

United Learning 2019

Project Number:	2018-1-UK01-ESC11-060143
Proposed Activity Dates:	24-Aug-2019 to 24-Jul-2020
Locations:	Godstone, Surrey, UK
Coordinating Organisation:	Inter-Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE-UK) (EVS Accreditation 2015-1-UK01-KA11-022764)
Receiving Organisation:	Orpheus Centre (EVS Accreditation 2014-1-UK01-KA110-012304)
Number of Participants:	2

In this project there are two receiving organisation, the Orpheus Centre and Treloar Trust. Below is the information about the placement at the Orpheus Centre and the information about the Treloar Trust is available in a separate document

About the Orpheus Centre

The Orpheus Centre is an inclusive, residential, performing arts centre founded by entertainer and musician Richard Stigloe in 1998 in his former family home in Godstone. The Orpheus Centre provides opportunities for personal development through the performing arts and other learning experiences for young adults with disabilities so that they can make informed choices about the future and gain skills to enable them to live more independently in the community.

By using music and the performing arts as a vehicle for self-development the Orpheus Centre aims to offer people creative experiences through which they will discover and develop new skills, new aspects of themselves and therefore new expectations. The Orpheus Centre works in a user-led way, providing their care services in a sensitive, flexible manner to meet individual needs, and delivering their educational programme in a way that meets individual goals.

The Centre provides supported housing for students and offers a diverse curriculum of performing arts, independence, functional and life skills. There is space for up to 30 students to live in supported housing at the centre, with up to 40 students taking part in the learning programme on a full or part time basis and many more involved in the short courses that the centre provides during the year. Please see their website for more information: www.orpheus.org.uk

Role and Tasks for volunteers at the Orpheus Centre

The Orpheus Centre offers the students activities based around music and performing arts which act as a vehicle of self-development, enabling them to learn new creative and independent living skills and to learn about themselves. Volunteers play an important role in helping the students at the centre engage in the activities and achieve an independent lifestyle by providing creative, practical and motivational support.

The majority of the tasks for the volunteers are in relation to supporting students in their Learning and Performing Arts and Life Skills Programmes. Volunteers assist in the smooth running of different sessions and provide direct support to students and tutors in different sessions. Sessions can be in a wide variety of areas such as: Music, Music Technology, Singing, Song writing, Social Dance, Theatre, Multimedia, Wardrobe and Props, IT skills, Logistics and Budgeting, Performance and Presentation, Nutrition, Literacy, Numeracy, Cooking, Creative Writing, etc.

The type of support the volunteers provide could be helping an individual student with an aspect of the session they find particularly challenging; practical support to enable students to develop their own design; providing creative support in song writing or drama; or providing encouragement and motivation.

Volunteers can also provide assistance in education classes such as note-taking, reading and supporting group work. Volunteers may also accompany students on trips outside of the centre; this might be for practical activities such as going to the shops or for leisure activities.

All members of the community at the Orpheus Centre, including the volunteers, are involved in the performances that the students put on - in particular with the end of term performances which are often at an external venue. Volunteers can be involved in different aspects of the performances depending on their interests and the needs of the students. This can include helping in the set up of the production (arranging the set, preparing the auditorium), assisting with the marketing and art work or acting as an enabler during the performance.

Volunteers are encouraged to share their own culture, interests and hobbies with the students and staff at the centre. This could be through sharing traditions, cooking food from their home country or through social interactions, etc. Previous volunteers have also developed sessions incorporating their own skills and knowledge in areas such as visual arts, creating masks, foreign languages, folk music sessions and physiology.

Volunteers are encouraged to be involved in the full range of activities on offer at the centre however they also have the opportunity to focus on areas of interest as well as spend time assisting in areas that are new to them. Volunteers at the Orpheus Centre in the same academic year will be involved in similar activities as each other but will each have their own role and support different activities from each other at any one time.

Practical Aspects:

Accommodation

The volunteers are accommodated at the centre. The volunteers' accommodation is separate from that of the students and is shared with the other volunteers. Each volunteer has their own bedroom.

Location / Local Transport

The centre is in a very rural location and there is limited public transport from the centre. The centre is a 30 minute walk from the nearest village, Godstone. Volunteers need to be prepared to live in the countryside.

A link to Google maps with the location of The Orpheus Centre:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Godstone,+Surrey+RH9+8ND/@51.2569345,-0.0778429,15z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x4875f94faba605c7:0xcdea6c5642a405b6?hl=es-419>

Food

Volunteers are provided with a weekly allowance for food costs. Volunteers then buy and prepare their own food. They will have access to the kitchen and will be supported in accessing the shops/buying food where needed. The food allowance is in addition to the volunteer allowance but volunteers receive these together as one payment received weekly or monthly.

Holidays / Days Off

The volunteer will have two days off per week (normally Saturday and Sunday). Volunteers have holidays during the holiday times of the centre (at half terms, Christmas and Easter). The dates for the holidays will be provided at the beginning of the voluntary service.

Placement dates: