

Volunteer role description –

Art at the Heart

Thank You!

Thank You for volunteering at the RUH. The following role description will outline the details of the role that the Art at the Heart team requires support with. We are grateful for you giving your time to the RUH and hope you have a great experience while volunteering with us.

Role Title:

Art at the Heart Volunteer

Your named Volunteer Manager on the ward/ department is:

Hetty Dupays (Art and Design Manager)

Tony Smith (Exhibitions Manager)

Jessica Brown (Participatory and Audience Development Coordinator)

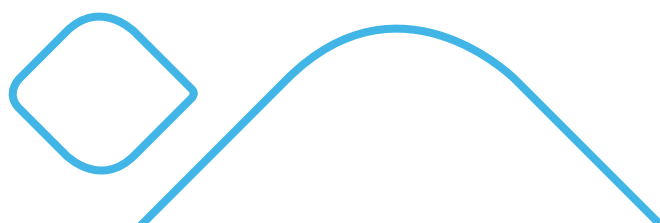
Location of your volunteer role:

Art at the Heart office, and/or various areas around the hospital where creative activity or participatory art workshops are taking place.

Role purpose:

To support patients through the engagement of creative activity: art, music, textiles.

To work alongside the artist/musician to encourage and aid participation. These roles have been identified as important on wards with older patients, as activity is known to improve communication skills, maintain mobility and independence. Several activities have been identified to engage patients and enable them to actively participate in their rehabilitation and recovery.





General Tasks:

At the beginning of your shift, the lead artist/ participatory coordinator will identify which patients you will be working with and suggest appropriate activities. In the case of live music performances, the coordinator will confirm the public performance area and the wards to visit.

Your role will involve engaging patients in activities such as arts and craft, games, music, with the lead artist/musician.

- Supporting patient involvement, showing and helping with participation (1:1 where relevant)
- To build a rapport with patients and provide regular contact (generally on a weekly basis).
- To assist in the preparation of materials and development of meaningful activity opportunities.
- To feed back to the nominated staff member/artist/musician on how your volunteering went and any relevant observations and mention any concerns if relevant.

Skills, experience and qualities needed:

- Creative- with an interest in art, textiles, music; particularly with an interest in participation
- Enthusiastic and keen to work with older people.
- Demonstrate strong listening and communication skills, both in a group and 1:1
- Reliable
- Personable, approachable and non-judgemental.
- Volunteers must be willing to work within the hospital guidelines and follow all policies such as infection control and confidentiality.
- Ability to work as part of a team.

Support and training:

- Friends of the RUH will provide mandatory hospital induction and training
- A named member of staff will induct the volunteer into the role and provide guidance and supervision as needed
- Volunteers will receive regular and ongoing support from the Friends of the RUH.
- The appropriate Art at the Heart lead will support your role on a day-to-day basis.

Shift Pattern:

This is dependent on the activity involved, and the volunteer's availability.

What is in it for the volunteer?

- Meet new people
- Share existing skills and develop new skills
- A sense of satisfaction and 'giving something back'
- Experience of working in a clinical environment/ healthcare setting
- Involvement in creative activities, which benefits the care 'giver' as well as the participant.



Our expectations of volunteers:

- To be able to commit to consistent weekly/ fortnightly shifts (**This depends on the regularity of an activity, which is subject to funding.**)
- To raise any concerns with staff so support can be provided accordingly

Any other information relevant to the role:

The ward and the lead artist/musician have resources to support your activities such as art/textiles materials. There is access to books through the hospital library.

	If you have any further question, please do not hesitate to contact the Volunteering team on 01225 825319
	Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG 01225 428331 www.ruh.nhs.uk