

Volunteer Role Description

Education – Camera Obscura Guide

What is a Camera Obscura Guide?

Gainsborough's House has an amazing Camera Obscura located in the Landscape Studio in the new galleries. Visitors can see views out over the rooftops of Sudbury to the landscape beyond. The Camera Obscura is a bookable, timed activity and requires a guide to operate and lead the session.

What's in it for you?

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated award-winning team
- Facilitating visitors to experience the amazing images in the camera obscura
- Building on or making use of communication and guiding skills
- Enjoying new experiences and developing your knowledge
- The chance to give your time in your local community
- Being involved with art and heritage

What's involved?

- Leading short sessions operating and explaining the camera obscura to small groups of visitors.
- Taking part in occasional Learning Team meetings to help plan, evaluate and develop our camera obscura offer.
- An opportunity to lead or assist with Camera Obscura workshops booked by groups (schools, family events). These include making a camera obscura and art-based sessions in the landscape studio.
- Ensuring best practice for safeguarding and Health and Safety as applicable.
- Helping to make Gainsborough's House accessible to all visitors to ensure they get the best experience
- Following security procedures to help protect the interiors and collection during opening hours
- Ensuring visitors' safety by actively helping to evacuate during an emergency

- Acting as an Ambassador for Gainsborough's House whilst on duty

This role will suit people who... enjoy leading groups and are interested in the Camera Obscura. Like being part of a team who work creatively to deliver sessions engaging visitors. Are keen to learn and wish to give some time in their local community.

Hours

The sessions inside the Camera Obscura take around 15 minutes. Volunteers need to gather the group together and answer any questions after the sessions. It is probable that there will be a few sessions available for visitors during a morning or afternoon, so volunteers will be able to come in for a couple of hours.

Training

Full training will be given by the Learning Officer on operating and explaining the camera obscura. Volunteers will have the opportunity to shadow sessions, so that they feel confident and comfortable leading a group. There will also be the opportunity for relaxed learning about the collections and temporary exhibitions on display and in our archives.

Benefits

- Annual learning team visit to a culture and heritage site
- Unlimited free admission to Gainsborough's House and all exhibitions
- Quarterly volunteer meetings and breakfast tours of each exhibition
- Training on collections
- Invitation to the annual summer garden party and a seasonal drinks event
- A monthly E-newsletter

All Learning Team Volunteers need to have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, organised through Gainsborough's House.

These roles are purely voluntary, and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract.