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**DemonstRAte & Create Workshop Volunteers**

**About the Royal Academy of Arts**

The Royal Academy of Arts (RA) is one of the UK’s foremost arts institutions. We are best known for our programme of world-class exhibitions including *David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture*, *Ai Weiwei* and our most recent blockbuster, *Painting the Modern Garden: Monet to Matisse*. It is a particularly exciting time in our history. An ambitious ‘Masterplan’ by David Chipperfield RA is underway, redeveloping our 2.5 acre campus in Mayfair in time for our 250th anniversary in 2018. The works will unite our two buildings, providing refurbished galleries, a state-of-the-art auditorium and a dedicated Collections gallery in Burlington Gardens.

The ‘Masterplan’ presents the opportunity to use the Royal Academy’s illustrious campus of buildings to form public heritage engagement activities, reconnecting with the Academy’s founding principles, to be the centre of visual culture, where art is created, exhibited and debated. With the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund the RA is able to *Reveal, Celebrate and Explore* the historical importance of the practice of artists and architects and the role of Royal Academicians in British society. This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of a transformative project which will allow the RA to reconnect with its heritage, sharing this with the broader general public and other carefully defined audiences, widening participation.

**For more information about the Masterplan project please see:** <http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/buildings>

**The Role**

We are looking for a team of enthusiastic, outgoing and knowledgeable volunteers who have a good grasp of artistic practices, to support a programme of practical demonstrations and creative workshops that will be run monthly at the RA from August 2016 to December 2018.

On the second Saturday of every month the RA will host a free demonstration highlighting a different artistic technique. Each demonstration, given to an audience of around 25 people, will last approximately 30 minutes and will be followed by a creative workshop in which visitors have the opportunity to make a creative response using the technique, making links to specific objects in the RA’s Collections or buildings.

We plan to represent skills from all disciplines represented within the RA: Painting, Drawing, Sculpture, Printmaking and Architecture.  Session topics may include: oil painting, gouache, sculpture, clay modelling, silk screen printing, gilding, pastels and various drawing techniques including architectural drawings.

Each session will be programmed and delivered by an Artist Educator and supported by two volunteers. The sessions will need to cater to a wide range of ages and will include families and adult visitors who will sign up on a first come, first served basis.

**Duties will include:**

* Signing visitors up for sessions and some general administration
* Assisting with set-up and take-down of equipment
* Supporting visitors in creative activities
* Giving visitors information on specific related objects from the RA Collection, which may be on display at the RA or in digital format

**What are we looking for?**

* Enthusiastic volunteers with excellent practical skills who will feel comfortable assisting visitors in a workshop setting with a variety of artistic techniques
* Excellent communication skills and an interest in supporting a diverse audience
* A passion for increasing engagement with art making, the heritage of the RA and it’s Collection

**What’s in it for you?**

* First hand contact with diverse audiences along with Audience engagement training
* Valuable work experience and on-the-job training working with an experienced Artist Educator
* Insight and experience of programming/planning creative sessions
* Training related to your responsibilities, including an introduction to the RA’s Collection, our Heritage Project and an introduction to basic Health & Safety at the RA
* Guidance from a named supervisor with whom you can discuss your work
* Reimbursement of travel expenses incurred in connection with your volunteering (up to a maximum of £12 per day, proof of travel required)

**Availability**

You will need to commit to 3 half-day sessions over a 6 month period, 1pm to 5pm

**Planning & training**

Training on audience engagement and understanding our visitors will be given alongside an introduction to the RA’s Collection of paintings, prints, sculptures and drawings.

**Training sessions will be held on:**

Tuesday 21 June, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Monday 4 July, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Tuesday 5 July, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Monday 4 August, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

You should be able to attend all the above sessions.

**How to Apply**

Please visit <http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/careers-at-the-ra> to download an Expression of Interest form and send to volunteering@royalacademy.org.uk

Closing date: **Sunday 12 June 2016**

Interviews will be held on: **Saturday 18 June**