

Volunteer Position Description

Museum Guide

General Description:

Museum Guides activate the museum's galleries by facilitating a variety of engaging and interactive learning experiences that create a sense of welcome for all guests.

Volunteer Role:

- Engage guests in conversation and tactile exploration while stationed in the permanent collection and special exhibition galleries.
- Support intergenerational programming, access programming, and annual cultural celebrations by facilitating hands-on activities associated with these programs.
- Facilitate interpretive programming in the galleries.
- Pilot and experiment with new modes of engaging guests in the galleries and provide feedback to staff.
- Opportunity to serve as a Shift Captain and help organize and communicate with fellow Museum Guides.

Qualifications:

- Have curiosity and strong belief in life-long learning.
- Have a strong interest in guest experience, regardless of art content.
- Ability/willingness to learn education methodology, museum collections, and museum operations.
- Ability/willingness to learn additional skills, content, and/or duties as needed by the museum.
- Ability/willingness to serve in any role as assigned by Shift Captain.
- Ability/willingness to take the initiative to interact with guests of all ages and backgrounds.
- Ability/willingness to receive support and constructive feedback.
- Ability/willingness to participate in interactive learning techniques, such as role playing.
- Ability/willingness to learn and use technology, such as tablets, for in-gallery interpretation.
- Willingness to learn and use the museum's web-based platforms for training and scheduling. These platforms require the creation of user accounts and the use of passwords and two-factor authentication.
- Opportunity available to volunteers 18 years or older.
- Willingness to take a free criminal background check provided by the museum.
- Have an active personal email account and check it regularly.

Volunteer Conditions/Environmental Considerations:

- Navigate through a large, multi-floored museum complex. This includes travel between galleries and staying in one place for up to two hours.
- Communicate clearly. When speaking, be able to project to a group of up to 20 people in public galleries.
- Ability to comprehend lectures, questions, and discussion in a classroom setting and in public galleries that may have background noise and other distractions.
- The museum is committed to accessibility. Volunteers are welcome to use mobility devices, assistive listening technology, seating, or other accommodations as needed.

Museum Guide Benefits:

- Connect with the museum on a deeper level while sharing your enthusiasm for education and art with museum guests from the Kansas City community and beyond.
- Inspire a love of learning and cultural understanding in guests of all ages and backgrounds.
- Support guests in interactive learning experiences that meet their individual interests.
- Enjoy personal growth and develop new abilities while applying personal skills, knowledge, and talents in a museum setting.
- Learn art history content and education methodology.
- Meet and build camaraderie with other volunteers.
- Assist the museum in its mission of attracting a larger and more diverse audience through offering varied experiences.

Time Commitment, Training & Continuing Education:

- Attend Core Curriculum trainings designed for all Education Volunteers on either Tuesdays or Saturdays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.
- Complete required Continuing Education training, either in person or pre-recorded, after Core Curriculum training is complete.
- Complete two two-hour shifts per month, on evenings and weekends.
- Minimum commitment of two years requested.

Attendance:

- Arrive at Volunteer Office 15 minutes before shift starts to coordinate with Shift Captain and discuss location of volunteering.
- Use computerized sign-in/out system when volunteering at museum.
- Use online system for recording hours volunteered off-site.
- Follow committee protocol when unable to work an assigned shift.

About Us

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art invites all people to explore the art in its care, and through its vast collections, the depths, and complexities of human experiences.

We strive to create a sense of belonging, where staff and volunteers can do meaningful work connecting people to art. We create an informed, invested group of staff and volunteers through

shared values and open, direct, and respectful communication. We embrace IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Sustainability) in every aspect of our ideals and aspirations, as we believe these values to be paramount to success.

Each staff member and volunteer will embody the institution's commitments and agrees to exhibit behaviors that align with them. We hold one another to these expectations so that, together, we may know, own, energize and sustain our culture and the institution for generations to come.