

dataland

STUDENT TOUR GUIDE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

■ INAUGURAL COHORT 2026-2027

The DATALAND Student Tour Guide Program is a year-long museum education and public engagement initiative for exceptional undergraduate and graduate students interested in the intersections of art, technology, science, design, and culture.

Student Tour Guides are trained to lead engaging, research-informed tours of DATALAND, helping visitors explore the ideas, technologies, and creative processes behind the world’s first Museum of AI Arts. Working closely with DATALAND’s Learning Team, artists, researchers, and technologists, participants develop expertise in public speaking, interpretation, visitor engagement, and the communication of complex ideas. As members of the founding cohort, participants will help establish a new model of museum education for the age of artificial intelligence.

The program is competitive. For its inaugural year, DATALAND will select only 12 Student Tour Guides from various backgrounds and departments.

■ ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Student Tour Guides serve as ambassadors for DATALAND, helping visitors engage with immersive artworks, emerging technologies, and some of the most important cultural questions of our time. Rather than memorizing scripts, Tour Guides learn a shared interpretive framework developed by DATALAND’s Learning Team and develop their own approaches to facilitating discussion and engaging diverse audiences by leveraging their own disciplinary expertise. Through training, mentorship, and hands-on experience, participants learn how to connect visitors with the artistic, scientific, and philosophical ideas that shape DATALAND’s exhibitions.

■ ABOUT DATALAND

DATALAND is the world’s first Museum of AI Arts, dedicated to exploring the creative potential of artificial intelligence through immersive experiences, research, education, and public dialogue.

This program reflects DATALAND’s commitment to cultivating the next generation of cultural leaders, educators, and communicators at the intersection of art, science, and technology.

For more information on DATALAND, please visit: <https://dataland.art/>

■ PROGRAM STRUCTURE

■ Phase 1: Foundations, Interpretation & Training

The program begins with 4 weeks of training focused on the artistic, technological, and educational foundations of DATALAND.

Through seminars, workshops, gallery sessions, and mentorship meetings, Student Tour Guides explore:

- DATALAND’s mission, exhibitions, and technologies
- Contemporary art and immersive experiences
- Artificial intelligence and creative technology
- Public speaking and facilitation techniques
- Interpretive strategies for exhibition tours
- Current conversations surrounding AI, creativity, ethics, and society

Throughout the training period, participants work closely with DATALAND educators to build a deep understanding of the museum’s exhibitions and educational goals. Using a shared tour outline and interpretive framework, Student Tour Guides develop the knowledge, confidence, and communication skills needed to engage museum audiences. The training session concludes with practice tours, peer feedback sessions, and evaluations that prepare participants for public-facing responsibilities.

■ Phase 2: Guided Public Engagement & Tour Leadership

Student Tour Guides assume primary responsibility for leading tours and educational experiences.

Participants may lead:

- Public museum tours
- University and school group visits
- Community engagement programs
- Special exhibition events
- Educational programs for visiting groups

As representatives of DATALAND, Student Tour Guides help visitors engage critically and creatively with the museum’s exhibitions while fostering meaningful dialogue around the future of art, technology, and human creativity. Regular mentorship meetings and feedback sessions continue to support each participant’s growth and development

■ Phase 3: Special Projects & Program Reflection

The final phase of the program offers opportunities for Student Tour Guides to contribute to DATALAND’s broader educational initiatives.

Participants may assist with:

- Educational and interpretive materials
- Digital content and social media projects
- Visitor engagement initiatives

- Public programs and special events
- Future Student Tour Guide recruitment and training

■ **Phase 4: Extending Beyond the Program Period**

At the conclusion of the program, students will be given the option to stay on as Tour Guides on an as-needed basis. At this stage, students will be able to set their own schedule, taking on tour commitments when it best fits their schedule. To maintain their status as an active DATA LAND tour guide, they will need to complete at least 3 tours per month.

PHASE	DATES	ACADEMIC CALENDAR	HOURS
Recruitment (pre-program)	Sept 21–Oct 21, 2026	Fall weeks 0–4	—
Phase 1: Foundations, Interpretation & Training	Oct 26–Nov 20, 2026	Fall weeks 5–8	24 (2 × 3-hr sessions/week)
Break	Nov 23, 2026–Jan 3, 2027	Fall weeks 9–10, fi-nals, winter break	0
Phase 2: Guided Public Engagement & Tour Leadership	Jan 4–Mar 12, 2027	Winter quarter, weeks 1–10	60 (6/week)
Break	Mar 13–28, 2027	Winter finals, spring break	0
Phase 3: Special Projects & Program Reflection	Mar 29–Jun 4, 2027	Spring quarter, weeks 1–10	60 (6/week, tours continue with projects layered in)
Phase 4: Extending Beyond the Program Period	Jun 14, 2027 on-ward	Post-program, as-needed	3+ tours/month, self-scheduled

■ **WHAT STUDENT TOUR GUIDES GAIN**

- Knowledge of contemporary art, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies
- Public speaking and presentation skills
- Visitor engagement and facilitation techniques
- Leadership and collaboration skills
- Confidence communicating complex ideas to diverse audiences
- Experience working alongside artists, educators, researchers, and technologists
- Year-long training and mentorship

- Professional development opportunities
- Access to special museum programs and events
- Certificate of completion
- Leadership and public engagement experience

■ ELIGIBILITY

- Undergraduate juniors or seniors enrolled at UCLA
- Graduate students enrolled in a master's or doctoral program
- Available to participate throughout the academic year
- Able to attend in-person training sessions and tours at DATALAND in Los Angeles
- Available 6 hours per week

■ TIME COMMITMENT AND COMPENSATION

- Approximately 6 hours per week
- There will be scheduling flexibility, excluding the trainings which will be set in advance and mandatory for all participants
- Students will be able to set their own tour schedules
- Hourly rate will be \$21 for undergraduates, \$25 for graduate students

■ FALL QUARTER TIMELINE

- Applications open the week of September 21 and close Friday, October 9 (end of week 2)
- Interviews week 3, offers out by October 21
- Training runs weeks 5–8, October 26 through November 20, ending before Thanksgiving
- Nothing is scheduled during week 9, week 10, or finals
- Tour leadership begins the first week of winter quarter, in January

■ APPLICATION PROCESS

We are seeking applicants who demonstrate:

- Intellectual curiosity
- An eagerness to learn about art, technology, and culture
- Strong communication skills
- Enthusiasm for public engagement
- Interest in interdisciplinary learning
- Professionalism and reliability
- A collaborative spirit

Relevant areas of study may include: Art History, Architecture, Design, Computer Science, Engineering, Media Studies, Philosophy, Cognitive Science, Education, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Music and Composition, Film, TV, & Digital Media

Please send a cover letter and CV to learning@dataland.art