

Volunteering at **JANE AUSTEN'S HOUSE**

Conservation Cleaner Role Description



About this role

Jane Austen's House is a special place that needs care and conservation to make sure that it is looking its best for today's visitors, and is preserved for those to come in future generations. Our volunteer conservation cleaners play a key role in this; from dusting Jane's writing table to checking light levels, this role is at the heart of our work at JAH, and of looking after this unique and globally significant house.

What's Involved?

- Being part of the team that look after and care for JAH throughout the year.
- Hoovering and dusting our rooms and precious objects
- Taking temperature and humidity checks, as well as light levels
- Polishing our floorboards and furniture
- Occasionally helping with installation of exhibitions
- Occasionally carrying out research into our objects
- Conservation Cleaning training from our skilled staff team
- Thinking about the needs of all visitors, including disabled people and families.
- Getting to know health and safety and evacuation procedures
- Following the JAH code of conduct

How much time would you need to give?

At least one shift a fortnight.

The conservation cleaning team meet once a week on Tuesday mornings from 10.00am to 11.30am. We meet more frequently during the winter for our annual deep clean.

This role will suit you if you....

- Enjoy cleaning – but very carefully and slowly
- Love history, and the idea of being hands on with objects from the past
- Are relatively flexible, and capable of light lifting
- Enjoy meeting and talking with new people
- Have a great attention to detail, and enjoy being quite precise
- Enjoy being part of a busy, lively, and supportive team.
- Love Jane Austen! (This is actually not essential, but having a strong interest in English Literature, the Regency period or sharing stories from the past is important. You will pick up lots of facts and information through volunteering).
- Are available at least once a month.
- Want to gain experience working in museums or would like to build confidence

Things to know....

- This can be a physical role, reaching and getting into all the corners!
- Cleaning days are planned in advance as part of a weekly, monthly and annual conservation cleaning plan.
- Work is carried out under the direct supervisor of the museum Facilities Manager

How to apply

If this sounds like the right volunteer role for you, we would love to hear from you.

We ask all new volunteers to fill in a brief application to tell us a little bit more about you and why you think this role is suitable for you.

Please send completed applications, or if you have any questions, please contact our Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience

susan.rayner@janeaustens.house

Thank you