



Part-Time Museum Educator

About Whitney Plantation

Whitney Plantation is the only plantation museum in Louisiana with an exclusive interpretive focus on slavery. The museum is a nonprofit 501(c)3 with a mission to educate the public about the history and legacies of slavery in the United States. Located on the site of a former sugar, rice, and indigo plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish, Whitney Plantation maintains 14 original buildings that form the core of the Whitney Plantation Historic District. Through memorials, artwork, exhibits, and tours, Whitney Plantation helps the public understand the present day by educating them about the past.

About the Position

The Museum Educator delivers on-site learning experiences for schools and youth visitors at Whitney Plantation. Reporting to the Education Manager, the Museum Educator works primarily with school groups and the general public in facilitating educational programming centering the experiences of enslaved people and their descendants and connections to today's world. Experience working on a team and independently with a broad demographic of guests is required to ensure a vibrant, integral, and essential element of the Museum experience. This position would be great for a pre-service or retired educator, librarian, or childcare worker.

Job Duties

- Delivers education programming rooted in experiential- and inquiry-based learning models for middle and high school students, as well as the general public.
- Develops hands-on learning experiences independently and collaboratively with the Education Manager and Director of Education.
- Delivers experiences that reflect and draw on the experiences of the enslaved and emancipated people of the area, Southeast Louisiana, and the larger United States and their descendants.
- Models excellent audience engagement and assists the Education Manager in delivering compelling visitor experiences
- Monitors and assists visitors ensuring safe, interactive experiences, which may involve tools and physical movement
- Follows appropriate safety and security procedures and uses equipment and materials properly
- Positively represents the Museum by providing welcoming and inclusive customer service.
- Ensure that activities in the exhibit spaces are appropriately organized and prepared for general guests or specific age ranges (e.g., school groups), including set-up, clean-up, and supply levels.

WHITNEY PLANTATION

— THE STORY OF SLAVERY —

The ideal candidate will

- Be enthusiastic about teaching history outside of a classroom setting.
- Have experience or interest in building expertise in education-related fields especially working with children and youth of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.
- Have some knowledge of or interest in African American history and the legacies of community, regional, and national experiences, or be willing to learn.
- Be open to thinking outside traditional education methods to create memorable experiences for youth visitors.
- Able to lead students through challenging conversations about race and history.
- Be able to work both independently and with small teams to get projects done.
- Be able to work in a primarily outdoor, rural environment.
- Be able to meet the job's physical demands, including walking, standing, bending, kneeling, lifting, and moving objects up to 50lb.
- Have a friendly, accessible manner to help children and families understand the exhibits and programs at the museum.
- Have superior organization skills, strong attention to detail, and proactive problem-solving skills.

Skills and Requirements

- A High School Diploma and passing a background check are required.
- Has some experience working with children and youth.
- Daily interest and enthusiasm for working with children, youth, and multi-generational groups.
- Strong problem-solving experience, flexible thinking, and ability to adjust expectations and actions with an open mind.
- Must be dependable, adaptable, and a good communicator. Additional experience with families, educators, administrators, and creative peers is strongly preferred.
- Commitment to continued learning for both personal and team growth.
- Willingness to learn and grow with the department and organization.
- Language skills in Spanish, French, Creole, or other language is a major plus.
- Weekend availability is occasionally required.

Salary and Benefits

- \$15 per hour, 15 hours per week.
- A gas stipend is available for employees traveling 20 miles or more one way.