

York Art Gallery



Hands on Here! at York Art Gallery

What will you be doing?

You will be helping us to interpret objects from the ceramics collections by facilitating handling with visitors, giving them the opportunity to learn more and experience a different way of engaging with ceramic art.

What will you gain from volunteering here?

Meet people

Not only will you chat to the public but you will join a team of volunteers, get to know gallery staff and will have access to a range of volunteer events.

Learning something new

With specific training you will learn about British studio ceramic pottery, artists and collectors.

Helping others

You will help visitors to engage with the Ceramic Art collection and give them a great visitor experience.

Get Active

Visit the art gallery regularly and enjoy the atmosphere of this beautiful, thought provoking environment.

Who are we looking for?

You do not need to know anything about the collections. If you are over 18, are available for a minimum of 2.5 hours a week, plus an initial training session, and can say yes to the following questions:

- I am friendly and enthusiastic and like talking to people
- I want to learn more about ceramic art and tell visitors about the collections
- I enjoy being part of a team

Then do [apply online](#).

When can you volunteer?

We have sessions from 11:00am until 1:30pm and 1:30pm until 4pm every day of the week and you choose sessions to suit your own schedule.

Who can you talk to about volunteering?

You can either apply online or if you have a specific question you can email the Volunteers Coordinator at:

philip.newton@ymt.org.uk

York Museums Trust was formed on August 1 2002, as an independent charitable trust to manage the museums and gallery service previously run by City of York Council. Supported by the Council, York Museums Trust is responsible for York Art Gallery, York Castle Museum, Yorkshire Museum and Gardens and York St Mary's

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Further information

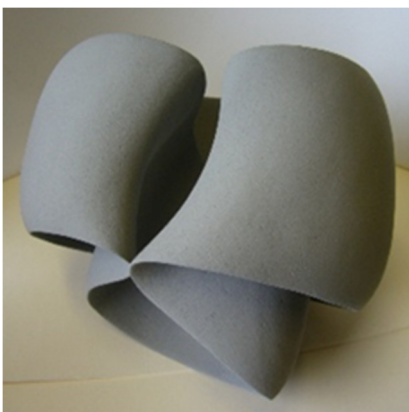
Background

The Centre of Ceramic Art (CoCA) opened with York Art Gallery on the 1st August 2015. The centre brought 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.



Our collection consists of four large donations, from the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White, Dean of York; W.A. Ismay a librarian from Wakefield; Henry Rothschild a gallery owner; and Anthony Shaw a private collector. The collectors all had different interests and opinions on ceramic art which has allowed YMT to amass a varied and impressive collection of British Studio ceramics.

We continue to grow the collection and aim to acquire works of significance which tell the continually evolving story of British studio ceramics.



Hands on Here! is a Trust wide programme where volunteers enable visitors to get hands on with real collection objects. You will be working with objects from leading artists which include; Gillian Lowndes, Bernard Leach, Ewen Henderson, Merete Rasmussen and Ian Godfrey.

Training

You will be given training on object handling and customer care, followed by one to one training on gallery with our volunteers training assistant and buddy sessions with experienced volunteers.

Time Commitment

We can have up to two volunteers for each session. There are morning sessions (11:00 – 13:30) and afternoon sessions (13:30 – 16:00) every day. We usually asked for a minimum of one session a fortnight.

Other essential information

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

We do not have a uniform but we do ask you to wear smart-casual clothing with no large logo's, slogans or heavy patterns. You will be given an ID badge which you must wear when inside the building.