



## DUKE EYE CENTER ARTS PROGRAM

### POSITION OVERVIEW:

As an Art Cart volunteer you will interact with children to encourage and support art making and other creative activities while they and their families await surgery or doctor appointments. You should be comfortable working in an outpatient clinic setting with children who have various vision and developmental abilities. You will be supervised by the Eye Center Arts Program Coordinator and/or the Eye Center Social Worker.

**TITLE:** Eye Center Pediatric Art Cart Facilitator

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Interact with pediatric patients and family members to engage them in program activities
- Offer age and ability appropriate art making materials and activities
- Disinfect art materials and tools
- Offer information about art materials, their sources and related arts based activities

### INITIAL IMPACT:

Arts based activities offered through the Eye Center's Pediatric Art Cart help young patients and their family members relax and have fun while waiting for surgery or clinic appointments. Such activities also help to reduce stress and perceived waiting time. Participating patients are often more cooperative when they encounter their healthcare providers.

### SUSTAINED OUTCOMES:

The program models creative leisure activities that can be enjoyed at home. Caregivers are informed of adaptive art materials and tools that can be resourced. The creative abilities of young patients are emphasized, often taking the focus away from the child's disability.

### TRAININGS:

General Volunteer Orientation and Training Session  
Health Screening  
Background check  
Individualized job specific training  
will be provided by Arts & Health at Duke.

**SUPPORT:**

The Duke Eye Center Arts Program Coordinator and the Eye Center Clinical Social Worker provide support and guidance for volunteers in this position. Pediatric Ophthalmic Technicians may be available depending on their clinic obligations.

**COMMITMENT:**

A minimum of one year, or one academic year for students. Volunteers are expected to serve a minimum of one 3-4 hour shift each week. They may serve additional shifts depending on availability.

Volunteer service may occur during the following business hours: weekdays, 8 am – 5 pm. No evening or weekend hours are available.

**LOCATION OF VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENT:**

Duke Eye Center, 2315 Erwin Rd, Durham, NC 27705. (Duke Medical Center Campus, adjacent to Duke University West Campus)

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and have an interest in the arts. They should be comfortable working with children and others who are living with disabilities, especially vision loss. Email access is important for receiving schedules and important program updates.

**SKILLS:**

Excellent communication & interpersonal skills are required. The ability to listen and to empathize are extremely important. Knowledge of art materials and techniques is requested.

**BENEFITS:**

Volunteers will experience direct contact with pediatric patients and their caregivers who are coming for Ophthalmology appointments and surgeries. Volunteers will benefit from serving in a friendly, busy clinical out-patient environment where encounters with the arts offer a positive distraction during a time that can be stressful and difficult.