

UK Skills Show, NEC, 14th-17th November 2012: How you can be involved

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Group is very proud to be supporting the UK Skills Show. The Skills Show is taking place this 14th-17th November at the NEC and we need **you**, the businesses of our region, to get involved.

WHAT IS THE SKILLS SHOW?

The Skills Show is a unique annual celebration that offers exciting opportunities in further education, skills and Apprenticeships, and is set to inspire the fashion designers, web developers and engineers of tomorrow. The Skills Show will play host to a range of skills competitions, awards and activities.

Set to be the skills event of the year, the show will highlight the vital importance of skills to economic growth in the UK. Taking place over three days, within 50,000sqm of space, and with tens of thousands of visitors expected to attend, this will be a unique opportunity to profile your organisation, on a large scale.



This UK-wide show, funded by a partnership of the major national and regional educational/skills providers, will be hosted annually by the NEC for the next three years and it is all about celebrating, and improving, the wide variety of skills our economy is based on. Following on from Worldskills 2011 in London, which drew 200,000 visitors, its aim is to provide an exciting and interactive place for young people, parents, schools and employers to enable them to share ideas and support career choices. This is a careers show with a difference- it goes far beyond traditional stands and into an exciting, practical exhibition of our nation's many skills. It offers:

- Practical, hands-on experiences for young people to **'have a go'** at different jobs from every sector and size of employer
- Expert impartial careers information and advice
- Interactive demonstrations and exhibitions by employers and educators showcasing different job types
- For the first time, the finals of all UK national skills competitions will occur at the same time, at the same place
- Visitor numbers in the region of 100,000 are expected



The Chamber has been asked by the Skills Show as a lead on galvanizing business support for the event in the Greater Birmingham area. We've been hearing a lot lately about how today's potential workforce lack the skills they need to make a success of the jobs businesses have to offer. Here's your chance to help make a change.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are three ways your business can contribute to the show and publicise what you do:

- **Host a 'Have a Go' session to help showcase your firm and your sector.**

These session can take place any time in the run up to the show or slightly after. They can be anything from a workshop on stonemasonry to upcycling broken jewelry; whatever your organization does there's a session you can offer. These sessions can be customized to fit your operational needs, and your businesses preference for the ages/profile of young people you'd like to work with. Working with Further Education and Schools, the Chamber will facilitate the session, including providing back up and advice on issues such as health and safety, to ensure that there is no undue burden on you as the host.

If you would like to host a have a go session please contact John Ling j.ling@birmingham-chamber.com for more information.

Please see the Further Information section below for more details.

- **Provide a personal 20 minute 'spotlight' talk to a group of young people during the show.**

The aim of these sessions is to engage and inspire young people and help broaden horizons, open new perspectives and illuminate learning. Over 100 speakers will be sharing their knowledge over the three days of the show. Speakers will focus on one of 5 key sectors: The Built Environment, Engineering, Business & Technology, Creativity, and Manufacturing.

We are looking for interesting personal journeys into vocational careers. Interested? You can apply through the show's website [here](http://worldskillsuk.apprenticeships.org.uk/the-skills-show/i-want/find-out-more-about-spotlight-talks) or by going to <http://worldskillsuk.apprenticeships.org.uk/the-skills-show/i-want/find-out-more-about-spotlight-talks>.

- **Provide [volunteers](#) to help out at the Skills Show in November.**

Can't run a have a go session or deliver a spotlight talk? You can still help make the skills show a success and improve the prospects of young people in the region by providing volunteers or volunteering yourself. Volunteering, as well as helping support a world class show aimed at helping develop the youth of today, will also give your employees an opportunity to become involved with young people, and see for themselves how to engage with younger employees. Want to get involved? You can apply online through the Skills Show Website [here](http://worldskillsuk.apprenticeships.org.uk/the-skills-show/i-want/volunteer) or by going to <http://worldskillsuk.apprenticeships.org.uk/the-skills-show/i-want/volunteer>.

Taking part in The Skills Show in whatever form is a great opportunity for our Business Community to showcase our willingness to support the young people of the region through this difficult economic time, and provide some much needed positive guidance. Together we can help them make better career choices, and to help you make a difference to the community where you work.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Have a Go Sessions

Sessions can be held anytime between now and 31/3/2013, however ideally before the end of November this year. You can host as many sessions as you like from hosting one group once to several on several occasions. The age range of participants will be between older primary (year 6), secondary all stages or young adult (up to 24) and will depend on what activity you are providing and your own objectives. Groups will be no smaller than around 10 with an upper limit, depending on what type of activity you are providing and space available on your premises, of around 30. Groups are selected through communication with all types of organisations connected to young people (schools, colleges, charities). If you have any organisations or groups you'd like to target we can work with you to try and ensure we engage with your priority groups in the first instance before moving on to other networks.



Whilst ideally it would be best if young people could come to your place of work for the session, if, for whatever reason, this is not possible we may be able to arrange for colleges or other employers who have pledged their support to host it at their site.

In terms of support we will work with organisations interested in hosting a have a go session and educators to identify what sort of session you can run, help build it with a standard toolkit, match you to a group of young people and engage with educators who will help supervise the event with you and ensure that the young people receive additional career advice afterwards. We are also able to offer advice on health and safety and any other concerns.

Organisations across the region are already planning to host some exciting, creative, inspiring and useful sessions. Here just some examples:

Provider	Have a Go Activity
Amada	Build Your Own Miniature Metal Plane to Take Away With You
Birmingham City University	Crime Scene Behavioural Analysis
Car-O-Liner	Have a Go at Resistance Spot Welding & Re-align a Car using Bluetooth Technologies
Festo	Have a Go at Mobile Robotics
Lincoln Electric	Have a Go at Virtual Welding
National Numeracy	Have a Go at Numeracy Activities
Prospect Training Services (Glos) Ltd	Have a Go at Automotive Refinish - Pimp my Panel! Bling my Alloys!
PTP Training Ltd	A Taste of Oral Health
Skills for Security Ltd	The World of Security

South Staffordshire College	Plant Propagation
The Welding Institute	Have a Go at Welding with Chocolate
Walsall College	Recycling Fabrics and Broken Jewellery to Make Fashionable Fun Accessories
York College	Have a Go - Stonemasonry; Carving a Career!

Remember: if you would like to host a have-a-go session please contact John Ling on j.ling@birmingham-chamber.com. It really will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase what your business does and inspire the next generation of leaders in your industry.



worldskillsuk
The Skills Show

the nec birmingham
15 - 17 November 2012

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