



PRESERVATION VIRGINIA

Job Description **Preservation Virginia** **Patrick Henry's Scotchtown** **Historic Site Interpreter**

Scotchtown is the only original standing home of Patrick Henry, known as the “orator of the American Revolution,” open to the public. Henry lived here from 1771 to 1778 and conceived his most influential revolutionary ideas at the home, including his famous “Liberty or Death” speech.

Position Description: Interpreter (Part-time, hourly, ineligible for benefits)

Hourly Rate: \$10

Available Hours: As-scheduled; Patrick Henry's Scotchtown is open to the public Friday-Sunday, ability to work at least one of those days each week desired.

Potential to work 22 – 80 hours a month.

Reports To: Site Coordinators

Interpreters will primarily be responsible for leading 45 minute - 1 hour long guided tours of Patrick Henry's Scotchtown and serving as front-line staff in the museum shop. Museum Educators will engage diverse audiences in topics to include but not limited to: the history of Patrick Henry, and the social, political, and cultural history of the transition from colonialism through revolution to Early Republic periods including the complexities of gender, race, and slavery. Museum Educators will receive all training, including historical background, best practices in public history, historic interpretation, and tour techniques, and other necessary information for success in the position.

Desired Qualifications:

- Must be over 18 years old.
- Bachelor's degree in history, education, public history, political science, or related field; or equivalent experience.
- Ability to lift 30 pounds.
- Ability to climb up and down stairs repeatedly and to stand on feet for several hours at a time.
- Must enjoy engaging and speaking with diverse public audiences, of all ages and backgrounds.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- Dedication to providing excellent customer service.
- Prior knowledge of American history, including 18th century society, politics and law, war, gender, and race and slavery preferred.
- Experience giving public tours and/or public speaking, and experience operating a cash register/point-of-sale system preferred.

- Availability to work Friday-Sunday and occasionally during the week for student field trips and group tours.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Follow opening and closing procedures for Patrick Henry's Scotchtown
- Lead 45 minute – 1 hour long guided tours to diverse audiences including student field trips and adult group tours.
- Serve as front-line museum staff including:
 - greeting guests, operating the cash register for admission and museum shop purchases, and providing excellent customer service.
 - Answer museum phone, monitor museum email and online tour booking reservations.
- Perform regular cleaning of public and staff spaces including:
 - museum shop floors, counters, bathrooms, staff kitchen, house porches, and emptying trash cans.
 - Maintain Covid-19 levels of sanitation and precautions in all public spaces, including wearing facial covers/masks over mouth and nose at all times, and practice social distancing, and enforcing these policies with guests.
- Assist with student field trips and group tours by (including but not limited to) greeting teachers, parents, and group representatives; providing group instruction; leading tours.
- Occasionally serve as appointed Manager on Duty when Site Coordinator is not present on-site.
- Help monitor physical maintenance of house, property, and historic collection and follow established protocols when issues arise.
- Assist with special events on-site and virtually as needed, usually on evenings and weekends, such as focus tours, lectures, etc.

Other Opportunities:

- Facilitate field trip and group tour programs and presentations.
- Assist in content development and research for educational programs and activities.
- Contribute written content to Preservation Virginia blog and Patrick Henry's Scotchtown's social media accounts.
- Expand Scotchtown's research and knowledge of associated histories.

To Apply, submit a cover letter and resume to dburnett@preservationvirginia.org
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