

JOB DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION: WORKSHOP ASSOCIATE – ‘BALLOON GIRL’ SCHOOLS OUTREACH PROGRAMME

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| JOB TITLE: | Workshop Associate |
| PROJECT: | <i>Balloon Girl</i> / Cardiff <i>Great Exhibition 2026</i> |
| NUMBER OF DAYS: | 6 |
| FEE: | £175 per day |
| START DATE: | TBC |



OVERVIEW:

2026 marks 130 years since Cardiff hosted the extraordinary—but largely forgotten—**Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition of 1896**, a grand celebration of Victorian innovation that attracted over a million visitors. Inspired by this historical event, the **Cardiff Great Exhibition 2026 Schools Programme** invites young people to rediscover a forgotten chapter of their city’s story, imagine bold new futures and share their visions through art, storytelling and creative technology.

At the heart of the project sits *Balloon Girl*, a new theatrical production by **Hannah McPake** (Tilting at Windmills Productions), in partnership with **Sherman Theatre**. The production will act as a creative catalyst for an ambitious scheme, engaging young people during the transition from primary to secondary school—in a playful and imaginative journey through Cardiff’s history, present and possible futures. Mirroring the sense of transformation and opportunity central to the Cardiff Exhibition of 1896.

By blending immersive history with imaginative futures, the project will empower pupils to become **storytellers, innovators and custodians of Cardiff’s legacy**.

Balloon Girl Schools Outreach Programme is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

MAIN PURPOSES OF ROLE:

The Workshop Associate will work with the core creative team, *Sherman Theatre* and the Lead Facilitator to deliver activities in schools, specifically tailored for pupils in Years 6 and 7. They will instil a sense of excitement and curiosity in the learners and empower them to explore the past, make connections to the present and envision the future using both real world and digital strategies and tools.

Working hours will be flexible with meetings, events and workshops scheduled as required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION: LEAD FACILITATOR – *BALLOON GIRL* SCHOOLS OUTREACH PROGRAMME

ESSENTIAL

- Experience of working with young people aged 10 to 12 in a range of settings
- Experience of delivering arts workshops and projects
- The ability to inspire young people through a creative approach to learning
- An interest in the history of Cardiff and the impact of innovation
- Good IT skills and an awareness of the potential for digitally curated spaces
- A confident approach to liaising with internal and external stakeholders and partnership working
- The ability to work as part of a team and independently
- A commitment to equal opportunities and cultural diversity

DESIRABLE

- Ability to work through the medium of Welsh and English
- Experience working within a theatre context

TO APPLY:

If you would like to be considered for this opportunity, please email francesca.pickard@shermantheatre.co.uk explaining why you are interested in the role and how your experience would be relevant to the project.

Closing Date: 5pm, Friday 17 April 2026

You can also use this address if you have questions or would like to talk to someone informally about the role.

We want our team to reflect the communities we serve across South Wales. We therefore particularly welcome applicants from diverse ethnic communities and D/deaf and disabled communities, who are currently underrepresented within the sector.

Please note that, in line with our environmental policy, we are only handling applications electronically.