

Role Title: Gallery Conservation Cleaning Volunteers

About the Opportunity

As part of our ongoing program of conservation at the museum, the Ashmolean Conservation Department would like to recruit a volunteer to help with the collections care and conservation cleaning of objects on open display. The objects are varied in material and size and cover different curatorial departments.

The volunteer role will involve:

- Conservation cleaning of museum objects on open display
- Cleaning plinths and flat surfaces in contact with objects
- Documenting the condition of objects on open display
- The volunteer will be working alongside and supervised by one of our conservators in a variety of different galleries within the museum, in the hours before it opens.

About Gallery Conservation Cleaning Volunteers:

- This role involves moving around the museum to all of its floors, bending low and gentle stretching to reach and carefully clean objects for a duration of an hour and a half each week.
- The role will involve dusting and personal protective equipment will be provided. Volunteers will not be using ladders or electrical equipment.
- Will be patient, have good attention to detail and work methodically.

Why volunteers might enjoy this role:

It's chance to:

- presenting the objects in the museum at their best which will benefit the objects, the staff and visitors.
- Gain experience of working within collections care and conservation
- Learn about gallery cleaning approaches in a Museum environment
- Gain insight into the Conservation Department and the museum
- Support a friendly team who will appreciate your efforts!

Commitment and Timing:

We are looking for a **volunteer who can help fairly regularly on a Thursday morning between the hours of 8.30 to 10 am**. This could turn out to be a long-term role that would give the volunteer an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the objects, the museum and some of the staff.

Training:

At your first session, a member of the conservation team will give an introduction to the role: why it is important to clean museum objects on open display, a tour of the most relevant galleries for the role, and training in the tools, materials and methods used on a variety of different object and material types. Basic health and safety training pertinent to the role will also be included.

Other information

- This role is not replacing any paid staff but supports what they do. The volunteer will be supervised by an Ashmolean Conservator on the day.
- Volunteers new to onsite GLAM volunteering will need to be registered on the Volunteer Service mailing list (MyImpactPage.com), and the Volunteer Service will need to have received two references and done an ID check before volunteers can start in this role. The role does not require any additional checks.
- Volunteers can claim reimbursement for travel expenses of up to £5 per volunteering session upon presentation of travel tickets with a completed expenses form.
- This opportunity is open to volunteers aged 18+.

How to apply

Depending upon the level the level of interest, the Ashmolean Team will shortlist people and invite to a short, informal 'interview' in person at the Museum on **Thursday 8th October 2026**.

If you are interested in the role please **complete a form by [following this link](#)**. It will ask you to:

- confirm that you are over 18
- confirm availability for 'interview' on **Thursday 8 October**
- give a short statement (max. 200 words) explaining why you are interested in the role

If sending a video or voice recording makes it easier for you to apply, then you are welcome to email the GLAM Volunteer Service at volunteering@glam.ox.ac.uk - just make sure that you cover all of these points!

The deadline to apply is by the end of Tuesday 15th September 2026.

Information will be kept in accordance with our [Data Retention Schedule](#)