

Shelanu: Women's Craft Collective Volunteer Opportunity

We are inviting applications from volunteers, who are looking for a new challenge and have an interest in craft, arts and community participation, to help with support and co-ordination of our craft collective with and for migrant and refugee women.

Fee: Expenses will be paid

When: Ongoing, one day a week

Where: At the Shelanu creative studio in Highgate, B12 0DU



Background

Shelanu, which means 'belonging to us', is a collective of migrant and refugee women working with Craftspace to develop craft skills, confidence and well-being through social enterprise. They produce high quality craft inspired by their new home, the city of Birmingham and their experiences of migration. As well as learning new making skills, the women are supported to improve their English, learn business skills and run workshops for the community.

A range of activities help members to develop new skills (including craft, improving English and business skills), increase confidence, combat isolation, challenge preconceptions and support integration.

Activities include:

- Designing, making and selling jewellery and other products as a group, inspired by global cultures and personal interests, experiences and perspectives.
- Running craft workshops for individuals and groups of all ages in collaboration with a range of organisations including companies, schools and community groups.
Taking part in exhibitions, festival and events.
- Public and private commissions.

What will you gain?

As part of a creative team committed to creativity and its role in building positive community experiences and relationships, you will gain valuable experience within an established arts charity working towards inclusive programming where diverse cultures and stories are valued, elevated and widely shared.

The knowledge, skills and experience gained will contribute to your personal and professional development, and you will have the opportunity to interact with a diverse range of people and hear about different cultures.

There will also be opportunities to learn some practical jewellery making skills, whilst gaining experience in supporting the running of a creative studio.

The role: Shelanu Studio Assistant

Hours

Working alongside our Exhibitions and Projects Development Manager, you will assist with: running the studio, planning activities, ordering and preparing materials for community workshops, supporting craft fairs, supporting delivery of community workshops offsite, supporting induction of new members, members, evaluation, documentation and capturing content for social media.

We are seeking people who have an interest in:

- supporting people to access making skills
- crafts and/or visual arts
- supporting migrant and refugee women to learn new skills and gain new experiences

There will be some manual handling (lifting, unloading, moving, unpacking) of equipment, display furniture and objects. Some events will take place in the evenings and weekends.

Required skills/knowledge:

- Keen interest in craft, arts and community participation
- Organised, reliable, flexible and enthusiastic
- Ability to lift, move, unload, unpack display equipment, furniture and objects
- An inclusive and equitable attitude and behaviour towards others
- Able to travel into Highgate in Birmingham
- Jewellery making skills are desirable but not essential

Application Process

If you are interested in joining a friendly team, would like to build your CV and develop your voluntary work experience, please complete an application form and email to info@craftspace.co.uk or post to Administrative Assistant, Craftspace, 15 Highgate Craft Centre, 8 Highgate Square, Birmingham, B12 0DU.

Contact

If you have any questions about the roles email info@craftspace.co.uk.

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