

SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE

Community Cinema Volunteer (Media & Film Student Role)

Who we are and what we do

We are changing the way theatre works, the way culture and creativity is utilised for the benefit of our society. We are right at home where we should be in Prescot, Liverpool. We are the community, and the community is us. We are proud to be Northern.

We are different, we are bold, and we are brave. We use our history and our heritage as the inspiration for what we do. Understanding our history: locally, nationally, and internationally leads us to support everyone in society. We will be world class. We will empower people to tell their stories, in their own way, on their own terms.

This space, this place, together with the people: our Shakespeare North.

Our Values

The organisational values define Shakespeare North Playhouse. They create a framework for the way in which the organisation wishes to achieve the vision and objectives.

Innovative – Honest – Collaborative – Creative – Equal – Supportive – Accountable – Useful

Activity

Community Cinema Volunteer (Media & Film Student Role)

Organisational Contacts

Volunteer Manager, Visitor Experience Managers, Cinema Coordinator, and Imagine Futures CiC

Volunteer Hours

Approx. 4–6 hours per event

- Family Screenings: Saturday mornings, including a creative workshop alongside the film.
- Adult Screenings: Friday evenings, including introductions and short films.
- Runs September 2025 – February 2026 (pilot season).

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Role Summary

As a Community Cinema Volunteer, you will help us deliver a welcoming and enjoyable cinema experience for audiences at Shakespeare North Playhouse. This role is especially suited to students studying film or media (age 16+) who want to gain experience in cinema operations, audience engagement, and programming.

Volunteers will not only support front-of-house and workshop activities but also have the opportunity to learn how films are selected and how a community cinema project is programmed.

What's Involved?

- Welcoming & Front of House: Greeting audiences, guiding visitors, checking tickets, and providing friendly customer service.
- Audience Surveys: Conducting short pre-screening surveys with families and adults to help us capture feedback for the British Film Institute.
- Workshop Support (Family Screenings): Assisting with creative, film-related workshops alongside the Wee Film Club.
- Programming Insights: Learning about the process of selecting short films for screenings and programming a cinema season.
- Venue Support: Helping with smooth running of screenings, maintaining tidy spaces, and ensuring accessibility needs are met.
- Safety & Venue Protocols: Following health & safety procedures, supporting evacuation if required, and reporting issues to the duty manager.

Ideal Skills and Qualities

- Must be a film or media student aged 17+
- Friendly and approachable
- Passionate about film, cinema, and media
- Good communication skills and confidence with the public
- Reliable, punctual, and willing to learn
- Interest in event delivery, film programming, or audience engagement

Benefits of Volunteering in the Community Cinema Team

- Learn how films are selected and how a cinema project is programmed
- Gain experience in audience engagement, film events, and creative workshops
- Build transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and customer service

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- Connect with arts and film professionals, plus other volunteers
- Training in safeguarding, customer service, and fire evacuation
- Travel expenses reimbursed
- Guaranteed interview for internal job roles at the Playhouse (as a volunteer)
- Opportunities to shadow other Playhouse departments
- Complimentary tickets to selected performances and screenings

Frequently Asked Questions

Where should I go when I arrive?

Report to the Front Welcome Desk to sign in. The duty manager or cinema coordinator will brief you on the day's screenings and workshop.

What should I wear?

Flat shoes/trainers and comfortable clothing. A volunteer t-shirt or lanyard will be provided.

What if I can't make my shift?

Please email visitorexperience@shakespearenorthplayhouse.co.uk or ring 0151 433 2839 if you are running late or unable to attend.

Do I need film programming experience?

No – training and mentoring will be provided. This role is a learning opportunity for those interested in cinema, film, or festival programming.

What to expect from the screenings?

- Family Screenings: Saturday morning screenings with creative workshops for children and families.
- Adult Screenings: Friday evening events showcasing feature films, plus short films from local filmmakers.
- Affordable pricing: £3 (children), £5 (adults) to ensure cinema is accessible to all.

Confirmation of Understanding

I confirm that I understand the duties and behaviours needed to volunteer as a Community Cinema Volunteer (Media & Film Student Role) at Shakespeare North Playhouse.

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Volunteer Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Staff Member Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____