

York Art Gallery



Anthony Shaw Space Steward

What will you be doing?

You will be helping us to interpret a collection of ceramic art which is on open display to the public by giving visitors the opportunity to learn more and to enjoy the space.

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 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.

Anthony Shaw began collecting in the 1970s after meeting Gordon Baldwin and Ewen Henderson, and developing 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. Anthony gave his collection to York Museums Trust on long term loan.



Anthony and visiting curators have brought together some of his most favourite pieces from his collection. Anthony has always felt that his collection is most at home in a domestic environment. His display takes the form of two rooms with 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.

As a volunteer we want you to encourage visitors into the space making it feel like a welcoming home environment and to be there to help answer questions on the collection and Anthony as a collector. It is also important for the volunteers to keep the space invigilated as objects are out on open display and you will help to keep them safe and secure from accidental damage.

Training

You will be given training on customer care and information on Anthony and his collections, 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 an 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.

