Natural History Museum of Utah Volunteer Program
School 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 will spark curiosity and excitement in students visiting the Museum on field trips, and help to foster a positive experience with natural history.

Position Summary:
Gallery Gurus will create an engaging atmosphere for field trip visitors to help them make connections between what they see in the Museum and what they learn about in their classrooms. Volunteers will work with staff to orient K-12 school groups upon arrival, provide information and help to ensure school groups feel accommodated and supported throughout their visit, and convey and reinforce behavioral expectations in the galleries. They will also help develop and facilitate interactive, in-gallery programming for field trip visitors using targeted lessons and activities that align with the Utah Core standards to excite learning, support museum exploration, and foster in-depth engagement with Museum exhibits and content.

Department: School Programs
Supervisor: Annie Young, Education Program Specialist

Skills/Abilities:
• Enjoy working with students
• Comfortable managing large groups
• Good oral communication skills
• Excited about science
• Comfortable and calm in high-activity, high-energy, and noisy environments
• Flexible working style
• Punctual and dependable
• Comfortable learning basic skills to use programs on computers and iPads

Training Required:
All volunteers are required to attend a 3.5 hour New Staff and Volunteer Orientation training prior to starting their volunteer position. In addition, Gallery Guru volunteers are required to attend a School Programs Field Trip Volunteer Kickoff and a School Programs Customer Service training. Further on-the-job training will be provided for activity content.

Training Schedule:
NHMU Orientation, 3.5 hours RSVP required:
• 1st Friday of the month: 12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• 3rd Wednesday of the month: 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
School Programs Field Trip Volunteer Kickoff, 2 hours:
• TBD
School Programs Customer Service training, 1.5 hours:
  • TBD

Gallery Guru on-the-job training:
  • TBD by volunteer and supervisor

Shifts Available:
  • Monday, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
  • Thursday, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
  • Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Time Commitment:
Gallery Gurus will volunteer one three-hour shift per week, for the duration of the September 2017 – May 2018 school year.

Benefits:
Volunteers at the Natural History Museum of Utah enjoy benefits that are intellectual, social, and meaningful. Volunteers have the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the natural world through specialized trainings, behind-the-scenes access, and interaction with the Museum’s research staff; they can 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.

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 and Café
  • Use of the volunteer lounge
  • Continuing Education programs, including lectures and tours
  • Professional development opportunities
  • Invitation to social and recognition events

Age Requirements: Minimum of 18 years of age.
Background checks are required for all volunteers.