

Engagement Guides

Service Summary: Engagement Guide Volunteers meet and greet museum visitors, supply information, and conduct site overviews for visitors in the Museum's galleries. Initiate interaction (i.e. conversations about artifacts) and answer questions for visitors in the museum's various galleries. Engagement Guide Volunteers may also facilitate crafts, outreach presentations, and programs about topics such as archaeology, life in the southwest, and the canals, and help to create education kits for programs.

Supervisor: Curator of Education/Volunteer Program Specialist

Duties:

- Stay up to date with upcoming programs and events
- Proactively welcome guests with a smile and a friendly greeting
- Maintain a broad understanding of the Ancestral Sonoran Desert People's culture and way of life as it is currently understood
- Listen and learn from staff and Master Docents to stay up to date on current interpretations
- Conduct individual research in topics that interest you
- Facilitate interpretation for multi-generational groups
- Utilize techniques of dialogue and inquiry, role play, and storytelling that encourages guests to explore
- Assist in the development and testing of educational programs
- Maintain a tidy exhibit space and monitor artifact usage to prevent breakage; inform supervisor if exhibit elements or objects become overly worn or broken
- Assist in general housekeeping of supplies and exhibits

Engagement Guide Opportunities:

- Engagement Activities - Detective Archaeology, Discovery Backpacks, Artifact Cart, Crafts, Activities Prep
- Docents – Outside Stations, School Group Introductions, Teen Mentors, DLAGT
- Outreach – School Groups, Special Events, Adult Groups
- Gallery Guides

Available Days and Times:

- October-April:
 - Thursday – Monday Mornings/Afternoons
 - Tuesdays for School Groups
 - Extended hours for special events
- May-September:
 - Tuesday – Monday Mornings



Required Time Commitment:

- Minimum 3-4 hours per month
- Preferred regular (bi-monthly or monthly) commitment to day and time slot (depending upon type of Interpreter/Docent position)

Required Training:

- Orientation
- Education Volunteer Manual
- Individualized Opportunity Trainings
- Archaeology 101
- Museum 101
- Shadow with an Engagement Guide Volunteer for 2 shifts and meet with Curator of Education before leading groups

Required Skills:

- Must be enthusiastic, cheerful, and willing to learn
- Must be responsible, reliable and punctual
- An interest in working with people, especially students
- Willingness to learn new skills
- Have flexibility and be able to adapt to different situations and needs
- Comfortable engaging with diverse groups

Additional Helpful Skills:

- Experience or education in history, anthropology, archaeology, and/or teaching

Desired Impact on Museum and Visitors:

- Advance the Museum's mission to be a space where all members of the community feel welcomed and included
- Visitors will gain an understanding of the purpose and activities of the Museum
- Visitors will take away information about the Ancestral Sonoran Desert People's culture, archaeology, Phoenix history, and cultural sensitivity

Benefits to Volunteer:

- Gain an understanding of the purpose and activities of the Museum
- Acquire new skills related to teaching, public speaking, and program facilitation
- Access to resource publications, lesson plans, exhibit guides, and background materials on the Museum and exhibitions
- Opportunities to participate in workshops and attend continuing education classes, lectures, exhibit openings, and trips
- Access to researching in the S'edav Va'aki Museum's Research Library
- Opportunities to develop friendships with others who share similar interests
- Free admission to the Museum For only the Volunteer



- Participate in the annual Volunteer Recognition event each spring
- Discount in Museum Store

