

# The Company of Educators

[www./co-educators.com](http://www.co-educators.com)

## AN INTRODUCTION

*The Company is registered with the City of London Corporation in the second of a three stage process of seeking livery status. Its charitable fund is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.*

### **PREAMBLE**

Those who founded the Guild of Educators did so in the belief that ‘educators’ – those who manage and conduct processes that stimulate learning and individual development – were an intrinsic part of the national and international community that should be fully represented within the City of London, which is itself a city with universities, schools and business training departments of international reputation. Teachers, lecturers, trainers – the ‘educators’ who open doors to any new knowledge or skill or understanding – command respect and gratitude but they are part of a larger team of educators that includes, amongst others, administrators, examiners, governors, librarians, publishers, and researchers.

Education is not a narrow process, inducing a specific skill at a particular moment, but a dynamic process that inculcates and supports the lifelong habit of learning – from cradle to grave. This ambitious objective requires a substantial and resolute investment of money, time, energy and enthusiasm.

The founders of the Guild – now a thriving City Company – were determined not only to recognise the worth of education but also to create an institution that would – by focusing on the role of the ‘educator’ – contribute to its sustained development.

### **PURPOSE**

The Company was founded in 2001, as the Guild of Educators, within the philanthropic tradition of the City of London livery companies:

- to provide a forum for representatives of all sectors of education and training to meet professionally and socially to promote discussion and the exchange of views
- to recognise and support those engaged in education and training by means of appropriate grants, awards and medals
- to encourage those engaged in education and training to play a part in the civic life of the City of London
- to operate a separate charitable fund to support the development of those who are engaged in the profession of education and training

In pursuit of these aims the Company seeks to be inclusive in its membership and activities, transcending the traditional boundaries between the different sectors, and particularly between academe and business insofar as the latter concerns itself with education, training and development. It believes that it is unique in providing this cross sector forum.

**POTENTIAL FREEMEN ARE ASKED TO RECOGNISE THAT MEMBERSHIP OF A LIVERY COMPANY IS INTENDED TO BE A MARK OF A LIFELONG COMMITMENT**

TO SUPPORTING THEIR TRADE OR PROFESSION. THIS COMMITMENT IS MANIFESTED BY REGULAR CHARITABLE GIVING AND BY PARTICIPATION – EVEN IF ONLY OCCASIONALLY – IN COMPANY MEETINGS. IT IS NEITHER A MARK OF PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION NOR A CLUB MEMBERSHIP TO BE ASSUMED AND DISCARDED AT WILL.

## **ORGANISATION**

The Company is governed by its Ordinances, and is managed by a Court of Assistants under the chairmanship of the Master. The Master and Wardens (the Wardens being the senior members of the Court, who are elected to undertake special responsibilities and to become Master in turn) meet regularly to lead the Court. The Court has established sub-committees concerned with education (particularly the seminar programme), membership, and social activities. In addition, the charity trustees meet as required to manage the Trust Fund.

The Ordinances provide for a membership (entitled the ‘Freedom’) and an affiliateship (entitled the ‘Associate Freedom’). The Company has adopted the (black) graduate gown as its livery for Freemen which they are invited to wear at all statutory meetings and any associated social occasions.

The Company provides all members of the Freedom with a regular Newsletter, ‘The Educator’, giving details of its activities and its professional and social programme.

## **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Freemen are invited to attend all the statutory meetings, including the formal dinners and less formal suppers which follow them. They receive invitations to the professional and social meetings that are organised throughout each year. They also receive three copies of ‘The Educator’ annually. When the Company progresses to ‘Worshipful Company’ status, ‘Freemen’ (a term that embraces both genders) will become ‘Liverymen’ and, as such, will be able – and encouraged – to play a part in the civic life of the City of London.

Additionally, Freemen might wish to consider the following:

### **FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON**

Liverymen must be granted the Freedom of the City of London before becoming liverymen of their Company. Many of the Freemen of the Company of Educators are already Freemen of the City by virtue of their membership of other Companies. Other Company of Educators’ members may apply for the Freedom of the City upon the nomination of the Company. Further information is available from the Honorary Foundation Clerk and from Mr M Craig, Chamberlain’s Court, Guildhall, London, EC2P 2EJ (020 7332 3055).

### **TOWER WARD CLUB**

Freemen of the Company are entitled to join the Tower Ward Club which allows members to participate in an interesting social calendar (further information and an application form from the Hon Secretary, Ms Claire Cross, 65 Greenwood Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0DX). Application forms should be returned via the Clerk to arrange for proposing and seconding.

### **CITY LIVERY CLUB**

Freemen of the Company are also entitled to join the City Livery Club which provides the livery with its own London Club with reciprocal arrangements with a number of other clubs (further information from the Assistant Clerk at 38 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8EX).