



A turn in the Spotlight

Guildhall Ignite's *Into the Spotlight for Women* programme helped to foster female leadership at Digital Catapult

Guildhall Ignite, the executive and professional development consultancy of The Guildhall School of Music & Drama, supported a pilot training programme for a group of senior female managers at Digital Catapult, a deep tech innovation organisation, to equip them with key leadership skills enabling them to celebrate their strengths, enhance their presence and discover what is possible when personal identity and unique purpose are brought to the workplace.

The programme – *Into the Spotlight for Women*

Digital Catapult used *Into the Spotlight*

for Women to kickstart the first module of its initial Future Leaders training programme. Led by Guildhall Ignite's female and specialist coaches, it supported an inclusive environment, encouraging all voices to be heard.

Combining a powerful blend of techniques and exercises that are grounded in the performing arts and executive coaching, the programme enables women to step out of the shadows with ease and confidence to hold their space in high-pressure situations, to be heard across a crowded stage and communicate with authenticity.

The training was delivered across a few months starting with an initial half-day session, followed by three follow-on



I'd strongly recommend Guildhall Ignite for any leadership or development workshops, especially for leaders

90-minute sessions to embed and share learnings in the group.

The impact – outcomes

Guildhall Ignite's training was highly rated by participants for its ability to be engaging through its unique approach of coaching in and through the performing arts, encouraging them out of their comfort zone and a focus on human skills in leadership.

It was rated very effective on the following learning and development outcomes:

- Developing high-potential women to feel more empowered
- Gain confidence in building/expanding stakeholder relationships/networks
- Model for people to benefit from shared experience, networks, connection

Feedback

Simran Baughen, Programme Manager at Digital Catapult and training participant said:

"Their approach is unlike anything I've experienced before – highly creative, engaging, and designed to push you out of your comfort zone. The mix of physical exercises and role-play activities not only encouraged our group to open up but also helped me reflect on my own leadership style and strengths in a completely new way." ■

ignite.gsmd.ac.uk