Job Description

Position Title: Seasonal Interpreter Associate
Position Classification: Seasonal, Non-Exempt
Department: Interpretation
Reports to: Program Manager
Wages: $9.00-$12.00 per hour depending on previous experience

Job Summary:
This seasonal interpretive position provides daily hands-on activities, which may include historic trades, domestic processes or agricultural demonstrations in Living History Farms’ historic recreated buildings and farms. Duties will include interacting with museum guests, day camp and tour group children, and other visitors while providing excellent public programming and customer service. Duties will include floating to various sites, supporting the interpretation staff with daily chores and site upkeep. Historic site assignments may include a combination of the three working farms sites, historic homes, and Walnut Hill historic trade sites, including broom making, blacksmithing, printing, textile work, or demonstrating farm machinery.

Specific Duties:
• Provides excellent customer service to museum patrons, whenever interacting with the public.
• Engages public in hands-on programming and interpretation as primary focus of daily work.
• Demonstrates and explains historic trades, domestic skills and agricultural activities at the historic sites to school tours, day camp groups, adult tour groups and the general public on a rotating site schedule.
• Conducts hands-on education programs for LHF Day Camps, children’s enrichments and adult education classes, wagon rides and special event programming, as assigned.
• Demonstrates and actively encourages general visitors, especially children, to participate safely in interactive activities, including the scheduled hands-on activities
• Maintains and monitors strict safety guidelines, ensuring safe practices by all site interpreters.
• Assists with needed behind the scenes routine site maintenance and cleaning. May include daily tool or machinery upkeep, gardening or field work and basic livestock care, as assigned.
• Effectively completes provided training to master above skills as assigned, including training in general livestock care, and use of period tools and machinery, cutting wood, morning and evening chores, etc.
• Studies and understands historical resource materials and other information provided.
• Will be cross-trained to interpret at multiple sites, as assigned.
• Other duties as assigned.

Supervisory Responsibilities:
While this position has no direct reports, it may guide volunteers and interns from time to time on specific activities/demonstrations.

Qualifications:
To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily and safely. Consistent attendance is an essential function of the position. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.
Education and Skills:

• Must possess enthusiasm for working with the general public, exhibiting superior customer service skills.
• Must excel in working with groups of children.
• Previous experience working with volunteers preferred.
• Interest in history, education, American studies or related field. Previous living history museum experience preferred.
• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills required.
• Must be able to read historical reference materials and master historical information and techniques.
• Mechanical aptitude and dexterity to work with machinery and equipment.
• Ability to perform physical tasks needed to authentically re-create the activities of an historic shop, home, farm area or trade required, including lifting 30 pounds.
• Work environment requires standing for long periods of time, working in non-climate controlled environment, subject to heat and humidity.
• Must be willing to work a flexible schedule, including Saturdays
• A criminal background check is required.

Position Hours:
Position will primarily be scheduled Tuesday-Saturdays, May 1 – August 30, 2021 (30-35 hours/week) and Thursdays-Saturdays September 1 - October 31, 2021 (21-24 hours/week) from 8:45 am – 4:15 pm.

To Apply: Please submit your resume and application to jdennis@lhf.org. Positions open until filled.

About Living History Farms
Living History Farms is an interactive outdoor history museum which educates, entertains and connects people of all ages to Midwestern rural life experiences. It is a privately run, not-for-profit organization on 500 acres in Urbandale, Iowa. Historical interpreters recreate daily routines of early Iowans on three farm sites spanning the years 1700 to 1900, and an 1876 town. For more information, visit www.LivingHistoryFarms.org. Living History Farms is among the elite three percent of national museums accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the only organization representing the entire scope of the museum community.

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