



August Wilson Center for African American Culture Position Description: Docent

Mission:

One of only two major arts institutions in the world named for Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning playwright and Pittsburgh native August Wilson, the August Wilson Center for African American Culture engages regional and national audiences in its mission of preserving, presenting, interpreting, celebrating and shaping the art, culture and history of African Americans from Western Pennsylvania as a foundation.

From its new home in a vibrant Cultural District, the sleekly modern August Wilson Center offers multiple exhibition galleries, a 486-seat theater for performances in all genres, an education center for classes, lectures and hands-on learning, and dazzling spaces for community programs and events. The Center is a place like no other for experiencing theater, dance, music, history, film, literature, visual art, interactive education and spectacular entertainment, all under one roof.

Overview:

The August Wilson Center, a busy non-profit arts institution, seeks 14 AWCORPS Volunteer Docents to assist in a fast-paced environment and support its cultivation tours, exhibitions and educational programs. As a member of the AWCORPS, this individual will report directly to the Artist Director of Visual Arts Initiatives, Cultivation Associate and work with fellow Corps members to support The Center's mission of presenting arts and cultural programs to the general public.

Essential Volunteer Functions:

- Conduct guided tours through the August Wilson Center facility and exhibitions for K-12 and adult groups
- Provide gallery talks featuring current program themes
- Engage visitors in professional conversation regarding The Center's programs and exhibitions
- Utilize diverse teaching techniques to inform visitors of African American arts, culture and history
- Capture audience feedback and program information
- Additional responsibilities may be assigned as needed

Requirements:

- Dependable, flexible and teamwork attitude
- Available for at least one 4-hour shift per week, Tuesday through Saturday 11am – 6pm
- Ability and willingness to work flexible hours, as required, including some evenings and weekends
- Participate in initial and ongoing docent trainings
- Superior communication and interpersonal skills
- Comfortable speaking to diverse audiences of all ages
- Capable of physical activity including standing, kneeling, and bending
- Ability to present a professional appearance at all times
- Experience in education, history, museum studies, arts management and fine arts preferred
- Able to commit as an active AWCORPS Docent through June 30, 2012

Application Process:

Submit an AWCORPS application and resume to:

Alecia Shipman AWCORPS@AugustWilsonCenter.org (p) 412.338.8730 (f) 412.258.2701

Deadline: open until filled

Compensation: Volunteer, work-study or college credit