



## Natural History Museum of Utah Volunteer Program Field Trip Programs Gallery Guru Position

**NHMU Mission:** The Natural History Museum of Utah illuminates the natural world and the place of humans within it. Gallery Guru volunteers play a critical role in sparking curiosity and excitement in student visitors, engaging them in science education, and fostering an understanding of and appreciation for Utah's natural history.

**Position Summary:** Gallery Gurus are an important factor in providing student visitors with exceptional customer experience. With training in the subject matter in their galleries, they bring the Museum to life, helping students make lasting connections between what they learn in the classroom, natural history, and scientific inquiry. Through this volunteer engagement, an individual has the opportunity to become involved with NHMU and engage curious young minds with the thrill of immersive science education.

Specifically, Gallery Guru volunteers will work with NHMU staff to welcome, accommodate, educate, and support K-12 school groups as they tour the galleries. Gallery Gurus will be trained to administer 3-5 minute interactive, inquiry-based activities that align with the Utah school standards. Volunteers will also work with NHMU staff to respond to visitors' needs and questions regarding facilities and exhibitions, and to reinforce behavioral expectations in the galleries. Using these activities, volunteers will inspire learning, support Museum exploration, and foster in-depth engagement with Museum exhibits and content.

**Other Benefits:** Volunteers at the Natural History Museum of Utah expand their knowledge of the natural world through specialized trainings, enjoy behind-the-scenes access, and interact with the Museum's research staff. They broaden their social circle by making connections with fellow volunteers, Museum staff, and Museum guests; they contribute to scientific research, and make an impact in increasing scientific literacy and awareness in the local community, and beyond. This is a particularly great role for anyone pursuing a career in science, education, or nonprofit work. This role ensures a front-row seat to the innerworkings of a world-class Museum, and a great opportunity for career connections and mentoring!

In addition, the Museum offers the following benefits:

- Volunteer t-shirt and nametag
- Free admission into the museum
- Two free guest passes for every 25 hours of service
- Museum membership discount
- Discount at Museum Store
- Use of the volunteer lounge
- Continuing Education programs, including lectures and tours
- Professional development opportunities
- Invitation to social and recognition events



**Department:** Field Trip Programs, Education and Community Engagement  
**Supervisor:** Mara Salfer, Field Trips Coordinator

**Skills/Abilities:**

- Good oral communication skills
- Comfortable managing groups of 6-8 students
- Interest in science
- Comfortable and calm in high-activity, high-energy, and noisy environments
- Adaptable and creative
- Punctual and dependable
- Enjoy working with students

**Training Required:** All volunteers are required to complete an Online Volunteer Orientation, which should take about 1 hour to complete from home, and a 75-minute On-Site Museum Orientation. Further on-the-job training will be provided for activity content.

**Training Schedule:**

Online Volunteer Orientation, to be completed at home

On-Site Museum Orientation, 75 minutes, RSVP required:

- Offered weekly, to be scheduled after completion of Online Volunteer Orientation

Gallery Guru on-the-job training:

- TBD by volunteer and supervisor

**Shifts Available:**

- Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Time Commitment:** Gallery Gurus volunteer one two-hour shift per week, for the duration of the September 2022 – May 2023 school year. Time commitment includes breaks that coincide with school breaks, including Christmas and New Year's.

**Age Requirements:** Minimum of 18 years of age.

**Background checks** are required for all volunteers.

Participants 18 and older, [click here to apply!](#)

Thank you for your interest in the Natural History Museum of Utah!