

Welcome

Welcome to the July issue of Art Shape's newsletter.

Every two weeks we will share our exciting updates, stories, and keep you up to date with everything Art Shape.

You can also find out about our new courses, and meet some of our current participants.

Dates for your diary

You are invited to join us for **HappyFest**, a fun, family friendly inclusive mini festival!

HappyFest takes place at Bournside school on the **29th of July**,
12.30 - 8pm

Highlights

Art Shape have a blast at **Hi!Street fest**
New signage by artist tutor Nathan Coll

Volunteer spotlight

Meet **Matthew** and learn all about about his experience **volunteering** with Art Shape!



Join us for HappyFest



Music from:

Camilla Lewington Alice Boxhall The Lonesome Pines Tiger split
Music Works young talent DJ Collective

Acoustic performance area:

Two Can Theatre Patricia Newman School of Dance

Creative opportunities

A programme of creative workshops Music Works bus Dance
Carnival Crafts Drama with Two Can Theatre
Make a mini Happy Fest stop frame animation
Festival accessories Mad Hattie face painting
Art Space accessible circus skills

Wellness corner:

Head and Hand Massage Create Well Project Chill out zone

Refreshments from:

Coffee Cube Katie's Jolie (Noodles & Ice Cream) Pop Up Bar

Also joining us:

Walkabout Performers & puppets

Volunteer spotlight



Have you ever thought about volunteering?

We have some fantastic volunteers who offer us invaluable support at classes, events, and in the office. We had a chat with **Matthew** about his experience volunteering at Art Shape...

How long did you volunteer for Art Shape?

I volunteered over the summer of 2019 so about 2-3 months and I still do on some projects.

What made you volunteer?

I wanted to be around more disabled people. I could integrate with able-bodied people at school but it didn't feel as fulfilling for someone like me. I also felt a disconnect between me and the disabled community.

What kind of courses did you volunteer for?

I have done Showtime (a drama course, I have a soft spot for drama!) and the Tale of Two Cities, a creative project between Gloucester and Wolverhampton cities in 2019.

Was the volunteering experience what you expected?

As I was 17/18, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I expected some painting and sticking but I experienced more talking to people. As I carried on with Art Shape I experienced loads. I slowly realised I was learning how to talk to people, how to help one another, empathy and putting myself in other people's shoes.

Volunteer spotlight

Did you gain any skills or further opportunities through volunteering?

Oh yes plenty. How to come across as kind, safe and professional. The ability to strengthen people skills as well as listening and observing. Quickly learning how to do something creative and teaching it in an accessible way.

How to make a smashingly good cup of tea!

What were the most positive aspects?

Learning how to help someone. Teaching someone something fun to do. Watching someone grow in confidence. Building a community.

Would you recommend volunteering to anyone else?

Absolutely. If you want to do more art or creative things or work with people. If you're interested in being in the community more or getting out of the house to see like-minded people. Gaining your own confidence or work skills. Or simply needing a weekday cheer up!



If you would like to volunteer for Art Shape in any capacity, please ring the office on 01452 863855 for a friendly chat.



Are you interested in **volunteering or employment** but not sure how?

Esho (Employment Skills Hub Outreach) is working in partnership with Art Shape to support people to get closer to employment. You may not feel ready for employment yet, but we can support you with personalised goals to get a step closer.

If you are on **ESA, PIP OR UNIVERSAL CREDIT** (but not required to job search as you have a sick note), you are eligible for 1:1 support with our Education and Skills coordinators.

To find out more contact

donna@artshape.co.uk
or nicola@artshape.co.uk



Catch up with Art Shape



July has already been off to an amazing start with the wonderful turnout for **Hi! Street Fest** at the beginning of the month.

Our talented performers helped Sabrina the spirit of the River Wye present the curious Farrah the Fox with a special gift.

It was a fantastic, and very busy day!

We would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to all of our talented performers! And to everyone else involved in this wonderful event.

You were all absolutely brilliant.



Visitors to our office may have spotted our wonderful new signage. This was created for us by one of our artist tutors Nathan.

We love it!

You can find out more about Nathan's work over on his instagram @Nathsjoi devivre





Art Without Barriers

Support Us

Donation info



Art Shape is a unique and inspiring Gloucestershire charity. **We've been proud to work throughout Gloucestershire for over 30 years.** We strongly believe in the power of the arts to change lives and improve health and wellbeing - our vision is that all people can choose to engage with the arts as equals.

As a charity, Art Shape relies on donations and charitable funds to be able to reach the people we work with. Even a small donation can make a big difference and all donations are very gratefully received.

If you would like to make a donation to Art Shape

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