About Open-City

Open-City is an **architecture education charity** dedicated to broadening awareness of good quality architecture in London. By creating opportunities for debate and discussion related to architectural design, we invite a wide range of people to develop their understanding of the city's environment. Based in Shoreditch in London, the charity reaches hundreds of thousands of people each year – from decision-makers in local government through to the general public, children and young people. Through the year, we work with a wide audience to extend learning through architecture. Here is a selection of our key activities:

- **Public Engagement Programmes**
  Open House London, held over one weekend each September where 700 buildings are opened across the capital to the general public for free. During the event around 250,000 visits take place in 48 hours and a variety of talks and tours take place as people enjoy London's architecture. Open House London has been at the heart of the charity's development and is our best-known event.

- **Education Programmes**
  Over the past ten years, Open-City has worked closely with schools, educational bodies, youth groups and architects to devise and deliver learning experiences for children and young people across London. The education programmes such as Architecture in Schools and Archikids Festival support the delivery of curriculum objectives through architecture and encourage children and young people to explore their built environment.

- **Design Advocacy Programmes**
  Design awareness programmes for London decision-makers are a key part of Open-City's work. We offer training and advocacy for councillors and officials who make planning decisions, the public who might be asked to comment on big developments, and business to business events such as Green Sky Thinking, our programme for built environment professionals highlighting new thinking in sustainability.

Key dates for 2013:
13-19 April: Green Sky Thinking Week
17-19 May: Archikids Festival
21-22 September: Open House London Festival

Visit http://www.open-city.org.uk for more details of our projects.

Volunteering opportunities

1. Helping to coordinate and deliver our programmes and core activities year-round
Around 20 volunteers work in the office year-round assisting a small team of staff with all areas of our work – from general administrative and office assistance, research into various aspects of architecture, technical work on our websites, database through to marketing and press work and image bank. We are dedicated to building upon the expertise and knowledge of all the volunteers and aim to make the experience as rewarding as possible. We've a friendly team in the office and hold annual fun 'away-days' as well as other social gatherings in the year! We welcome volunteers from all backgrounds – a specific expertise in architecture or education is not essential.

2. Stewarding, guiding and activity delivery
We are also always keen to hear from people wanting to volunteer at our live events such as Open House London, Archikids Festival and Green Sky Thinking Week as volunteer stewards and guides at participating events.

Key volunteering outcomes during our events include:-
Developing enhanced communication, presentation skills and confidence that can be useful vocationally
- Self–motivation, taking responsibility, understanding team work
 - Working co-operatively with a wide variety of people

In return for giving up a morning or afternoon of their time, volunteers receive benefits such as a priority entry badge for Open House London in September

How to get involved

If you are enthusiastic about architecture and would like to get involved in one of the above ways, we would love to hear from you. Please send your CV or a brief outline of your experience, the project and type of role/areas of work you are most interested in, to Natalya Wells on volunteers@open-city.org.uk

Where we are

Address: 18 Ensign Street, London E1 8JD
Tel: 020 3006 7008
Nearest Stations: Tower Hill, Aldgate East, Shadwell

Open
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Open-City is an
architecture organisation

Registered charity
no.1072104

open-city.org.uk