

DESIGN NATION

SUPPORT US and celebrate and champion the power of craft, design and making in our lives



Design-Nation at London Design Week 2021, photo by Porter & Trundle

Welcome to Design-Nation

Design-Nation was founded by the late Peta Levi MBE in the 90s as a not-for-profit membership portfolio for craft and design professionals in the UK. Today, nearly a quarter of a century on, Design-Nation champions excellence in craft, design and product, delivering a UK-wide & international programme that empowers designer-makers to build, sustain and develop innovative creative and business practices.

We support hundreds of small creative business, emerging makers and students through our unique industry support, membership pathways and UK-wide partnerships, providing a special combination of opportunities and programmes that respond to the evolving needs and challenges of the design and craft sector.

Our current and future programme is delivered through three core strands:

Talent Development Programme – we support and develop creative practice at every stage of study and career through our renowned membership services. This includes a buddy scheme; tailored diagnostics; targeted programmes for emerging & established practice; CPD through short courses, workshops, study days, studio visits and retreats; in-depth mentoring; talks & panel discussions; and award schemes.

Cluster Hub Network – our ground-breaking Cluster Hub Networks are both geographic and subject based, enabling our membership to connect locally and nationally, and to act autonomously in developing new collaborative activities & opportunities.

Projects – Design-Nation works with a range of partners to deliver collaborative projects and opportunities through group exhibitions, trade fairs, retail showcases and other events. We also champion blue-sky research, exchange & development opportunities, connecting members with entrepreneurs, manufacturers, education and retail.

We've helped thousands of creative businesses to achieve their ambitions and build fulfilling and financially rewarding practices. Well-known successes include Amy Cushing, Andrew Tanner, Angus Ross, Ella Doran, Helen Yardley, Linda Bloomfield, Margo Selby, the late Miranda Watkins, Nina Moeller, Sue Pryke, Timorous Beasties and Wallace Sewell.

Today, our portfolio comprises a rich and diverse pool of 350+ UK-wide highly skilled designer-makers, at all stages of creative practice, whose collective works demonstrate authentic, exceptional craftsmanship and design ability.



Private View opening of 'Design-Nation Our Journey' at The Hub in Sleaford, Jan 2022

I am so proud to be a member of Design Nation. I feel Design Nation really understands my aims, values and ambitions and provides amazing opportunities throughout the year to exhibit, learn and be part of their community. Anna Thomson, DN Member since 2020

Future Thinking

In response to the pressures and challenges of recent years, Design-Nation's patronage programme has been developed to be a significant force for good for the UK's design & craft sector.

Our Patrons provide us with a sustainable source of income that enables us to deliver our vision; to create and deliver dynamic programmes that transform the lives of UK design and craft professionals in our network.

We invite patrons of craft and design to join us to champion future talent. Your gift, however large or small, will enable Design-Nation to endure and expand its valuable work that is unmatched by any other UK agency.

Scheme	Donation	Benefits
GOLD	£2,500 <i>Annual of one-off gift</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-monthly patrons update including 'first to hear' news, events & bookings • VIP tickets to Design-Nation exhibitions & previews • Named support on our website, at special events and in our annual report • Invitation to annual Design-Nation Supper • Value of benefits: £500
SILVER	£1,500 <i>Annual of one-off gift</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-monthly patrons update including 'first to hear' news, events & bookings • VIP tickets to Design-Nation exhibitions & preview • Bespoke studio visits • Access to exclusive products • Named support on our website and at special events • Value of benefits: £250
BRONZE	£500 <i>Annual of one-off gift</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-monthly patrons update including 'first to hear' news, events & bookings • Value of benefits: £0
CHAMPION	Any donation appreciated <i>Monthly gift</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Named support in our annual report

For more information or to discuss your personal patronage, please contact Design-Nation's director - Clare Edwards at clare@designnation.co.uk.

Having supported Design-Nation over the past 15 years, we wholly support your plans to grow and would love to continue to back your progress in the future. Decorex International

It's one of the best memberships I have, and I get more value from you than I do with any other membership, craft or otherwise. Majeda Clarke (member since 2018)