

## Volunteering with darts (Doncaster Community Arts)

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with darts (Doncaster Community Arts)! Volunteers are an essential part of our team and really help us to make a difference. We love involving volunteers in the work we do. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer **darts Champion**, then read on!

Our volunteer programme provides opportunities for people who are passionate about the arts and committed to the work that we do. Volunteering as a **darts Champion** gives you the chance to:

- Share your passion for the arts
- Learn new skills and gain hands-on experience
- Meet new people
- Bring fresh ideas to our work
- Get involved in exciting and rewarding activity
- Develop your talent for a career in the arts or creative industries
- Find out more about how an arts organisation works
- Give something back to the community
- Be part of our team
- Support those with limited access to the arts to engage in high quality creative experiences on their doorstep

### The role of a **darts Champion** might involve:

- Welcoming people to The Point, our town centre building
- Providing information and answering questions about the work in our gallery
- Supporting artists and participants in a wide variety of creative workshops
- Being part of our exhibition launch events
- Assisting at festivals and events e.g. Right Up Our Street's DNFestival
- Enabling visitors to The Point to make the most of their experience
- Encouraging members of the public to complete questionnaires or be involved in focus groups
- Helping clear café tables when we get really busy!

### **darts Champions** will:

- Have great working knowledge of the building, staff at The Point and the work of darts
- Be able to tell members of the public about What's On at The Point and how to get involved
- Have an understanding of how different audiences can access our work e.g. families, people with disabilities, older people etc.

- Spread the word about how family friendly our building is e.g. we have a Changing Place facility, we are Makaton Friendly and Dementia Friendly
- Get to know our artists and what support they need in sessions and workshops

### **Criteria**

We are looking for people who are:

- Over 16
- Passionate about the arts and the work of darts
- Friendly, with good communication skills
- Motivated and able to use their initiative
- Reliable and committed
- Flexible with a positive 'can do' attitude
- Inclusive and who value and celebrate diversity
- Sensitive and patient

**Although previous experience is not essential, here are some areas you might have knowledge of that would benefit the role of darts Champion:**

- Creative e.g. dance, drama, visual arts, animation, music, film-making etc.
- Health and social care background/knowledge
- Education / children and young people background/knowledge
- Makaton or BSL signing
- Previous work with children and young people with disabilities
- Previous support of older people
- Customer service or a public facing role

### **How we will support you**

darts will run four scheduled Welcome Sessions per year that include lots of information about darts, The Point, health and safety, our code of conduct, basic Makaton signing and dementia friends training. You'll get the chance to meet existing darts Champions, artists and darts staff. You will also get a tour of the building and have tea and cake! We will also provide additional training and development opportunities throughout the year.

Confirmed dates for Welcome Sessions are:

- 17th July 2018 from 4pm - 6pm
- 15th October 2018 from 4pm - 6pm
- 22nd January 2019 from 4pm - 6pm
- 23rd April 2019 from 4pm - 6pm

We will hold a celebration and thank you event within National Volunteer's Week every year 1-7<sup>th</sup> June. As well as celebrating your achievements, we will use this

opportunity to find out what you like about being a darts Champion and how we can make your experience better.

You will also be invited to an annual review meeting so that you can give us feedback and we can make sure you are getting what you want from the role.

### **Wider Opportunities**

darts works in partnership with lots of other cultural and community organisations across the borough. We have made a commitment with our Cultural Quarter partners - Heritage Doncaster (Doncaster Museum), Cast performance venue and Right Up Our Street – to share opportunities for volunteers as they arise so that you have a broader choice of volunteering experience. This might include archiving at Doncaster Museum or helping with the Egg Rolling event at Cusworth Hall, stewarding the huge Museum of the Moon installation in the Minster for Right Up Our Street's Light Night event or collecting donations at one of Cast's Global Streets events on Nigel Gresley Square.

### **Work Experience, Placements and Apprenticeships**

We are not able to support any work experience opportunities, placements or apprenticeships at the moment. We are also unable to offer any voluntary roles within the administration team. We are reviewing all of our opportunities at present and will let you know once more information is available.

### **So what next?**

If you would like to apply to become a **darts Champion**, please download and complete the application form here and then e-mail your completed form to [sregan@thepoint.org.uk](mailto:sregan@thepoint.org.uk)

We'll then contact you and, if we think we have something to offer you, we will invite you to The Point for an informal interview.

If we can involve you, then we will send you a copy of our Volunteer Handbook and book you into the next Welcome Session so we can get to know each other and you can join our team of **darts Champions**!

Most volunteers will be required to have a criminal records check through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) in line with our Safeguarding policy. We will organise this for you.

You will be provided with a point of contact through the volunteer co-ordinator who will provide you with all of the relevant information related to your role. This will be the person that you need to inform if you are unable to fulfil your volunteering commitment.