

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE, 2018

VO'LUNTARY. *adj.* [*volontaire*, Fr. *voluntarius*, Latin.]

1. Acting without compulsion; acting by choice.
2. Willing; acting with willingness.

(Johnson, *A Dictionary of the English Language*, 1755)



Dr Johnson's House is a charming Georgian townhouse, nestled amongst a maze of courts and alleys in the historic City of London. Samuel Johnson, writer and wit, lived here in the mid-18th century, and compiled his great *Dictionary of the English Language* in the Garret. Today, the House is open to the public from Monday to Saturday, with collections relating to Johnson, restored interiors, and a research library.

Volunteering at the House:

Dr Johnson's House has a dedicated team of volunteers who provide invaluable support to our two members of staff, aiding the smooth running of the house. Volunteering can be a great way to meet new people and gain behind-the-scenes experience, and we recruit people of all ages and backgrounds to join our friendly volunteer team.

Owing to the small size of the organisation, all our volunteers must be prepared to undertake a wider variety of tasks. We regret that no travel expenses can be offered and no employment opportunities are available at the end of the period, although you will gain a great understanding of the many aspects of running an historic house museum.

Not all placements require qualifications or previous experience, but an enthusiastic approach and an interest in Dr Johnson and history is vital.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

Dr Johnson's House

17 Gough Square
London
EC4A 3DE
0207 353 3745



Front of House / Reception desk Volunteer

Availability:

Friday afternoons 2 – 5.30pm

Placement period:

Ongoing

Purpose of the role:

To cover the Reception Desk/Shop for a weekly shift.

Suggested activities:

- Acting as a representative of the House at all times
- Taking money for admission tickets and shop purchases
- Ensuring the safety and security of our visitors and the collection
- Chatting to visitors and answering general enquiries
- Ensuring the shop and front desk are tidy and well stocked

Person specification:

Essential

- Previous experience in a public-facing role
- An interest in museums and galleries

Desirable

- An interest in the 18th Century and Samuel Johnson

To apply:

Please send a short CV and cover letter to helenw@drjohnsonshouse.org by **Monday 12 November**, clearly stating your availability. Please include the details of **two referees**, both of whom will be contacted before the placement can start.

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