

KEZIA HESSAM

Art Department Trainee



What was Kezia's journey through Foot in the Door?

- Kezia came into this with a degree in fine art and some experience on a low budget film in Saudi Arabia, but she had never worked back home in Wales.
- She had the skills required and just needed the introduction.
- She stood out as someone willing to put herself forward and not afraid to ask questions.
- She was shortlisted as a candidate for the art department and was selected by *Sex Education* after an interview.
- She cannot drive and so received a bursary to support with transport.
- Kezia undertook a two-week placement where she got to experience life on set of a high-end TV production. The art department has many areas and she got to be on set and in the office - making use of some of her graphic skills she had developed.
- During the feedback session, Kezia seemed keen to do more with the graphics and timing meant she could start a second placement at Webber Designs, a graphic design company who create short films. Rhys, who owns the company, has also been a teacher and has already taught Kezia to refine her graphic skills.
- Her dream is to be a Production Designer or Standby Art Director. This placement has broadened her skills and her connections, helping her with her next step. With these credits to her CV, she is now in a good position to sign up to Screen Alliance Wales and go for jobs that they regularly advise on their website and social media.

Why did she engage with Foot In The Door?

- She is interested in a career in the art department.
- She had never seen how the art department works in high-end TV and could showcase her skills to potential future employers.

What impact has the project had?

- Helped flesh out Kezia's CV
- Introduced her to people in the industry
- Guided her with 'next steps' to get to where she wants to be.

What did she learn?

- Kezia had never dressed a set or drawn up plans using CAD software. It pushed the skills she already had.
- "Definitely when I made a prop – a baby book. It was my own illustration. I stayed longer to get it completed – everyone was helping to get it done. Everyone said the illustration was great."
- This has given Kezia the necessary introductions to an industry that is really hard to get into if you don't know anyone.

"This production experience allowed me to venture into multiple areas within the art department. I felt free to express my creativity and ideas and the crew were very welcoming of them."

www.footinthedoorwales.com