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**Voluntary role**

**Conservation volunteer**

**Sir John Soane’s Museum, London, UK**

The house-museum of the celebrated Regency architect, Sir John Soane, displays his varied and idiosyncratic collections just as he left them on his death in 1837. Our small conservation team, consisting of one full-time head of conservation and two part-time assistant conservators, are responsible for the care of not only over three-thousand museum objects and framed works, but also the precious historic interiors in which they are housed.

**Conservation Volunteer background**

The conservation department is looking for one voluntary assistant who could help with the routine care of the collections one day a week. This would be an opportunity to learn the skills and principles of collection care in a historic house, and to have a role in helping to preserve this amazing survival from the Regency period.

**Role responsibility**

* Once trained by the conservators, the volunteer will help to carry out certain vital programmes of care in the Museum, for example Integrated Pest Management.
* Assisting the conservators, the volunteer may also have the opportunity to help with essential housekeeping tasks such as environmental monitoring and dusting in the museum’s historic interiors.
* The volunteer may be asked to do a variety of other tasks, as and when they arise, including helping with the movement and wrapping of museum objects, assisting with condition reports, assisting with department records and files and generally helping with on-going projects.

**Role profile**

This role would suit someone who is responsible, careful and flexible. They should have an interest in historic collections and house museums in particular. They should be happy to do a wide range of tasks from the everyday to the more complex.

**Role Skills**

* A thoughtful and careful approach to all tasks and the ability to work accurately with attention to detail
* A team player with a positive ‘can do’ attitude
* A person who takes great care when handling objects and has good manual dexterity
* An ability to be flexible and respond to the unexpected
* Good IT skills would be an advantage but are not essential
* Punctuality and reliability are important, as well as following security, and health and safety procedures

**What you’ll gain from volunteering at the Soane:**

* A full induction will be provided for the role.
* Manual handling training will be given, and ladder training where necessary.
* You would be working with the Conservation team at all times.
* Be invited to take part in talks, events and the Volunteer Lecture Series at the Museum.
* Reimbursement for out-of-pocket travel expenses will be paid, up to a maximum of £8 per day.

**Time commitment**

Many conservation tasks around the house happen on Tuesdays when the museum is closed to the public. We are looking for a volunteer who is available every Tuesday from 10am – 5pm; the role includes a one hour lunch break. Due to the amount of initial training required, we ask for a minimum of six months commitment in order to gain the most out of the role.

**How to apply**

We welcome applicants from all sections of the community. As an organisation we want to offer opportunities especially to those from our local community and to people new to museums and heritage.

If you are interested in applying for this voluntary role please send your CV and a statement of interest to Katie Weston, Volunteer Manager, 13 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3BP or email volunteer@soane.org.uk by 30/11/18.

We anticipate that informal discussions about the role will take place on the 4/12/2018.

Please contact the Volunteer Manager on [volunteer@soane.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@soane.org.uk) if you have any questions about the role.