

National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City, OK

Position Description

Teacher-in-Residence

Reports To: Director of Education & Special Projects

Through: Coordinator of School and Family Programs

Fair Labor Standard Act Status: Contract

Department: Education

Division Lead: Chief Program Officer

POSITION SUMMARY

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum seeks to contract one or more classroom teachers for its Teacher-in-Residence Program, an extended professional development opportunity for educators from K-12 schools to learn about the resources and educational materials available through the Museum and to create new resources for use by other teachers. Teachers create programming, interpretive materials, and program content that make the Museum's collections and temporary exhibitions accessible and enjoyable, especially for preK-12 students. The Teacher-in-Residence Program offers classroom educators a unique opportunity to use primary sources, art, and artifacts to excite their students with curriculum-connections about the American West in ways that standard textbooks could never replicate.

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Essential duties include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Engage in current thinking about object-oriented and place-based inquiry
- Explore the Museum's collections on view in the galleries, online, and in the Museum's extensive archives and library
- Develop at least one unit based on primary sources to be used in their classroom or school
- Assist with one on-going Museum project during their residency
- Increase their understanding of museums as places for project-based student activities
- The emphasis is to link the Museum with teachers from schools with underserved student populations in urban and rural school districts. Educators will spend most of their time engaging with the Museum's collections and developing lesson plans to use in their classrooms and in the Museum with students. When the teachers return to their schools in the fall, they spend part of their classroom time presenting their projects to their own students, and to a wider education audience.
- Incorporate knowledge of best teaching practices; project-based work; developmental, cognitive, and social skills; learning theories; educational evaluation; and 21st-century learning skills into program offerings with and for teachers and students

SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge of learning theories and Oklahoma State content standards
- Ability to effectively collaborate with in-house teams and external groups
- Ability to conduct art, historical, and visitor research
- Ability to communicate effectively in group and individual situations as well as in written form; strong public speaking skills.

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- Proven organizational skills and ability to work on multiple, detailed projects simultaneously.
- Computer literate (MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel, social media)
- Degree in Education and/or related field and at least two years of experience as a classroom teacher
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills
- Outgoing personality with strong interpersonal skills, tact, and diplomacy
- Work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community
- Teacher certification and/or bilingual (English/Spanish) skills are a plus

TO APPLY

The Teacher in Residence Program is destined to become a major vehicle to reach and serve teachers, and to increase the Museum's offerings by partnering with teachers rather than programming for teachers to fulfill our shared educative mission.

Please submit a cover letter, application, and required references to Manager of Human Resources, at hr@nationalcowboymuseum.org. No phone calls, please. Hiring decisions are contingent upon the results of a background check.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). Home to one of the nation's foremost collections dedicated to historic and contemporary Western and American Indian art and material culture, the Museum has served the public since its opening in 1965. The Museum Campus is situated on over 30 acres atop the Persimmon Hill District in rapidly growing and affordable Oklahoma City, the state's capital and largest city. It includes the main 228,000 square foot building housing multiple galleries and interpretive areas, the Donald C. & Elizabeth M. Dickinson Research Library and Archive, and the Sam Noble Special Event Center, in addition to outdoor sculpture gardens, event grounds, and ample parking. This iconic cultural and educational institution has seen over 12 million visitors from across the nation and globe over its first half-century of operation and remains one of Oklahoma's and the region's primary tourist destinations. Entering its next half-century, the Museum now embarks upon an ambitious multi-year plan to establish itself as the preeminent cultural and educational institution dedicated to the American West and its place within the broader national identity and culture. The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is located only six miles northeast of downtown Oklahoma City in the Adventure District at the junction of Interstates 44 and 35, the state's exciting Adventure Road corridor. The Museum offers annual memberships beginning at just \$40. For more information, visit www.nationalcowboymuseum.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum preserves and interprets the evolving history and cultures of the American West for the education & enrichment of its diverse audiences of both adults and children.

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Summer Teacher-in-Residence Program Application

The Teacher-in-Residence Program is an extended professional development opportunity for up to two educators from area K – 12 schools to learn about the resources and educational materials available through the Museum and to create new resources for use by other teachers.

Educators selected for the Teacher-in-Residence Program will:

- Receive a summer stipend of \$25/hour (up to 100 hours)
- Engage in current thinking about object-oriented and place-based inquiry
- Explore the Museum's collections on view in the galleries, online, and in the Museum's extensive archives and library
- Develop at least one lesson plan or a unit based on primary sources to be used in your classroom or school and by other teachers
- Assist with one ongoing Museum project during the residency, and
- Increase your understanding of museums as places for project-based student activities

The program's emphasis is to link the Museum with teachers from schools with underserved student populations in urban and rural school districts. Spend your time engaging with the Museum's collections and developing lesson plans to use in your classroom and in the Museum with students. Present your projects to your own students, other teachers, and to a wider education audience.

Applications will be accepted through **April 29, 2022**.

Please be sure to include the following with your application:

- Letter of support from your principal or assistant principal
- Contact information for two professional references

Applicant Name:

Home Address:

Home/Cell Phone:

Email Address:

Applicant's School Name:

School District/State:

School Address:

School Phone:

Grade level and subject(s) taught:

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1. Do you teach at a Title I school? (please circle) No Yes
If yes, what percentage of your students qualify for Free and Reduced-Price Lunches?
2. Can you commit to approximately 16 hours per week, for 6 weeks of time during the summer season (May-August, depending on Museum needs)? (please circle) No Yes
3. Describe your most effective unit or lesson plan that actively engaged students in learning. Why was it successful?
4. Why do you want to be a Museum Teacher-in-Residence?
5. How will you use your Teacher-in-Residence experience to enrich your classroom teaching and create opportunities for your students to connect to the Museum?
6. How will you share information and skills acquired through this experience with your school and district colleagues?

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Please provide information for two professional references:

Reference 1:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant:

Reference 2:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant: