

TOY STORY: THE US IN MUSEUM

Students from the University of Hertfordshire have experimented with curating a project with the St Albans Museums team. As part of the Design and Crafts programme, students have paired objects from the museum collections with modern versions and shared new and unexpected viewpoints through their displays.

This is the fourth year of the project - it started with a workshop looking at our Salaman Tool Collection as part of a garden tool project in the Product Design course.

This year, the starting point was toys - it began with a handling session, exploring the objects with museum staff and volunteers.

Working in groups, the students were asked to look beyond the social, cultural, and historical aspects of their toy and think about contemporary issues that they experience today. We have been thrilled to collaborate with the students and excited by their enthusiasm and curatorial talents.

Following this exhibition the best displays will be shown as part of the University of Hertfordshire's School of Creative Arts Degree Show week.

Toy Story: The Us in Museum is curated by students from the BA(Hons) Product and Industrial Design and BA(Hons) Design Crafts courses.

Supported by Polly Palmer Senior Lecturer, Critical and Cultural Studies, Julian Lindley Senior Lecturer, Product and Industrial Design and Kim Bagley for the University of Hertfordshire and Sarah Keeling, Curator of Collections: Post-Medieval to Contemporary for St Albans Museums.