



# VOLUNTEER TIPS + FAQ'S

## **Who can volunteer?**

Anyone ages 14-104 can volunteer for ArtPrize! You must sign up online and have a valid email address so that we can communicate with you any information that you will need.

## **What time commitment does being an ArtPrize volunteer require?**

Volunteers can commit to as little as one shift (typically around three hours long) plus an hour for orientation. Of course, we'd love for everyone to sign up for at least three. If you want to get involved but can only commit to volunteering one time, we're happy to have you join the team!

## **Do I have to go to orientation?**

**The orientation/training is REQUIRED.** All volunteers must attend a training session during the week before the event, or they will not be able to volunteer. Our volunteers will be well-informed representatives of our organization, and a short training will ensure that this is the case.

## **Where is orientation?**

All orientation/training will be happening at either the UICA or the Old Federal Building. We will be providing several options so that everyone can attend, including weekdays, weeknights, and weekend options.

## **Can ArtPrize 2010 artists also volunteer?**

Yes, we'd be happy to have artists involved in volunteering opportunities. Please keep in mind that it is very important that ArtPrize not be connected with the promotion of your work. That means when you are volunteering, you are a volunteer. Any promotion of your work in the competition while volunteering will result in the termination of your participation with the Volunteer Team.

## **I need to sit down. Are there opportunities for me to volunteer that don't require standing for long periods of time?**

There are many opportunities that would not require long periods of standing. You may want to consider avoiding Wayfinding and Security/Hospitality positions, though, as those will require you to be standing for the duration of your volunteer shift.

## **Can I bring my kids to my volunteering shifts?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to have children come along with their parents for their volunteer shifts. If your child is 14 years or older, they are invited to sign up with their own account as a volunteer, and would then sign up for their own shifts. We are more than happy to have a parent and child working at the same time, but the child needs to be over 14 and obtain a work permit from their school before they start volunteering.

## **Do I need to eat before my shift?**

We encourage you to be prepared for your shift and eat before you come. We will, however, have an "honor bar" in our Volunteer Lounge so that you can grab a snack or a drink before or after your shift for a minimal cost.

## **Will we get a T-shirt like last year?**

This year, instead of T-shirts we will be providing vests for our volunteers to wear during their shifts. The benefit of a vest will be especially obvious on cold days when you need a jacket to keep warm! We will be providing each volunteer with an official ArtPrize 2010 Guidebook, Map, and Wristband.

## **(TIPS + FAQ'S CONTINUED)**

### **What are the perks of being a volunteer?**

Each volunteer will be given a free ArtPrize 2010 Guidebook, Map and Wristband. The wristband will allow you to ride the Rapid (our city wide bus system) for free during event hours, as well as access to the ArtPrize shuttles. All volunteers are also invited to join us the last Sunday morning for a Volunteer Thank You Reception. Additional benefits will be awarded as you work more shifts! For every 3 shifts you work, you will get a voucher for 50% off any item at our gift shop. For every 6 shifts you work, you will get a VIP ticket to the Winners Announcement. This works cumulatively, so if you work 12 shifts you will get 4 vouchers and 2 tickets.

### **Can I pick what venue I volunteer at?**

We cannot guarantee that you will be placed in or near the venue of your choice. Please be sure to set aside time to visit your favorite venues when you are not volunteering.

### **Where can I take the shuttle service to?**

Shuttle services will be provided between Exhibition Centers, as well as to various other places around the area. Please take a look at [artprize.org/event-info/shuttle-stops](http://artprize.org/event-info/shuttle-stops) for more detailed information.

### **What if I don't know my way around downtown Grand Rapids?**

We will give you maps and resources so that you feel comfortable in the role of a Wayfinder. However, if you are still concerned about giving proper guidance, there are a lot of different opportunities to volunteer, please feel encouraged to pick a shift at The Hub instead.

### **As a Wayfinder, what information will I have with me to answer questions?**

This year, Wayfinders will be sent out with a full kit of information that will hopefully answer any question a visitor may throw your way. These kits will include a copy of the guidebook and map, as well as maps of downtown restaurants, available bathrooms, and other pertinent information. Plenty of answers to voting and event questions will also be provided to help you give consistent and complete answers.

### **What if it's raining during the time I signed up for a Wayfinding shift?**

Rain or shine, people come down in droves to visit ArtPrize during the short time period it is available. We count on our Wayfinders to assist them no matter what the weather! Be sure to dress appropriately for being outside for your entire shift, including umbrellas or raincoats if the skies look threatening.

### **Are any ArtPrize events free for volunteers?**

ArtPrize is free for all visitors, and events unless otherwise noted will also be open to the public at no charge.

### **What is the Facebook group page used for?**

The Facebook group is a great place to get to know your fellow volunteers, share tips and stories, and stay updated on the most recent ArtPrize news. This will also be a great place to find out about last-minute needs in our volunteer opportunities!

### **What's the Twitter account for ArtPrize volunteers?**

Twitter is a great way for us to contact all of you in real time, with information ranging from emergency needs to updates about ArtPrize happenings and insider news and stats for our volunteers. ArtPrize\_Vlntr will be a private account only viewable by ArtPrize volunteers.