

Teen Volunteer

Service Summary: The Program is for high school-aged students (14-17) interested in gaining professional development at a cultural institution. The Teen Volunteers will gain hands-on experience by engaging with the public and spreading knowledge concerning topics about the Ancestral Sonoran Desert People.

Supervisor: AmeriCorps VISTA/Volunteer Program Specialist

Duties:

- Work with Mentor Volunteers
- Initiating informative artifact interactions with visitors
- Assisting outdoor educational programs
- Leading indoor exhibit-based activities
- Stay up to date with upcoming programs and events
- Proactively welcome guests with a smile and a friendly greeting
- Specialized Projects as needed
- 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
- Facilitate interpretation for multi-generational groups (primarily elementary schools and adults)
- Utilize techniques of dialogue and inquiry, role play, and storytelling that encourages students 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

Available Days and Times:

- October – December:
 - Saturday Mornings/Afternoons
- January – April:
 - Saturday Mornings/Afternoons

Required Time Commitment:

- Minimum 3-4 hours per month
- If there is a referred regular (bi-monthly or monthly) commitment to day and/or time slot
- The option of volunteering on special event days

Required Training:

- Orientation
- Archaeology 101



- Teen Program Artifact Cart Training
- Intro Gallery/Features - stations

Required Skills:

- Must be enthusiastic, kind, and willing to learn
- An interest in working with people, especially other students
- Flexibility and willingness to learn new skills
- Comfortable engaging visitors in conversations about specific topics

Additional Helpful Skills:

- Enthusiastic about learning history, anthropology, archeology, and culture heritage

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 professional development at a cultural institution
- The program will satisfy both volunteer and internship graduation requirements.
- Allow students to build skills and network prior to college
- Will open new opportunities for unique letters of recommendation
- Gain an understanding of the purpose and activities of the Museum
- Learn more about Native tribes, both ancient and modern
- 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
- Opportunity to participate in the annual Volunteer Recognition event each spring
- Discount in Museum Store

