



York Museums Trust

York Art Gallery: Antony Shaw Gallery Volunteer

The new Centre of Ceramic Art opened with York Art Gallery in August 2015. The centre brings together the four significant private collections of British studio ceramics that collectively form the most representative public collection of British studio ceramics in the UK. The collection amounts to over 5,500 pieces and shows the work of over 600 artists, telling the story of studio ceramics to the present day.



One of the collectors, Anthony Shaw, began collecting in the 1970s after meeting Gordon Baldwin and Ewen Henderson and developed an interest in sculptural ceramics. He has significant work from these two artists as well as Lucie Rie, Gillian Lowndes, Bryan Illsley and Sara Radstone. His collection was set up as a Charitable Trust in 2002 and continues to grow. He has given his collection to York Museums Trust on long term loan.

Anthony has curated a space in CoCA displaying some of his most favourite pieces from his collection. Shaw has always felt that his collection is most at home in a domestic environment. His display takes the form of two rooms with his objects placed on furniture, between books and in front of paintings, he invites visitors in to his space to share the experience of living with a collection.

Volunteers steward the displays, inviting visitors into the space, making it feel like a welcoming home environment and helping to answer questions on the collection and Anthony as a collector. It is also important for the volunteers to



keep the space invigilated, helping to keep the objects which are out on open display, safe and secure from accidental damage.

We ask that you share our passion for studio ceramics and previous experience of working with the general public would be advantageous.

Training

You will be given training on customer care, and information on Anthony and his collections. You cannot volunteer in the space until you have received the training. We run training sessions fairly regularly. In addition, you will be supported on gallery for your first few volunteering sessions until you are confident in the role.

Time Commitment

Ideally we prefer volunteers who can commit to a minimum of three months, volunteering for at least one session a week. Volunteers can cover more sessions if they prefer.

Session times are:

Monday to Friday **11:00 – 13:30, 13:30 – 16:00**

Saturday **11:00 – 13:30, 13:30 – 16:00, 16:00 – 18:00**

Sundays **13:00 – 15:00**

Other essential information

As a charity, we do not have a budget for travel expenses or meal allowances, so unfortunately we are unable to reimburse travel or subsistence costs incurred by volunteers in the course of their day to day volunteering.

All our visitor facing volunteers are asked to wear YMT volunteer t-shirts, sweatshirts and ID badges so that visitors can easily identify them as volunteers.

Interested?

To apply, please complete the online application form which can be found on our volunteering page:

<http://www.yorkmuseumtrust.org.uk/support-the-trust/volunteering/>