

Mudslinger

Service Summary: Mudslingers participate in the process of stabilizing S'edav Va'aki's earthen structures by creating adobe from natural materials ("mud") and applying it the structures, typically by throwing ("slinging"). This process is invaluable to the continued preservation of the invaluable cultural resources that S'edav Va'aki stewards. Open to groups up to 15.

Supervisor: Cultural Resource Ranger/Volunteer Program Specialist

Duties:

- Arrive on time and follow instructions
- Mix soil, sand, and a soil stabilizer together to create adobe
- Apply adobe to earthen structures utilizing various techniques as required, typically throwing
- Transport filled buckets to the mudslingers and empty buckets back to the adobe mixing area
- If supervising minors: ensure all youth volunteers stay with the group, and encourage them to actively participate; ensuring all youth treat the structures carefully and with respect, if a youth volunteer needs to leave the group for some reason, one adult must accompany them

Available Days and Times:

- Saturdays (typically the third of month) from September to May

Required Time Commitment:

- 3-4 hours per month

Required Training:

- Mud Mixing Training (upon arrival)
- Stabilization Training (upon arrival)

Required Skills:

- Willingness to get dirty
- Ability to learn quickly
- Punctual and able to follow simple instructions
- Must be able to lift 20 lbs.
- Must be able to sit, bend, and stand on uneven surfaces for extended periods of time

Additional Helpful Skills:

- Knowledge of preservation practices
- Interest in archaeology, history, anthropology, historic preservation
- Interest in structural engineering
- Interest in landscape architecture



Desired Impact on Museum and Visitors:

- Advance the preservation mission of the Museum by helping to ensure that S'edav Va'aki's cultural resources are stabilized and preserved for future generations
- Mitigate the constant threat of erosion to the structures

Benefits to Volunteer:

- Gain an understanding of the purpose and activities of the Museum
- Acquire new skills related to preservation practices
- Opportunities to develop friendships with others who share similar interests
- Free admission to the Museum
- Opportunities to participate in workshops, attend continuing education classes, lectures, exhibit openings, and trips
- Opportunity to participate in the annual Volunteer Recognition Event each spring
- Discount in Museum Store

