

Applications are now open to join our volunteer Creative Team and gain first-hand experience of event development & management, community engagement, partnership working, marketing & communications.

A brief introduction to our Festival

The Midlothian Science Festival started in 2012 with a programme of 30 events attended by 1000 people, 7 years on in the 2018 festival involved over 8000 people taking part in over 120 events.

The overall aim of the festival is to provide a programme of fun, interesting and accessible science events and activities across Midlothian to demonstrate that science is everywhere and for everyone!

Our mission is to:

- Inspire and engage people in science and discovery, and build trust between local science centres and local communities
- To cultivate curiosity and communicate the power of knowledge and creativity to change our world view.
- Encourage people to understand real life application of science and issues of controversy so that they might become informed citizens involved in decision making.
- Raise aspirations of local young people and help cultivate the next generation of scientific explorers.

Our aims are:

- To develop high-quality, meaningful engagement with Midlothian people and communities. Co-produce events with local groups.
- To run enjoyable science activities in Midlothian appealing to a diverse audience of all ages, backgrounds and experience.
- To provide a non-threatening entry point for local people from a varied demographic to engage with science (prioritising deprived and rural areas).
- To provide science role models in the form of festival staff, volunteers and presenters who live or work in the local area.
- To showcase Midlothian's contribution and importance to science and technology at a global level.

We aim to keep nearly all of our events completely free of charge for people to attend and endeavour to engage with those whom don't traditionally attend science based events, this includes 12-18yr olds and 19-30yr olds and also those people residing in areas of deprivation as identified through the Scottish Government's SIMD data. (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation)

The Festival is a 2 week long programme in October. Dates for 2019 are [Sat 5 October – Sat 19 October 2019](#)

What is the Creative Team and what will I be doing?

As part of the Creative Team you will gain first-hand experience of Festival and Event Management. You'll have the opportunity to gain experience of what goes on behind the scenes from working with local people/groups, event development, programme planning, partnership working and marketing & communications and then during the festival leading and delivering events too.

Key responsibilities may include: (With support from the Festival Manager as required)

- Researching and developing ideas for new science events and activities
- Meeting with and working with Midlothian community groups to further develop possible and relevant
- Review existing events and improve / amend to suit new audiences
- Manage event development and delivery
- Manage communication and relationships with partners / contributors
- Input to and support marketing materials and funding applications
- Creating resources and materials

There will also be opportunities to support and gain experience in the following areas of festival management:

- Creating a festival wide marketing strategy
- Assist with the writing of funding applications
- Capturing relevant data / feedback
- Marketing & communications including online and social media

What is the commitment?

The Team will meet monthly from April 2019. (The location is flexible based on the what suits the group best)

Between each meeting you will be expected to work on your projects / events (either individually or in small groups). Ideally you will be available throughout the summer or be able to work remotely on any projects / events, and you would also must be available during the festival too.

You will be supported by the Festival Manager, Festival Directors and Committee and your fellow Creative Team throughout.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in being involved please fill out the application form and email to claire.jellema@ed.ac.uk by **5pm on Wednesday 27 March 2019.**

[PLEASE NOTE: All applicants will be contacted by Friday 29 March. And an introductory meeting will take place at a central location on Wednesday 3 April 2019, 6pm – 7:30pm]

