

UFI is now accepting applications for the 4th edition of the Next Generation Leadership Grant programme

Paris – 27 November 2018: UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry, has launched its 2019 Next Generation Leadership (NGL) Grant and is inviting talented industry professionals from around the world to apply.

Now in its fourth year, the UFI NGL Grant promotes next generation leadership in the exhibition industry, rewarding professionals who demonstrate clear initiative in driving change and innovation in their area of activity.

The 2019 NGL Grant is open to anyone who works full time in the exhibition industry, and has done so for no more than ten years. The programme is spread over a period of 18 months, allowing the grant winners to continue to fulfil their daily work obligations.

“The NGL Grant reflects UFI’s commitment to recognising and supporting the best talent in the exhibition industry and I encourage everyone to take a good look within their own teams and encourage young professionals to step forward and apply,” says Kai Hattendorf, UFI Managing Director and CEO.

A cultural transformation for the next generation

Grant recipients from the first three years have praised the programme, and many of them have since seen their careers progressing fast.

“The NGL Grant was a fantastic opportunity for me to see the exhibition industry from a variety of perspectives. It broadened my views on the industry as a whole and allowed me to extract valuable knowledge from a diverse range of industry professionals. It truly was a fantastic experience,” shares Glen Foulstone, Senior Project Manager at Global Experience Specialists (GES) and one of the 2018 NGL Grant winners.

Exclusive mentoring programme

UFI will award grants to up to five future leaders who have shown exceptional initiative in driving change and innovation in their area of the exhibition industry. Together, the winners will investigate the future of exhibitions, working closely with the team at UFI headquarters in Paris. They will present their findings in a special session at the 86th UFI Global Congress in Bangkok (Thailand) – the exhibition industry’s leading annual global event.

Following the UFI Global Congress, the grant winners enter into an executive level mentoring. In a safe and confidential environment, they are able to learn, brainstorm, test ideas and discuss work-related challenges and opportunities. UFI will support the matchmaking process and offer additional guidance throughout the mentoring programme.

The grant covers the travel and accommodation needed to attend the UFI European Conference in Birmingham (UK) on 15-17 May and the UFI Global Congress on 6-9 November 2019.

Applications are open until 1 March 2019. More information is available online; <https://www.ufi.org/awards/ufi-next-generation-leadership-grant/>.

About UFI – The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry: UFI is the leading global association of the world's tradeshow organisers and exhibition centre operators, as well as the major national and international exhibition associations, and selected partners of the exhibition industry. UFI's main goal is to represent, promote and support the business interests of its members and the exhibition industry. UFI directly represents around 50,000 exhibition industry employees globally, and also works closely with its 58 national and regional association members. More than 780 member organisations in 86 countries around the world are presently signed up as members. Over 1000 international trade fairs proudly bear the UFI approved label, a quality guarantee for visitors and exhibitors alike. UFI members continue to provide the international business community with a unique marketing media aimed at developing outstanding face-to-face business opportunities.

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