



Position Description:
African American Interpretive Fellow

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The African American Interpretive Fellowship is a 24-month position – funded by a grant from Comcast NBCUniversal – that will contribute to the Museum’s Diversify Living History Initiative. This project, which began in 2018, aims to cultivate and support a more diverse community of people engaged in the work of costumed living history and museum education. Reporting to the Gallery Interpretation Manager, the Interpretive Fellow will oversee the implementation of the second phase of the initiative, which is focused on African American interpretation. This phase will include programming related to a 2021-2022 special exhibition, and the Fellow will coordinate certain programming including the creation of a new first-person theatrical play about James Forten (1766-1842), a free African American Revolutionary sailor and Philadelphian. The Fellow will also collaborate in the management of the Museum’s *Meet the Revolution!* Interpreters-in-Residence fellowship program (Summer 2021) and a summer living history institute for teens and young adults (Summer 2022). These components are part of the Museum’s wider interpretive and living history programming, including things like the Occupied Philadelphia annual event and the First Oval Office Project travelling program. As part of the Museum’s Education team, the Fellow will conduct research, present at professional conferences, and deliver formal and informal interpretive programs for all audiences

This a full-time, grant-funded, 24-month, salaried position with benefits. The salary will be commensurate with experience and education and range from \$40,000 - \$50,000.

The Museum encourages applicants from various fields and backgrounds to submit a compelling cover letter that explains their interest in the position and work, even if their precise experience does not meet all requirements.

The African American Interpretive Fellowship is made possible by grant support from Comcast NBCUniversal.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate a grant-funded, multi-year program, meeting deadlines and benchmarks.
- Deliver costumed and non-costumed, formal and informal, and third- and first-person programming as part of the Museum’s ongoing daily programs, holiday events, and special programs.
- Collaborate in the creation of a first-person theatrical piece, working closely with Museum Curatorial and Education staff and contracted playwrights, directors, and actors.
- Work closely with the Gallery Interpretation Manager and other staff to oversee the work of several summer Interpreters-in-Residence as part of the Museum’s *Meet the Revolution!* series and the execution of themed living history events.

- Collaborate with the Museum's Diversify Living History Initiative advisory committee in the development, execution, and evaluation of this initiative.
- Coordinate the conceptualization and delivery of a summer institute for teens and young adults to introduce them to professional museum work, historical research and writing, and costumed living history, to be conducted in Summer 2022.
- Serve as a representative of this program and a mentor for participants in the summer institute and others.
- Conduct community outreach, especially with schools, and local African American organizations and groups.
- Work closely with other departments to contribute to public-facing fundraising, digital, and social media initiatives.
- Attend staff trainings and meetings and complete assigned readings and research.
- Additional duties, as assigned.

Candidate Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree or three years' relevant experience required; Master's Degree in history, African American studies, public history, museum studies, theater, or a related field preferred.
- Must be able to convincingly portray a young African American person in costumed interpretation and programs.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills required.
- Previous educational experience in museums or other informal learning environments required. Experience in costumed living history interpretation preferred.
- Must enjoy working and interacting with guests of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, learning styles, and knowledge levels. Experience in working with young adults and peers.
- Ability to interact with and collaborate with other staff in a clear, pleasant, and effective manner and calmly and cheerfully adapt to rapidly-changing situations.
- Ability to regularly work a schedule that includes weekend days, holidays, and evenings.
- Must respond promptly to email and other communications and use online scheduling software.
- Ability to remain mobile for long periods of time while wearing replica wool, linen, and silk garments, undergarments, leather shoes, and hats, including outdoors in all weather.
- Ability to remove body piercings and modern jewelry, obscure modern tattoos, and wear replica glasses (or contact lenses) if needed while working in costume.
- Practical knowledge of 18th-century craft skills a plus.
- Must be able to manipulate and carry objects, and lift up to 20 pounds.
- Must possess a valid driver's license.

TO Apply :

The Museum of the American Revolution (www.AmRevMuseum.org) is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume and three professional references to employment@amrevmuseum.org

