



CW+ Arts for All Volunteer

About CW+

[CW+](#) is the official charity of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Our vision is to enable every patient to receive outstanding care, in our Trust's community of more than 1.5 million people and beyond.

Our mission is to work with our Trust to create world-class facilities, drive innovation and research, and enhance patient and staff wellbeing. Using our expertise in partnership building, arts in health and healthcare innovation, we develop creative solutions to support an evolving NHS.

We are proud pioneers in the field of Arts in Health. Built in 1993, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital was the first hospital in the UK to lay an arts and design manifesto as part of its build plans, briefing architects to include art works in public and clinical areas, and having an acquisitions and commissioning policy from its inception.

About the CW+ Arts for All programme

We enhance the hospital experience for all our patients by working with musicians, dancers, gardeners and artists to provide participatory arts, crafts, music and sensory sessions. Our participatory arts programme is based on long-term artistic residencies. All artists are commissioned in collaboration with staff and patients at all stages. The programme is delivered in a range of settings including patients' bedsides, waiting areas, outpatient clinics and from the CW+ Studio.

We work with the National Portrait Gallery, Saatchi Gallery and Hammersmith Community Gardens Association to provide interactive making, handling and reminiscence sessions. Based on items from the community gardens and objects from their collections, these sessions bring the outdoors inside, and offer the museum experience to our patients in hospital.

The English National Ballet School and South Asian dance company, Akademi, get patients moving with dance performances on the wards, while The Rhythm Studio Foundation brings toe-tapping percussion workshops in which young patients and their families are invited to make music using drums, bells and other instruments.

Harpist Mark Levin regularly performs for patients of all ages, often encouraging patients to have a go at playing the instrument. Our pianist-in-residence Alastair Collingwood plays patients' favourite songs on the piano – a trip down memory lane. Vocalist Natasha Lohan encourages patients to get singing themselves to support lung health and mental wellbeing. Research shows that music for older patients is an excellent way to improve visual awareness, focus attention, improve auditory and verbal memory and improve mood.



Become an Arts for All Volunteer

This is an exciting opportunity to support the delivery of the Arts for All programme. We are looking for an individual with an interest in arts in health and participation, who is looking to gain experience working with artists in the assistance of programme delivery duties. These include:

- Supporting artists during their workshops on the wards and/or delivering your own workshops or performances to engage with patients and staff.
- Researching, recruiting for and delivering CW+ Lunchtime Performances – help us to open this opportunity up to our community.
- Supporting a programme of maintenance for equipment used in the CW+ Arts for All programme, including ensuring music systems are operating correctly and updating playlists as required.
- Contributing to the CW+ impact/research programme, including the collection of feedback from patients and individual case studies.
- Assisting in the delivery of other aspects of the arts programme and activities where relevant.
- Supporting colleagues, contributing to a happy and productive, values-driven working environment.

Person specification

The Arts for All volunteer will have good research and IT skills.

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Excellent project support skills and strong organisational skills
- Professional and excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent IT skills, including Microsoft Office
- An effective team worker with energy, initiative, and flexibility
- Comfortable working in a hospital/clinical environment
- Interest in the arts and health

What does this role offer?

- The opportunity to learn more about the CW+ Arts for All programme, and the impact participatory arts has on health and wellbeing.
- Training opportunities – the chance to work with our wide network of specialists and experts to develop skills in arts and health.



- The chance to meet new people – working directly with our Arts for All team, NHS staff and patients/visitors.
- Out-of-pocket expenses can be covered, including travel to and from the hospital.

Where?

The role will be based at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and occasionally at West Middlesex University Hospital. There is a free shuttle bus from Chelsea to West Middlesex if transportation is required.

When?

Due to the training and induction required, we are looking for someone who could commit at least one working day per week for a minimum of six months, and who would become a key part of our team. CW+ is committed to helping our volunteers thrive and develop in their role, and ensuring we provide exciting opportunities, training and support.

If you are interested in working with us at CW+ or would like to find out more, please send an email to arts@cwplus.org.uk with a short covering letter expressing your interest in the volunteer position, your arts experience and your availability to volunteer.