

Volunteer Role Description

Community and Family Engagement Volunteer

Community and Family Engagement Volunteer



Purpose of the role:

Community Engagement Volunteers support activities and events with diverse groups around Bristol and at Brunel's SS Great Britain.

Main Activities:

In this role you will work alongside staff, other volunteers and community partners at festivals, community spaces, clubs, youth groups and libraries to meet people from different backgrounds, help to deliver activities based on the stories of SS Great Britain, and find out about people's interests and needs.

You'll also welcome community groups to SS Great Britain, and support activities around the dockyard, on the ship, in the library, museums and education spaces.

You'll engage both adults and children in fun and interactive ways using handling objects, crafts, games, trails and dressing up, encouraging participation and conversation. You'll also assist in the practicalities of each event, including setting up and packing away.



As part of the team, you will be invited to be join shared planning and evaluation with communities.

You will be part of a team of around 20 communities volunteers and work with the Communities Officer and other members of staff depending on the activity.

The community programme forms part of SS Great Britain's work on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

In 2022, our priorities are developing relationships with:

- Communities in Hartcliffe, Southmead, Avonmouth and Lawrence Hill
- Community groups of older people, including those living with dementia
- Community groups of neurodiverse people
- Communities with lived experiences of migration or migrant heritage

What the SS Great Britain can offer you:

- A fun and varied role as part of a friendly and supportive team of volunteers and staff
- A chance to develop skills and experience in participation and community engagement work in a museum setting
- The chance to explore the history of the ship and the work and life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel – including spending time on board the ship and working with handling collections.
- Comprehensive induction and training programme, support from our Communities Officer, settling in and annual reviews to help with your development
- A reference when you have been volunteering with us for over six months, with a minimum of 12 hours' volunteering
- Opportunities to meet and work with other volunteers, staff and partner organisations
- Discount in the SS Great Britain shop and café
- Travel expenses incurred by volunteering - please agree these with us in advance

About you:

This is an interesting and varied role, with the opportunity to volunteer with communities from a wide variety of backgrounds and in different settings. It's also a flexible role, allowing you to choose the events you are able to support, perhaps focussing on particular communities.

These take place on both weekdays and weekends, and in holidays and school term time. If you have fixed commitments around work, caring or study, we will try our best to accommodate these.

There are many types of people who can bring skills and experience to this role. You may have previously worked with community groups, families or children, or in an education, cultural or heritage setting. You may have professional or lived experience you would like to share or new skills you would like to develop.

Above all, we are looking for people who:

- Enjoy engaging with people of all ages, including families and children
- Are flexible and enjoy learning new things
- Have a friendly and collaborative approach
- Enjoy supporting and enabling other people
- Are able to commit to at least 6 months volunteering We welcome interest in volunteering from people of all backgrounds.

We will discuss your individual needs and ensure volunteering opportunities are accessible for you. One of our long term aims is to bring greater diversity to our workforce. We recognise that the cultures which exist within museums have been built over many decades without the voices of many parts of our community. These cultures may not at present feel comfortable or welcoming for many people - whether visitors, staff or volunteers. Through working with and listening to communities we want to reflect on what we can do together to build a more inclusive museum community.

Ready to take the next step?

If you would like to join our team or have any questions please get in touch.

- If you are able, we'd ask you to fill out an enquiry form, available at <https://www.ssgreatbritain.org/support-us/volunteering/>
- You can also contact our volunteer team by emailing volunteering@ssgreatbritain.org or call 0117 374 4502.

You will be invited to a Taster event where you'll have the chance to learn more about the volunteer roles, meet the team, look around, ask any questions you have and ensure that it is right for you. You are welcome to bring a friend. Volunteers are a vital and valued part of SS Great Britain Trust. Thanks for your interest in being part of our team!