K-12 Educational Interpreter Internship
Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, MO

The Missouri History Museum in Forest Park is accepting applications for paid internships in our Community Education and Events department. K-12 Educational Interpreter Interns will facilitate school tours and classroom activities for K-12 school groups who visit the Museum. They also have the possibility to design educational programs that will be offered to Museum visitors as opportunities arise.

This internship offers a rare behind-the-scenes look at the museum world and is ideal for future educators who wish to gain experience, flexibility, and confidence working with students from diverse backgrounds, with wide-ranging ability levels, in many age groups, and across multiple disciplines. As one past intern wrote, “The Museum definitely helped with getting me ready for the classroom. I have experience with so many kids from different backgrounds!” Another found the internship valuable in applying for graduate school: “A lot of the other applicants had museum internships, but the experiences were not the same. I feel very much like the internships I had I was actually doing more! And experiencing things!” Still others have gone on to posts in Teach for America or nonprofit careers.

The Museum’s K-12 educational programs are highly interdisciplinary and combine everything from mathematics to dance with social studies in order to create a holistic, exciting museum experience. Along with innovative programs such as Celebrating Missouri in our galleries, students can look forward to traveling exhibits in the Fall 2012 semester, including Discover the Real George Washington (discovergeorgewashington.org) and The Civil War in Missouri (civilwarmo.org). More on our school programs can be found at mohistory.org/schools.

Candidates should be undergraduate or graduate students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher majoring or minoring in a relevant field, including but not limited to Education, History, Mathematics, Music, Art, Dance, Science, and more. The preferred candidate will have experience working with students in the K-12 age range, an engaging presence, excellent communication skills, the ability to work as part of a team, and the ability to modify messages to meet audience needs. Additional qualifications include sensitivity to multiple kinds of diversity and commitment to creating a positive group dynamic.

The internship period is from January 21 – May 10. Interns work three shifts each week, M-F, 8:00-11:30am and/or 11:00-2:30pm, in addition to attending required training sessions on Mondays, 3:00-5:00pm. Payment is a stipend for the time period indicated. K-12 interns are also eligible for paid, part-time work on evenings and weekends. Professional activities will take place principally at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park, but other locations (such as the Library Research Center or schools in the Saint Louis region) may be possible.

Admission to this internship program is on a competitive basis and includes an interview process. To apply, interested students should send a résumé, two letters of recommendation, and cover letter detailing their educational background, experience with children, and career goals. Completed applications should be sent by regular mail or email by November 14th to Missouri History Museum, Attn.: Lisa Gilbert, Education Coordinator, P.O. Box 11940, St. Louis, MO 63112-0040 or lgilbert@mohistory.org. We will confirm receipt of your materials when your application is complete. Selected candidates will be invited for interviews to be held on 11/26 and 12/3. No Phone Calls Please.