

Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

Volunteers and Docents

The next docent training will be offered in Summer 2018

Volunteers



Volunteering is a great way to be involved in the Kelsey Museum!

What do volunteers at the Kelsey Museum do?

- Discovery Carts
- Family Day
- Special Exhibition Evaluation and Visitor Surveys
- Special Projects in the Education Department

Volunteering at the Kelsey Museum requires no specific time commitment - it's a great option if you have a busy schedule but still want to share your love of the ancient world with visitors. Training and feedback will be provided for all volunteer positions.

All volunteer positions that involve interaction with the public require the volunteer to be at least 18 years old and to pass a criminal background check.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at the Kelsey Museum, please contact Sarah Mullersman, 734.647.4167.

Docents

Who is a “Docent?”

Kelsey Museum of Archaeology docents are community members who have completed training in museum education techniques and mastered content related to the Kelsey Museum collections from Greece, Rome, Egypt, and the Near East. Serving as a vital connection to the Museum, they present interactive gallery tours and related activities to K-12 field trips, University of Michigan students, families, seniors, and special groups. These tours educate, engage, and further the Museum’s mission and vision. Docents are ambassadors in the community, and are an important part of the Kelsey team.

Docents also interact with visitors in an informal experience called “Ask Me” where they answer visitors’ questions and offer them insights into the artifacts on display.

While docents are not paid positions, their time and expertise is invaluable to the Kelsey Museum.

Benefits:

- Extensive training in museum education techniques
- Extensive and wide-ranging background information about ancient Mediterranean archaeology presented by experts
- Access to UM libraries to check out books and access online journals and databases
- Permission to audit (for free) selected University classes that relate to the Kelsey Museum’s collections and research. (Classes may only be audited with the permission of the Education and Academic Outreach coordinator and the university instructor.)
- 20% discount in the gift shop
- Invitations to Members-Only Events
- Opportunities for behind-the-scenes experiences
- A complimentary copy of the Kelsey Museum Newsletter (biannual)

Requirements:

- All docents must be over 18 years old
- All docents must pass a criminal background check every 2 years
- All docents must be members of the Kelsey Museum
- All docents must commit to a minimum 20 hours of tours per year for a minimum of 3 years, and a minimum 10 hours of continuing education per year beyond the initial training period. Continuing education includes monthly docent meetings, attending lectures, auditing UM classes, and more
- All docents must have a working email address

Our Next Docent Training

The next docent training will be offered in Summer 2018. An orientation and information session for prospective docents will be held in April 2018. **If you are interested in getting involved prior to our next training**, please explore the opportunities listed above.

Please contact Sarah Mullersman if you have any questions about the docent program. Thank you.

<https://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey/give-join/volunteers---docents.html>

Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum Docent (year round)

Our docents spark curiosity and a love of the natural world in kids of all ages through the Arb and Gardens' school and youth programming. For many of the docents, it's the unique combination of personal interest and educational development that inspires them to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with others. A comprehensive eight-week training, ongoing education, and two-year commitment is required. Our next training will begin January 2017.

As a docent you will:

- Lead school-age children in guided interpretive programs that emphasize exploration and discovery. Programs satisfy Michigan Science Education standards (weekday mornings/academic year)
- Lead youth and families in activities that promote environmental enjoyment and stewardship. (evenings and weekends/ year-round)
- Conduct occasional adult tours
- Work with fellow docents and staff to develop educational materials
- Enjoy a rewarding service-learning opportunity

For information on this and other volunteer opportunities at Matthei/Nichols visit <https://mbgna.umich.edu/volunteer/>