



Volunteering at Venture Arts

Venture Arts specialises in visual arts, running hundreds of inclusive arts programmes every year which support learning disabled artists to play a valued role within the contemporary arts world. Our professional arts studio in Hulme, Manchester provides a bright, lively and welcoming environment for people to produce quality artwork.



What We Do

All our visual arts programmes are facilitated by our team of professional artists. Themed projects form the basis of the creative work and previous themes have included “Natural World”, “Communication” and “Cycles.” Responding to this theme, learning disabled artists produce innovative work using a wide range of different mediums, including photography, ceramics, printmaking, 3D, animation, art as environment, illustration and textiles. The culmination of the programmes sees annual studio exhibitions within high profile venues in the North West including The Lowry, People’s History Museum and Manchester Art Gallery.

Within the studio environment we also work on individual and collaborative art projects. Most recently our ceramics programme worked on a crowd funder appeal and created a range of products including bird feeders, brooches and planters. They were successful in raising the funds to purchase a new kiln for our studio. Within the studio setting, individuals also have the opportunity to explore individual themes and one of our learning disabled artists “Leslie Thompson, The Superstar Artist Drawer” has just had a hugely successful solo

show at Project Ability, Glasgow and this saw the culmination of Leslie's illustrations inspired from television and film from 1970 – 1990



Volunteering at Venture Arts within the Studio Environment

Venture Arts Volunteers help in the studio environment, and work directly with learning disabled people to encourage their creative work. Volunteers support the participants to achieve their best, increasing confidence, social and creative skills. Good communication, patience and enthusiasm are crucial, but volunteers are not required to have art skills. Our volunteers come from lots of diverse backgrounds including student, professional, creative, social care and health. Volunteers choose to give their time to Venture Arts for many reasons mainly to gain experience in community arts, social care, psychology, education and health; for a school or university placement. They will also volunteer with us as part of a volunteering scheme; or simply to spend their time doing something enjoyable in the community.

Our studio sessions for adults aged 18+ run on a Monday to Friday from 10am-12pm and from 1-3pm. We also offer children and Young People's Art Clubs on a Wednesday evening from 3:30pm to 6pm and on a Saturday morning from 10am to 12:30pm. As a volunteer you would commit to a minimal of 10 weeks volunteering and you will be able to assist in one visual arts session a week. This will be the same workshop each week to maintain consistency and development of work.

Volunteers receive a full induction and an enhanced DBS certificate which we will process for you. You will also be refunded up to £5 a session for travel expenses upon receipt of your ticket. We are also able to be noted as a full character reference upon completion of 10 weeks volunteering for us.



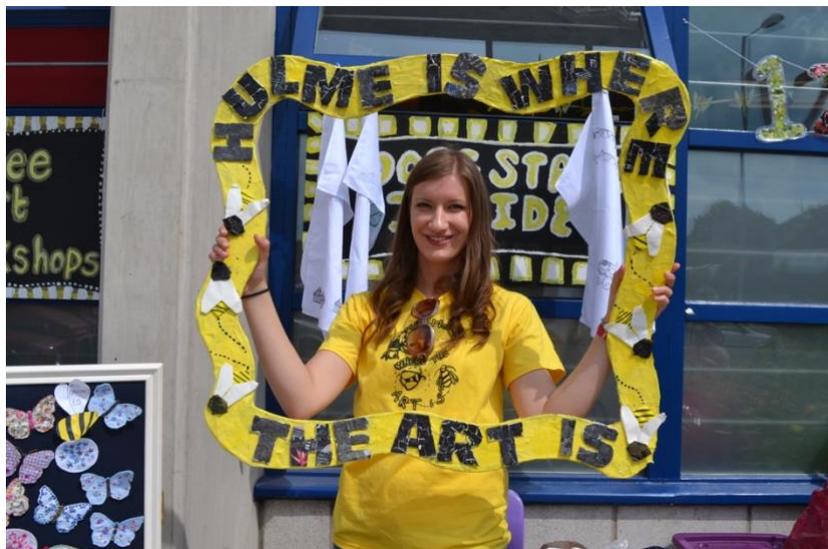
Other Volunteering Opportunities

As well as assisting within the studio environment volunteers can also help us with other activities and opportunities. Our volunteers are welcome to help out in our annual Arts festival “Hulme Is Where The Art Is”; become part of our team in the Manchester Day parade; and help man stalls for events such a “Green Walk Open House Arts & Crafts weekend”.

Fundraising volunteers could work together to organise a bag packing event, take part in a 10k run, or coordinate a fundraising evening such as a music event.

Volunteers with creative flair can also help edit artwork for print and design posters for events.

We would also welcome volunteers with an interest in administration work who may like to offer time within the office environment.





Applying to Volunteer at Venture Arts

If you are interested in volunteering at Venture Arts please download an application form from our website. Equally, if you would like to discuss volunteering in more details then please contact laura@venturearts.org or ring 0161 223 1223

