

# Volunteer with the

*Creative Arts at* **THE BIG E**

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteers are an important part of Creative Arts at The Big E! We are always in need of volunteers before, during and after the fair. We have volunteer opportunities appropriate for people of all ability levels.

Why Volunteer? As a volunteer, you may earn day ticket to The Big E fair, meet new people, learn more about a craft from fellow crafters and judges, and be proud of your contribution towards creating an amazing Creative Arts display that is admired by thousands.

## **DURING THE FAIR**

### **The Creative Arts Ambassador**

*\*Dates subject to change slightly\**

*September 13-29      4-hour shifts between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm\**

The volunteer Ambassadors are the friendly faces everyone sees when they enter the New England Center. Ambassadors greet fair visitors, answer questions about our wonderful exhibits and general fair questions. Ambassadors monitor exhibits during the Fair and make sure that no one touches the displays. Ambassadors volunteer for 4 hour shifts and receive a free entry ticket and free parking to the Fair for that day! We also offer free snacks and beverages while you are volunteering.

*\*The New England Center will likely close at 10pm (subject to change)*

### **The Creative Arts Tour Guide**

*September 13-29*

Tour guides will be provided with information to share with our fairgoers about the wonderful exhibits, history, and how to become involved. Tours will be scheduled on weekends and some weekdays on the hour or every other hour from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

### **Demonstrators**

*September 13-29      4-hour shifts between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm*

We, in the Creative Arts Department at The Big E, feel it is essential for those involved in any aspect of creative arts (quilting, photography, gardening, knitting, and more) to share their skills with others. By sharing our love of the arts, we promote awareness of the crafts and encourage others to carry on artistic traditions. Your knowledge and support can inspire people to continue their projects and discover new crafts.

Each year, demonstrators represent and promote their craft at The Big E. The role of the demonstrator is to show the public how their art, craft or horticulture is done. This may include how to get started, where to go for help, instruction, and supplies needed. Through educational presentations, demonstrators motivate others to try something new. You may demonstrate your craft in areas set up amongst our display, or on the stage.

## **PRE AND POST FAIR VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers who donate 8 or more hours of time before the Fair begins and after the Fair closes receive a one-day ticket to The Big E for every 8 hours of volunteering.



### **Pre & Post Fair Organizers**

*August—October 1*

Assist with clean up and take down of displays. Sort paperwork.

### **Creative Arts Set Up Assistant**

*August 30 (photography) and September 5-12 (Most other departments)*

Our Set-Up Assistants handle all the entries received for the Creative Arts after judging. They assist with the set up and placement of over 1,000 entries for display.

### **Scribes and Presenters**

*August 30 (Fine Arts), September 4-10 (Most other departments)*

Judging day is a busy day for the Creative Arts department. We have several departments to be judged and each judge needs a scribe and often a presenter who lays out the items to be judged. The scribe writes all the placings and judge's comments as each item is judged. They also review judging sheets for completeness. Presenters keep judges moving by keeping entries organized during the judging process and present judges with the next item to be judged. These two positions are often switched between individuals during the day, one person will act as the scribe for a couple hours and then switch with the presenter.

### **Receiving and Post Fair Pick-Up Assistants**

*RECEIVING: August 29 (Photography & Fine Arts), September 3 (Most other departments) & September 9-10 (Food)*

*PICK UP: September 30 & October 1 (all departments)*

Assist exhibitors when they drop off their entries for judging and picking up their entries after the Fair. Assistants check each entry as received for overall condition and check that the entry is properly entered and tagged. After the Fair, assistants help exhibitors locate their entries, pick up their paperwork and check out.

**If you have any questions, please contact Creative Arts at [CreativeArts@TheBigE.com](mailto:CreativeArts@TheBigE.com) or call 413-205-5015.**

***Thank you for your support and time dedicated to the Creative Arts.***

***The incredible displays admired by all that visit the New England Center are only possible with the support of our amazing volunteers!***

***Thank you.***

**Please consider becoming a Creative Arts Volunteer and help make Creative Arts the Best!**

Please return this form by **August 15** to [CreativeArts@TheBigE.com](mailto:CreativeArts@TheBigE.com) or mail to:

Eastern States Exposition, Creative Arts  
1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089



Are you able to walk for 3 ½ hours during your shift as an Ambassador? \_\_\_\_ Yes, if no, we will provide seating for some of the time. If you are unable to walk, please contact our office so we can find ways for you to assist.

**Creative Arts Demonstrator.** Come show others how to do your craft.  
 Craft: \_\_\_\_\_  
 We will contact you to make sure we have everything you need for your demonstration.

**Pre & Post Fair Organizers** August-October 1(various dates)  
 Dates & Times Available \_\_\_\_\_

**Creative Arts Set Up Assistant** August 30 (photography) and September 5-12 (all other departments)  
 Please write in times available.

8/30	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9	9/10	9/11	9/12

**Judge’s Scribes and Presenters** August 30 (Fine Arts) & September 4-10 (All other departments)

8/30	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	Department to assist with:
					_____

**Receiving and Post Fair Pick-Up Assistants**

<b>Receiving</b>				
Depts	Photo & Fine Arts	Depts 1-17, 30-39, 43	Food	Food
Day	Thursday	Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday
Date	8/29	9/3	9/9	9/10
Hours	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM	4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	9:00 AM-11:00 AM
<b>Please write in hours available</b>				
<b>Pick-Up</b>				
Day	Monday	Tuesday		
Date	9/30	10/1		
Hours	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM		
<b>Please write in hours available</b>				

\_\_\_\_ Please mail my car and entry pass.

\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my passes after August 15. (please call ahead, the office is staffed part time). 413-205-5015

\_\_\_\_ I require handicap parking and have a state issued handicap placard or plate.

Anyone volunteering 5 (five) or more days during the Fair will be provided a photo ID badge and must arrange to pick up in the office and have their photo taken (after Labor Day).

**Additional Volunteer Opportunities**

There are events this summer and we are looking for volunteers!

Wine and Cider & Perry Competition: Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Cheese Competition: Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**I would like to receive more information about: (please circle all that apply)**

Wine and Cider & Perry Competition

Cheese Competition

I am unable to volunteer at either of these events