

**Gardening Volunteer**

Sigmund Freud and his family cherished their garden from the moment they moved into the house in the 1930s. Today, it is still an oasis of calm and an escape from the modern world. We have kept Freud’s garden as close to the original layout and planting as possible – some of the plants are the very same stock the Freud family planted. The roses that surround the house, the clematis, the hydrangea, the geranium filled flowerpots, the circular flower bed, the plum and the almond trees were all present in 1938.

As Freud’s health declined, he was confined to his study where a bed was set up for him so that he could still look out onto his beloved garden. After his death, we know that Anna Freud continued to enjoy the garden’s lawn, flowers and trees. Her library contains a collection of books and magazines about gardening, including rose catalogues and nursery brochures. Today, the garden is enjoyed by visitors, staff and volunteers. From summer parties and private hire events to education groups and workshops, the garden is an integral part of the Freud Museum London.

We are looking to recruit volunteers to support our Front of House team with ensuring our garden is always at its best. This will be a great opportunity to utilise your love of gardening to help preserve an important museum garden.

We would love to organise a volunteering gardening group so that members of the community can share in contributing to space and can meet new people. We hope this would be a good opportunity to boost physical and mental wellness.

**Freud Museum London**

The Freud Museum London is the final home of Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis, and his daughter Anna, a pioneer of child psychoanalysis. The centerpiece of the Museum is Freud’s extraordinary study, containing his iconic psychoanalytic couch, countless books and antiquities. Opening up Sigmund Freud’s home was Anna Freud’s ultimate wish and today the museum continues to fulfil this goal. The collection, archive and photo library evoke the past, while the vibrant exhibitions, outreach and events programmes celebrate the present and continue to provoke conversations about art, psychoanalysis, mental health, society and culture for the future.

**Volunteer responsibilities**:

* Carry out horticultural tasks such as deadheading, pruning, weeding and watering.
* Learn about the history of the garden, house and Freud family.
* Be open to speak to visitors with questions about the garden.

**What skills, qualities and experience do I need?**

* You enjoy gardening and being outdoors.
* You can work individually and as part of a team.
* You have the confidence to engage and communicate with our visitors.

**What will the Museum expect from me?**

* We are seeking volunteers to support us for a couple of hours a week, which for now could be flexible. We would like to form a small gardening group of volunteers which could be a regular time and day each week.

**What will I get out of this opportunity?**

* Reimbursement of travel expenses between home and the Museum.
* Museum events and conferences free of charge, with reduced rates for evening courses.
* Attend exhibition private views.
* Receive full museum training.
* Boost and grow physical and mental wellness.
* Be recognised and appreciated for your contributions.
* Have an enjoyable experience in a fascinating environment.
* A written reference from Museum staff upon request.

**What support and training will I receive?**

* All volunteers will receive an induction before they start with us.
* You will be provided with reading material to support you in learning more about the exhibitions and the Museum.
* Staff will always be available to support you during your volunteer sessions.
* We will hold dedicated training sessions to support you with carrying out evaluations.

**Facilities**

At the Freud Museum, there is space to leave your belongings while you volunteer and a well-equipped kitchen for breaks. The Museum is a grade II listed 20th century building with no lift. There is access to Wi-Fi throughout the Museum.

**How to apply:**

* Please use the application form provided along with a CV.
* Submissions may be made by email, to [daniel@freud.org.uk](mailto:daniel@freud.org.uk) or by post, to Daniel Bento, Freud Museum London, 20 Maresfield Gardens, London, NW3 5SX

**Further information:**  
If you would discuss this role, or require any further information, please contact Daniel Bento, Operations Manager (daniel@freud.org.uk)