

Position Description

Title: **Living History Interpreter**

Division: Living History

Classification: Seasonal, Hourly 20-40 hours/week, **May 27-September 3, 2017**

Reports To: Curator of Living History

Supervises: N/A

High Desert Museum – Organization Description

The High Desert Museum is a non-profit organization focused on the biotic and cultural elements of the High Desert region of the Western United States. Located near Bend, Oregon, on the edge of the beautiful Deschutes National Forest, the Museum melds the natural history of diverse habitat types with human history of the environment into a unique blend of indoor and outdoor exhibits, living history and both living and historic collections.

Job Summary - Living History Interpreter

The Living History Interpreter is responsible for the interpretation of the 1904 High Desert Ranch and Sawmill and its associated programs. The main duties will include interpreting the site for visitors, demonstrating historical activities and assisting in daily operations in period clothing. The Living History Interpreter will also assist in program maintenance and other duties as assigned.

This position will last approximately Memorial Day through Labor Day weekends. During this time, the Living History interpreter will work three to four 6-hour shifts per week on a schedule designed by the Living History staff.

Qualifications

- Excellent interpretation and communication skills including the ability to relate historical facts to a wide range of audiences.
- Academic related course-work in Theater, History or Education
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work successfully with a diverse group of volunteers
- Ability to work unsupervised and work in a team environment
- Ability to work flexible hours and days, including weekends
- Ability to lift 50 lbs. and conduct physical work in an agricultural setting
- Certification from the National Association of Interpretation (CIG, CIH, or CHI) preferred
- CPR certified preferred

Responsibilities and Tasks

1. Interpret various aspects of the 1904 High Desert Ranch and Sawmill through demonstrations, station interpretation, and hands-on activities for child and adult visitors.
2. Assist with the daily operation of Living History programming including set-up, site maintenance and heirloom animal care.
3. Serve as the frontline Living History interpreter in the absence of other Living History staff, which may include managing volunteers.
4. Assist with after-hours programming.
5. Interpret in period reproduction clothing.

6. Assist with and perform costumed living history interpretation for museum visitors of all ages including school groups, adults, families and lifelong learners. (Period attire will be provided). This includes working in historic buildings and settings and talking to the general public as well as performing historical tasks such as demonstrating crafts, gardening and cooking.
7. Provide non-costumed guided tours and present programs on a regular basis to the general public. Engage visitors in hands-on activities appropriate for the time period, including understanding, identifying and appropriately responding to the multiple learning styles of the visitors.
8. Set up and take down the assigned work area for each program prior to and after use.
9. Attend mandatory training on interpretive techniques, program content, and working with visitors. Assist Museum Assistant and Curator of Education with training.
10. Act as a resource for volunteers for history related issues
11. Assist with special event set-up and take-down, and work during the event. Assist Curator of Education with tour and living history-related aspects of special events.
12. Comply with all Museum policies, procedures, and safety regulations.
13. Perform other tasks and duties as assigned by the Curator of Living History.

Please send resume and cover letter to the High Desert Museum, attention Shannon Campbell.

scampbell@highdesertmuseum.org

<http://highdesertmuseum.org/job-opportunities>

The High Desert Museum is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status.

Mission

To explore the High Desert's unique landscape, cultures, wildlife, history and arts, connecting our visitors to the past and helping them discover their role in the present and responsibility to the future.