



Recruitment of paid Environmental Responsibility Intern

Background

Queen's Hall Arts (QHA) is the registered charity responsible for managing Queen's Hall Arts Centre in Hexham, Northumberland. QHA prides itself on devising and delivering a quality multi-artform programme for its community, co-creating with people of all ages and abilities to engage with culture via performances, participation, or use of our building to showcase their own talents.

We have strong and established links with our communities and have a long history of engaging hard to reach members of the communities in positive, cultural activities. We are also a source of employment and economic activity in the area, employing 31 staff, and working with 300 creative professionals every year. Our Victorian-era venue houses a 350- seat theatre, studio theatre, two galleries, library, offices, rehearsal room, and five rental spaces.

Our mission is "to be the cultural heart of our community, delivering great art experiences and supporting professional and aspiring artists"

Over the last three years, QHA has successfully evolved into a cultural leader within the region including our leadership of the Hexham Cultural Network and growth of our creative regional partnerships. Defined by the core principles of innovation, diversity and inclusion, community engagement and artist development, we have fostered a co-creation model that resonates not only within our organisation but also contributes significantly to the cultural landscape of the region.

The Future is Now Project

The Future is Now project, funded by the Community Foundation, will employ a paid intern to support the cultural sector and community groups in achieving net-zero goals through shared training and action plans.

Collaborating with young people, we will co-create a positive response to climate change through an arts centre takeover. We will expand our successful Net-Zero

Fair with youth support and create a Net-Zero Careers Fair to introduce young people to sustainable careers. The project will also address economic disparities, ensuring everyone can actively participate in and respond to climate change initiatives.

The Future is Now project builds on the success of our Net Zero Fair, which engaged over 500 attendees and featured 25 community group stalls. Through our work with schools and youth groups, we've identified significant anxiety about climate change among young people, coupled with a strong desire for positive action.

Our connections with industry leaders such as Vattenfall, Red Engineering, and Egger uniquely position us to develop a Net-Zero Careers Fair, providing young people with insights into sustainable careers. We have extensive experience in community engagement and event organization, demonstrated by initiatives like the Find Festival, a youth-led music festival, and the Hexham Pride takeover.

Co-creation is fundamental to how we deliver projects, and our ethos is to support our community to engage with challenging subjects through creativity. The arts centre takeover will put young people in charge of the process, encouraging them to engage with discussions about climate change as well as finding ways to express complex ideas in an engaging way. QHA has also developed an Environmental Responsibility Action Plan and trained key staff in Carbon Literacy, equipping us to lead this project effectively. This initiative will allow us to share our expertise and foster a collaborative approach to climate action within our community, addressing economic disparities and ensuring inclusivity for all.

The project aims to:

- Create a young people's takeover in Spring 2025 which engages with 30 young people to create the content.
- Deliver, in partnership with a third party, carbon literacy training and key learnings from the project to 25 people from 5 cultural organisations and 6 community organisations.
- Deliver a Net-Zero Careers in 2025 which is attended by 120 young people, as well as a Net-Zero Fair attended by 650 people.

About the role

The post will be paid at £12 per hour for 12 hours per week for 26 weeks. The hourly rate will increase to £12.12 from 1 April 2025. The start date will be early January 2025.

We expect that the post holder will need to be able to travel to Hexham and work at the Queen's Hall for a significant element of their working week.

This post offers a unique and exciting opportunity to work as part of a committed and enthusiastic small team.

Ideally candidates should be recent graduates or postgraduates possessing the following qualifications/skills:

- Understanding of environmental impacts of organisations and will be carbon literate
- Demonstrated experience in team collaboration
- Strong communication skills
- Effective organisational abilities
- Familiarity with communicating with the general public about environmental issues
- Interested in the arts and cultural sector

How to apply

Please send a recent CV and covering letter of no more than 300 words describing your approach to the internship, the skills you will bring to the project and what you hope to get out of the project to workforus@queenshall.co.uk.

Deadline for applications: Friday 13 December at 12 noon.

Interviews will be in person or online w/c 16 December.