



Job Title: Technician Traineeship

Salary: £16,478 pro rata plus 5% pension
30 hrs per week over 4 days 9.00am – 5pm (0.5hr lunch break)

Contract: Fixed Term – 2 years

Responsible to: The traineeship will be supported by SSW's Senior Technician with additional training from SSW's Ceramics Technician and the wider staff team.

Role benefits: Free studio/workshop access 1 day per week for personal practice. Budget for enhanced training opportunities and skills development.

Relocation: Onsite self-catering accommodation for a fixed period of 3 months

Deadline for applications: 12 noon, **Thursday 15 November 2018**

Date for interview: Interviews will be held on Wednesday 28 November. We cannot offer Skype interviews for this position. Please advise in advance if you are unable to attend in person on this date.

Commencement of role: Monday 7 January 2019

About SSW

Scottish Sculpture Workshop SSW is a facility based within the rural village of Lumsden, Aberdeenshire. Through artistic experimentation, collaboration and the sharing of ideas, tools and skills SSW empowers artists to make. The core programme is formed through the facilitation of artist residencies, the delivery of artists' projects and the provision of public workshop facilities. We do this with support of both national and international partnerships. Please visit our website at www.ssw.org.uk for more information about SSW.

SSW Values

For nearly 40 years SSW has been a site for empowerment and exchange. We continue to build on this ethos and remain committed to these founding ideas. The values that underpin our work are to:

- Create a respectful, compassionate and kind mutual learning environment where people feel able to express their ideas, make without judgement and ask questions without fear of reprisal.
- Believe everybody has significant, valuable skills to bring to the SSW site and programme.
- Provide a space where people can speak and make, safely and securely.
- Common making skills and equipment; we ensure the tools, facilities and knowledges held within SSW are accessible to all.
- Place the practice of listening as core to our working methods.
- Be ethical and fair in all of our work.
- Place equal value on all our work whether at a local, regional, national or international level.

About SSW Technician Traineeship:

This traineeship is an entry level technical position aimed at those invested in developing and sharing their making practice and technical knowledge through on the job training and hands-on learning.

Over the two year period the trainee will focus on developing their knowledge of making processes within the SSW facilities and explore the ways in which these skills are shared and disseminated through working directly with artists and going on to deliver workshops and taster courses.

The selected trainee will learn a wide range of technical skills across foundry, wood, metal and mould making. They will do this through supporting; the efficient and safe running of the SSW workshop facilities; artists on residency and open access; and

assisting workshop users with the realisation of their work, research and ideas. The trainee will also support on the maintenance of SSW facilities including general care of communal areas and grounds.

For nearly 40 years SSW has been a site for making and learning, empowerment and exchange, based in a belief that everyone brings unique and important skills to the workshop environment. The Technician Traineeship role is embedded in this ethos aiming to encourage and cultivate the selected candidate's making and teaching skills in order for them to go on and support the wider artistic, making and craft ecologies in Scotland and beyond. The traineeship also sets out to support the continuation of important and multiple pedagogies inherent in technician's roles and practice.

We look to open up this opportunity to people with a proven interest in SSW's activities, with a need to gain more experience before entering full employment. Previous holders of traineeships at SSW have gone on to undertake technician roles at Glasgow Sculpture Studios, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh Sculpture Workshops as well as at commercial fabrication facilities and also teaching posts.

SSW is committed to equalities, diversity and inclusion. We welcome applications from all backgrounds, ethnicities, ages and genders.

The SSW Technician Traineeship will support in:

Facilities

- The smooth and safe running and maintaining of all SSW facilities
- Providing technical support to artists using the SSW facilities, and ensuring artists are aware of the proper safety protocols when operating machinery.
- Ensuring the studios and workshops are kept clean and tidy, and the site is kept in an orderly fashion.
- Assisting with regular site checks, working through a maintenance schedule across SSW premises and maintaining appropriate records thereof.
- Undertaking routine maintenance and managing equipment in the workshop areas, procuring specialist input where necessary, or alerting other staff members of requirements.
- Assisting with the ordering and management of workshop supplies and stock, liaising with appropriate members of the SSW team.

SSW Programme & Projects:

- Providing technical skills, organisation of materials, outsourcing production when required, and working closely with SSW staff and artists in support of SSW's wider programme and projects.
- Hosting aspects of the SSW programme, working with all members of SSW staff to ensure a welcoming and productive environment
- Working with SSW Programme and Communications Manager to integrate and develop ways of sharing workshop activity through the SSW public programme.

Health & Safety

- To assist with the ongoing development and implementation of the health and safety policy and strategies for SSW, and maintain appropriate records thereof.
- Providing orientation and site inductions to SSW for all new staff, volunteers, visitors, residents, and workshop users.

Advocacy & General Duties

- To represent and promote SSW to artists, makers, onsite users/residents as well as the general public.
- To attend and participate in internal meetings, as appropriate.
- To contribute to the development of a professional working and learning environment within the organisation.
- To contribute to the development and working strategies of the organisation.
- To undertake all duties with respect to others, without discrimination and in line with SSW's values.
- To undertake other duties as requested from time to time.

Person Specification

Essential

- Educated to degree level or equivalent experience
- Basic understanding of materials and takes pleasure in making
- Organised and flexible approach to working across multiple tasks and projects
- Finds enjoyment in supporting artists and critically engaging with contemporary art practices
- Collaborative worker with a personable demeanour
- A self-starting and pro-active approach to work
- Sociable, communicative and motivated
- Aptitude for problem solving and communicating working process
- Enthusiasm for working in a highly rural environment
- Flexible worker who can accommodate some evening and weekend events when necessary
- Commitment to SSW, its ethos and approach to learning and making
- Committed to equal opportunities practice and SSW's values

Desirable

- Good knowledge of Scotland-based artists, makers and arts ecology
- Commitment to sustainability and ecological practices
- Clean driving license



Applications

All applicants should use our online application form (link on website page) to apply and we advise you to complete your application offline until it is ready to be submitted, as the contents of the form cannot be saved before submission. You will be asked to submit:

- A recent CV
- 500 word outline of why you think you are suitable for the role and why this opportunity would be of benefit to you.
- The names and contact details of two recent referees (including your most recent employer if applicable). Please note they will not be contacted until the job has been offered.

If you have problems using the online submission platform please contact email: admin@ssw.org.uk

The SSW website contains information about SSW's various projects, residency programme, schools and community activities to date and as such, will provide you with a good general overview of the organisation. Search: www.ssw.org.uk.