-imagine poetry as performance theatre. Khadijah is currently performing at Leeds Playhouse.

Laura King

Associate Professor in Modern British History, University of Leeds

Areas of expertise: The history of families, emotional relationships, gender, the life cycle and everyday life in twentieth-century Britain; public history and collaborative methodologies in research.

Olivia Wyatt

Black British History MA. Researcher for the Young Historians Project and Harewood House Trust Current research interests include: Caribbean slavery, British colonial history, and twentieth-century Caribbean and Black British history.

Susan Pitter (Chair)

Leeds based Susan is a freelance communications and partnerships specialist and arts and heritage project producer. As well as corporate and cultural sector communications experience in the UK, she has worked in International PR in Jamaica and has spearheaded some of the biggest events in Leeds working with clients and partners including Leeds City Council, Leeds Carnival 50, Leeds BID, Leeds 2023 and others.

Committed to producing excellent work and partnerships that tell invisible and under-represented stories and traditions of her own Jamaican heritage and Black British experience, Susan conceptualised the 2019 Jamaica Society Leeds Eulogy Project, curating the most popular exhibition to be held in Leeds Central Library's 130 year plus history and writing the accompanying acclaimed Eulogy book.

Susan is fervently and proudly family-oriented and a lover of Caribbean literature.