

Museum of Classical Archaeology

Volunteer Role Description: Exhibition Engagement Volunteer

What this role will entail:

Exhibition Engagement Volunteers will support the Museum of Classical Archaeology's exhibition programme. This role will suit anyone who is keen to take on a public-facing role which involves talking to members of the public. Prior knowledge of our museum is not a necessity, just an enthusiasm for engaging with visitors and willingness to learn. This opportunity may involve engaging with visitor and gallery stewarding.

Volunteers in this role will be added to the Exhibition Engagement Volunteer Register. Volunteers will be able to select their shifts from a calendar after their induction process. The Museum of Classical Archaeology hosts multiple exhibitions a year and the Exhibition Engagement Volunteer Register will be reopened for each exhibition.

Why the Museum of Classical Archaeology needs this role:

We'll need help to keep the works in the show safe and secure by stewarding the exhibition space in our Cast Gallery – and to talk to the visitors about the show. You can have a look at the museum's previous exhibitions on our website here:

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/museum/exhibitions/past-exhibitions>

Volunteer tasks:

- Stewarding the gallery
- Engaging with visitors of all ages about the current exhibition
- Providing information and being the first point of contact for questions about the exhibition
- Providing support with directions and wayfinding
- Support family craft activities during school holidays

What you will gain from this role:

- Experience in museum education
- Experience in visitor engagement
- Chance to develop new skills
- Experience to enhance your CV
- Join a motivated and enthusiastic team
- Opportunity to ask for a reference after 20 hours voluntary work
- Meet new people

Skills required:

- Reliability
- Welcoming, friendly and polite manner towards visitors
- Willingness to help out with a variety of tasks
- Willingness to support the aims of the Museum of Classical Archaeology
- Ability to show initiative

Potential time commitment:

Shift times:

Tuesday – Friday: 10am to 1.30pm or 1.30pm to 5pm

Saturdays during Cambridge term time 2-5pm

Ideally you would be available for the entire duration of the exhibition and commit to at least one shift per week. We are flexible about this request so please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Once the exhibition is complete, you are welcome to stay on the register for the next exhibition. The museum usually hosts a spring exhibition and a summer exhibition, though other exhibitions occasionally come up.

Location:

Museum of Classical Archaeology, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA.

Responsible to:

Martha Heemskerk, Museum Education and Outreach Coordinator. Contact: (01223) 767044 or museum@classics.cam.ac.uk.

Training and support:

Training will be given by the Education and Outreach Coordinator for all tasks which the volunteer is asked to undertake.

Health and safety responsibilities:

The volunteer will be provided with a risk assessment for their role. The volunteer will be responsible for their own health and safety and that of those with whom they volunteer. The volunteer will not work unsupervised with children or vulnerable adults.

How to apply:

Applications are welcome from those aged 18+.

We manage our volunteers through the UCM Volunteer Makers Platform.

Registration takes several steps:

1. Please sign up for an account here: <https://ucm.volunteermakers.org/my-account/register/>
2. Please register your interest for the *Exhibition Engagement Volunteer at the Museum of Classical Archaeology Challenge* here: <https://ucm.volunteermakers.org/get-involved/museum-of-classical-archaeology/exhibitionengagementvolunteer/10024/>
3. You will receive an email asking you to complete the final stage of registration. Please click on the link, where you will have the opportunity to tell us a little more about yourself and your interest in the role.

Exhibition Engagement Volunteers will be invited to attend an induction before they are formally accepted as volunteers.

About the Museum of Classical Archaeology:

The Museum of Classical Archaeology is one of the few surviving collections of plaster casts of Greek and Roman sculpture in the world. The collection of about four hundred and fifty casts is open to the public and housed in a purpose-built Cast Gallery on the first floor of the Classics Faculty. Rather than simply being a collection of copies, the real beauty of having all these pieces together under one roof is that the visitor can compare and contrast objects which he or she could never view together in the original.

About the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM):

University of Cambridge Museums is a consortium of the eight University Museums, which works in partnership with the Cambridge University Botanic Garden and other Cambridge University collections. The University's collections are a world-class resource for researchers, students and members of the public representing the country's highest concentration of internationally important collections, all within walking distance of the City Centre.