Museum Education Fellow
Museum of the City of New York
1220 5th Ave, New York, NY

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The Museum of the City of New York celebrates and interprets the city, educating the public about its distinctive character, especially its heritage of diversity, opportunity, and perpetual transformation. Founded in 1923 as a private, nonprofit corporation, the Museum connects the past, present, and future of New York City. It serves the people of New York and visitors from around the world through exhibitions, school and public programs, publications, and collections.

www.mcny.org

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Museum seeks applications from students who wish to gain valuable hands-on experience in public history, teaching, and direct service work.

An intern will be in residence at the Museum for 20 hours per week for the academic year, during which time they will be fully integrated into the life of the Museum. Interns will work primarily to enhance and expand educational activities now underway at the Museum's Frederick A.O. Schwarz Education Center, while also shadowing members of the Museum's Curatorial Department and engaging in projects that connect across the two divisions. Roles and Responsibilities

The intern will enhance the content of Schwarz Center programming by incorporating contemporary scholarship and diverse perspectives into curriculum, public talks, and museum tours. They will lead daily tours in the museum for K-12 grade student groups and for adult audiences, will research, write, and present educational material such as lectures and workshops, and will help to produce events such as community programs and professional learning days for educators. In return, they will hone their public engagement skills, benefiting potential future work as a public history professional.

The intern will receive mentorship from curatorial staff and engage with curatorial projects as needed, such as shadowing curatorial staff to view the
development of exhibitions. They will also meet and interface with Museum staff across the institution to gain a first-hand perspective of the workings of a public-facing cultural institution. Following a training period led by Museum staff, the intern will work primarily with the Museum’s flagship field trip programs as well as additional projects.

Among their responsibilities:

- leading gallery-based tours, classes, and workshops for elementary through high school students, on topics pertaining to New York City that align with exhibitions on view and that will augment and support approved curricula
- researching topics related to the past, present, and future of New York City
- preparing background material for presentation in student- and teacher-focused programs
- assisting with curatorial department requests related to exhibition development

QUALIFICATIONS

The Museum encourages humanities scholars whose work is interdisciplinary and related to advancing the understanding of the historical and/or contemporary issues surrounding New York, and urbanism more broadly, and who have an interest in material and/or visual culture. Preference will be given to scholars whose work connects to the exhibitions and/or programs at the Museum of the City of New York. Applicants must have:

- Demonstrated research or professional interest in one or more of the following areas related to the exhibitions and collections of the Museum:
  - New York City
  - Social activism
  - Immigration, ethnic studies
  - LGBTQ history
  - Urban planning, urban policy, or urban design strategies
  - Urban environmental and/or sustainability studies
  - New York art, architecture, fashion, or design
  - an interest in material and/or visual culture and a commitment to interdisciplinary approaches
  - a good rapport working with, or interest in, presenting information to audiences of varied ages and backgrounds
  - interest in researching and learning about topics outside of their areas of expertise
  - strong writing skills
• strong interpersonal communication skills
• an interest in working with the public and sharing nuanced historical information with diverse populations
• flexibility and a commitment to working collaboratively
• basic computer skills; familiarity with Microsoft Office Suite a plus

SPECIFIC APPLICATION QUESTION

What drives you to share the stories of New York City’s past, present, and future with the public, and how do you see your interests and/or past experiences as useful for supporting the mission and programs of the Museum of the City of New York?

APPLICATION

• All applications must be submitted through NYU’s Public Humanities Initiative online application
• Application deadline: May 1, 2020, 11:59pm