



# Volunteer Case Study

## Chelsea Starke



### How long have you been a volunteer?

I volunteered for two months during Spring 2011.

### Why did you decide to volunteer at the Quilt Museum and Gallery?

In Spring 2011 I came to York as an international student from Minnesota, USA. I was required to undertake a voluntary placement as part of my course. I chose the Quilt Museum because I loved that it is based in such a historic building and there is a rich history of quilting in my family.

### Describe your role at the Quilt Museum.

I undertook several roles during my placement. I worked as a Gallery Steward and assisted with children's workshops. I worked on the online collections catalogue, edited interviews for the Quilt Museum website and I researched and wrote an article about an antique coverlet in the collection. I also attended various Quilt Museum events and training.

### What new skills have you gained from being a volunteer?

I have gained a range of new skills, including increased confidence in communicating with different people and an improved knowledge of quilting as a craft.

### Would you recommend volunteering with us?

I would absolutely recommend volunteering with the Quilt Museum and Gallery. The skills I obtained will help my professional development and I will cherish the experiences for the rest of my life.

Furthermore the staff and volunteers I worked with were kind, caring and extremely helpful and the atmosphere was always filled with positive energy.