

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 not only today's visitors but also preserved for those of 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 pivotal in 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
- Conservation Cleaning training from our skilled staff team
- Hoovering and dusting the rooms and precious objects
- Taking temperature and humidity checks, as well as light levels
- Polishing floorboards and furniture
- Occasionally helping with installation of exhibitions
- Occasionally carrying out research into objects
- 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 meets twice a week and more frequently during the winter for the annual deep clean.

This role is always supervised by trained staff and a rota is drawn up a month in advance.

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 great attention to detail and enjoy meticulous work
- Enjoy being part of a busy, lively and supportive team
- Are available at least twice a month
- Want to gain experience working in museums or would like to build confidence.

Things to know....

- This can be a physically demanding role; reaching, bending and getting into all the corners
- Please be aware you may get a bit dusty and dirty
- Cleaning days are planned in advance as part of a weekly, monthly and annual conservation cleaning plan
- Work is carried out under the direct supervision of the Museum Director or Collections Assistant.

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 yourself and why you think this role is suitable for you.

Please send completed applications, or if you have any questions, please contact our Volunteering & Visitor Operations Officer:

julia.mcleod@janeaustens.house

Thank you.