



Part-Time Museum Educator

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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 of all 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 the facilitation of educational programming centering the experiences of enslaved people and their descendants, and connections to today's world. Experience working both on a team and independently with a wide demographic of guests is required to ensure a vibrant, integral, and essential element of the Museum experience.

Job Duties

- Delivers education programming for middle and high school students, and the general public rooted in experiential- and inquiry-based learning models.
- Develops hands-on learning experiences independently and collaboratively with the Education Manager and Director of Education.
- Deliver 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 great audience engagement and assists other departments and manager in effective visitor experiences
- Participates with the Museum team in ongoing learning research and reflective practice
- 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 a welcoming and inclusive customer service
- Sharing expertise with peers and learning from peers

WHITNEY PLANTATION

— THE STORY OF SLAVERY —

- Responsible for delivering programming that grows in impact over time and are clearly aligned to the Museum's mission
- Ensure that activities in the exhibit spaces are appropriately organized and prepared for general guests or for specific age ranges (e.g. school groups)

The ideal candidate will

- Be enthusiastic about teaching history outside of a classroom setting.
- Have experience, or interested in building experience, 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 of 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.
- Able to work in a mostly outdoor, rural environment.
- Able to meet the physical demands of the job, including walking, standing, bending, kneeling, lifting, and moving objects up to 50lb.
- Must have a friendly, accessible manner to help children and families understand the exhibits and programs at the museum.
- Superior organization skills, with strong attention to detail, and proactive problem-solving skills.

Skills and Requirements

- Would be a great position for a pre-service or retired educator, librarian, or childcare worker.
- High School Diploma and passing of background check is 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 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.
- Weekday availability is required.
- Weekend availability is occasionally required.

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Salary and Benefits

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