

The Line Assistant Facilitator Job Description and Person Specification Art and Heritage for Brain Health



Reports to:

Head of Engagement
Engagement Producer (Public Programme)

About the project:

The Line is seeking an Assistant Facilitator to support an Artist-Facilitator to deliver Art and Heritage for Brain Health, a series of 6 creative workshops for people living with early-stage dementia and their companions. The sessions will last two hours and take place weekly across May and June.

The project will provide meaningful and engaging activities that activate the five senses and will focus on creative processes and exploration of themes rather than an output. Each week a new theme will be explored through heritage and art, such as the history of trade along the River Lea; water and nature; and self-expression through creativity.

There is increasing evidence that engaging in creative activity can significantly improve the lives of people living with dementia and their companions. A 2022 report by UCL's Social Behavioural Research Group commissioned by Arts Council England cites extensive large-scale studies showing links between participation in artistic, physical and musical activities, and reduced cognitive decline in older adults (Bone & Fancourt, "Arts, Culture & the Brain", 2022). Alongside cognitive benefits, arts participation also has been shown to reduce social isolation and help to alleviate anxiety, stress and depression. Crucially, these benefits positively impact both people living with dementia and their companions

About The Line:

The Line is East London's public art trail. Its outdoor exhibition programme offers a journey through a dynamic urban landscape where everyone can explore art, nature, and heritage for free. The route runs between Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and The O2, following the waterways and the line of the Greenwich Meridian.

The Line has received funding from the Headley Trust to deliver a two-year Dementia programme. This builds on two previous years of delivering the programme. We are currently only recruiting for the first year.

About the role:

We are looking for an enthusiastic Assistant Facilitator who is passionate about creative health and wellbeing and can bring a sensitive and friendly presence to the sessions. This role may suit someone who has experience delivering sessions to individuals with additional needs. It is not essential to have experience working with people with dementia, although this would be a plus. This role would be a fantastic opportunity for someone looking to get experience in the creative health sector.

An Artist Facilitator will develop and lead sessions that introduce creative techniques to participants. These techniques will respond to the artworks, nature and heritage along the route of The Line. Activities will be 'tiered' so that there are multiple points of access, from easy to more challenging, and activities will be planned around participants' needs, interests and abilities, nurturing techniques that are easily repeatable. The role of the Assistant Facilitator is to confidently and skillfully assist the Artist Facilitator.

The successful candidate will also be required to support, motivate and engage the participants during the sessions, tailoring their approach to individual participants' needs and abilities. We are aiming to recruit 6 people living with dementia and 6 companions, to make a total of 12 participants. Each workshop will also be

supported by The Line's Engagement Producer. The Assistant Facilitator will also be required to support the project evaluation, both throughout the sessions and at the end of the project.

This role requires a person-centred and empathetic approach. We are pleased to be able to offer training as part of the programme, providing professional development and tailored skills. We ask that the appointed Assistant Facilitator complete a paid day of training with Arts for Dementia ahead of the project delivery so that the project is safely and successfully delivered.

Person specification

Essential:

- Able to commit to the project delivery period
- Has experience working with individuals with vulnerable people
- Has some experience supporting workshops
- Has a passion and skill for arts-based activities and a flexible approach to working with people
- Must be personable, empathetic and able to respond to participant needs
- Can attend Arts for Dementia training on March 10 2025
- Holds a valid DBS check or willing to complete a DBS check paid for by The Line

Desirable:

- Is confident in assisting with multiple creative techniques at an introductory level
- Has experience working with individuals with dementia
- Has experience of evaluation methods

Key dates and timeline:

Applications close	10am 13 February 2025
Applicants informed of outcome	18 February
Interviews	24/25 February
Applicants informed of interview outcome	3 March
Assistant Facilitator contract starts	10 March
Arts for Dementia training	10 March
Project delivery	May-June
Evaluation	May-July

Fee:

The total payment is £440. This is based on an hourly rate of £13.85 London Living Wage.

This is broken down as follows:

- **Delivery support:** assisting on 6 x half-day sessions, including set up, pack down and debrief.
- **Evaluation and induction:** half a day for evaluation and induction meetings.
- **Paid training:** you will be paid a day's fee to attend an online Arts for Dementia training on 10 March 10am-4pm.

Application:

Please prepare and provide:

- A cover letter (no more than one side of A4) outlining how your skills and experience are relevant to this role and why you would like to be part of this project
- A up-to-date CV (no more than two sides of A4) or portfolio

Please upload your application [here](#).

Once you have completed the Application Form, please complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form [here](#).

If you would like any further information, have any specific access requirements or would like to discuss any aspect of the role in confidence, please contact lorna@the-line.org to arrange a call.

Applications close: 10am Thursday 13 February 2025

We are committed to equality and diversity within our workforce and in all opportunities. Our recruitment process is open to all, but we would particularly like to encourage applications from people from Black, Asian, and ethnically diverse backgrounds, those who identify as LGBTQ+, those from lower socio-economic backgrounds and those who identify as disabled, as these groups are currently underrepresented in our teams and the cultural sector more widely.

With thanks to

THE
HEADLEY
TRUST

This job description is available in large print. Please email workwithus@the-line.org