

The Collection

Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire

Exhibition Volunteer

Best Art Vinyl: album artwork through the ages, 22nd October – 22nd January 2023

Whether you are 16 and just starting out, looking to gain experience in arts and museums or looking to try something new – you may very well be able to help us.

Art galleries and museums are a great way to engage with culture and help visitors engage with art, and here at The Collection and Usher Gallery we like to make sure everyone that comes to visit has a great time.

Whether it is looking around one of our vibrant temporary exhibitions, trying to find their house on our aerial floor map of Lincolnshire or investigating Bronze Age gold, Iron Age longboats or Early Medieval Lincoln, there is always a chance to learn something new.

About the role:

We are looking for enthusiastic Exhibition Volunteers with excellent communication skills, who are interested in developing a sound knowledge of the day-to-day running of public gallery and museum spaces and displaying fascinating collections in museum settings.

As an Exhibition Volunteer you are likely to be the first person many of our visitors will encounter when they come to spend their day with us, so we are looking for volunteers who are positive, have a sense of fun and want to make their day as special as possible.

During the exhibition of *Best Art Vinyl: album artwork through the ages*, with visitor numbers expected to be high, the role will include greeting and counting visitors into the exhibition in a warm and friendly manner, orientating them around the gallery, capturing valuable data for the museum from our visitors via an online survey and answering general enquiries. The volunteer will also monitor and control visitor numbers in the gallery space.

About the Exhibition:

Best Art Vinyl: album artwork through the ages is a celebration of iconic vinyl album artwork from 1949 – 2021. This exhibition showcases the creativity and ingenuity behind the design of vinyl album covers, exploring the fascinating history and inspiration behind some iconic artworks such as Joy Division's *Unknown Pleasures*, the Sex Pistol's *Never Mind the Bollocks* and The Beatles *The White Album*.

At The Collection Museum, the exhibition is accompanied by the 18th *Best Art Vinyl Award*, an annual search for the most creative and well-designed record cover of the year. The *Best Art Vinyl Award* sees a diverse shortlist of the 50 best record covers of the year compiled by a panel of highly respected industry experts,

artists, and designers. You are invited to vote for your favourite work online, with the final winners revealed on 5 January 2023.

The exhibition is complemented by material from Lincolnshire Heritage Service's archives and local lenders, inviting you to take a trip down memory lane and discover Lincolnshire's surprising musical past. Explore newspaper articles about The Great Western Express Festival, Lincolnshire's very own version of Woodstock in the 1970s!

We believe that everyone has a connection to music, whether it is your favourite album, the song that gets you on the dancefloor or your first ever gig. As part of the exhibition, we invite you to share these memories by contributing your own favourite vinyl album to the display or telling us your most treasured music memory via our *Museum of Music Memories*. Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to take a turn on the jukebox, where we hope you can find a track from a previous decade that will make you want to dance.

Best Art Vinyl: album artwork through the ages is a touring exhibition in collaboration with The Civic, Barnsley and Art Vinyl.

Why volunteer with us?

There are many benefits to volunteering for cultural services; you will gain experience of working in a gallery and museum environment and interpreting art for broad audience, enhance your customer care skills and have the opportunity to work in an innovative and unique contemporary art exhibition. This may lead to further volunteer placements at The Collection in the future. The experience can be added to your CV and a reference can be provided for you by the Exhibitions and Interpretation Officer.

When will we need you?

Best Art Vinyl: album artwork through the ages is open 5 days per week (excluding Tuesdays and Wednesdays) 10 am – 4 pm.

We are looking for volunteers to help us from Saturday 22nd October – Sunday 22nd January.

You can choose your hours from:

10 am to 1 pm (daily) or 1 pm to 4 pm (daily)

We will also be looking for volunteers for Late Night events. If you would like to put your name down for this too, please make this clear on your application. We will be confirming the dates for the Late Night events soon.

What will I be doing?

This role is all about the visitor experience and capturing vital data. Many visitors will be coming to The Collection for the first time or will be visiting for the first time and we want to ensure we give the best customer service possible; this means smiling, making eye contact, engaging in conversation, and talking about the exhibition. As ambassadors for The Collection, you'll need to be confident in promoting the facilities, future exhibitions, and our other heritage attractions. You will be asking for visitor feedback, encouraging visitor engagement with the exhibition, and encouraging visitors to complete the survey form so we can learn from their experiences.

What skills and experience do I need?

You will need to demonstrate a passion for art and heritage. Previous customer service experience is desirable with a natural aspiration to provide high standards of customer care.

What support will I get?

Our friendly Visitor Experience team will be on hand to support you during your role and provide you with all the advice and help you need. There will be plenty of time for you to see and experience the exhibition, you will be invited to a special event for Exhibition volunteers to see behind the scenes at the install and our Exhibition's team will provide you with useful guides to help you answer questions.

What else do I need to know?

The Collection and Usher Gallery is located in the town centre and is in easy reach of the train station, bus station and local town centre car parks. In certain circumstances, it is possible to reclaim mileage, car parking fees and bus and train fares when volunteering with us.

Whilst we will not be able to provide you with a uniform, we do encourage volunteers to wear smart casual clothing in our dress code colours of lilac/purple/black tops and plain black trousers and skirts.

How do I apply?

Apply online [Apply to become a volunteer – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

We receive lots of application forms and not everyone is successful, if you are unsuccessful on this occasion, we will let you know the reasons why.

The deadline for applications is **Friday 14th October at 5.00 pm**, the induction events will be held at The Collection on **Thursday 20th October at 1pm – 3pm**. If you are successful in your application, the first shift available will be the morning of Saturday 22nd October.

Need more information?

If you have any questions or need further information about this role. Please contact The Collection via email thecollection@lincolnshire.gov.uk or telephone 01522 550965.