

Docent Volunteer Job Description

The Docent Volunteer position is a vital ambassador, providing visitors with engaging, informative, and enriching experiences. Docents lead tours, offer detailed insights into our historic structures, and help bring the museum's collections and local history to life. This position is ideal for those who are passionate about history and enjoy sharing knowledge with others.

Duties:

- Lead scheduled tours of the Rock House and/or the Siloam School, providing in-depth information about artifacts and everyday life during those times
- Tailor tours to the interests and backgrounds of diverse visitor groups, including children, families, and adult learners
- Ensure tours are engaging, educational, and interactive
- Use storytelling techniques to make history accessible and interesting to all age groups while encouraging visitor interaction and participation
- Participate in ongoing training sessions to enhance knowledge of museum content and tour techniques
- Attend docent meetings and workshops to share experiences and learn best practices
- Participate in debriefing sessions with museum staff to discuss tour experiences and improvements
- Mentor new docents and help them develop their tour-giving skills
- Monitor exhibits during tours to ensure they are in good condition and report any issues to museum staff
- Collect and document visitor feedback to help improve tours
- Provide suggestions for enhancing the visitor experience based on observations and feedback

Requirements:

- Passion for history and education
- Strong communication and public speaking skills
- Ability to engage with diverse audiences in a friendly and approachable manner
- Willingness to learn and share knowledge about the museum's collections and local history
- Reliability, punctuality, and a commitment to scheduled shifts

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- Physical ability to stand and walk for extended periods, as well as being out in the elements and varying weather conditions
- Pass a background check

Benefits of volunteering:

- Gain experience in public speaking and educational interpretation
- Develop skills in research, storytelling, and customer service
- Enjoy the opportunity to deepen your knowledge of local history and museum collections
- Contribute to the community and support the museum's mission of education and preservation
- Access to museum events, exhibits, and professional development opportunities