

CURATORIAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Volunteer placement

Through its permanent and temporary exhibitions, the Design Museum displays contemporary design across a range of disciplines – architecture, transport, fashion, graphic and product design. The museum's mission is to help people understand the value of design.

What will the role involve?

The Curatorial Research Assistant will support the curators in the development of a forthcoming temporary exhibition exploring fixings and joints. These include the inventive, beautiful, strong and safe ways designers have found to join two pieces of wood, to the simple hinges used on a kitchen cupboard, or the high-tech engineering involved in making metal joints for use in architecture, aviation or the car industry. This exhibition will open in May 2018.

Tasks include:

- Working closely with the curatorial team on the development and conceptualisation of the exhibition
- Researching material, related to the content of the exhibition, e.g. current joint manufacturers, contemporary designers
- Reporting research findings to the Curator
- Compiling and maintaining a clear record of findings
- Assisting the curatorial team on the administration of loans

The placement

This is a fixed-term placement, volunteering 1.5 or 2 days a week for three months starting in mid-January 2019.

Skills and experience

The museum is looking for someone with:

- An interest in curating and delivering exhibitions
- Good understanding and interest in contemporary design and manufacturing.
- Good research and editing skills
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and oral
- Competence using Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook

Desirable

- Graduate or postgraduate qualification in art, design or architecture history, museum studies, or curating.
- A good knowledge of contemporary design practices and debates

The Design Museum offers volunteers:

- A supportive and stimulating environment to volunteer in
- Free access to the museum
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket travel expenses up to £12 per day
- Discounts in the Design Museum Shop
- Free tickets, when available, to museum events/talks
- Advice about next steps (where possible) and references

To apply

Please contact volunteer@designmuseum.org enclosing your current CV and a short statement (one side of A4 max) outlining your availability and why you feel you are suited to this role.

This is a selective role and interviews will take place on the 14, 18 or 19 December 2018.

The closing date for applications is midnight **Friday 7th December, 2018.**