Position Title: Agriculture Interpreter Associate
Classification: Part-time Year Round, Hourly (Non-exempt)
Department: Programming
Reports to: Director of Interpretation Programs
Wage Range: $10-$14 per hour

Job Summary:
Interpretive position focused on agricultural demonstrations, livestock upkeep and demonstration, and daily hands-on activities at the working farms sites. Duties will include interacting with museum guests, providing excellent public programming and customer service, supporting the working farm site supervisors with chores and site upkeep, as well as guiding activities of other seasonal staff on supervisor’s days off. Winter programming may involve education programs, livestock chores, and historic foodways programming.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provides excellent customer service to museum patrons, whenever interacting with the public. Ensures an inclusive experience for all with the ability to create safe spaces for learners of all ages.
- Assists with needed behind the scenes routine site maintenance and farm chores, including barnyard maintenance, field work and basic livestock care, as assigned.
- Engages public in hands-on programming and interpretation with museum guests.
- Demonstrates and explains historic agricultural activities at the working farm 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
- Participates in winter historic foodways programs as either a host or driver, as assigned.
- Assists with education classes for adults and children’s groups in winter seasons as assigned.
- Maintains and monitors strict safety guidelines for farm, ensuring safe practices by all site interpreters.
- Effectively completes provided training to master skills, including proficiency in field work (with draft horses, oxen, and tractors), 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; conducts research to enhance site knowledge and programs as directed.
• Cross-trained to interpret at other sites, as assigned.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

This position may supervise seasonal Program Associates, interns, and volunteers during the general touring season.

Work Environment:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Most buildings this position will work in are not climate controlled. This position requires outdoor work in a variety of conditions. Work may be performed in dusty/dirty environments; in poorly lit areas; near open fires; working directly with animals, their food and waste. The noise level in the workplace varies from quiet to noisy.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job. This position will be standing most of the day and working both inside and outside of historic buildings. This position requires indoor and outdoor work, sometimes in adverse climatic conditions. Essential duties may include working sitting, standing, bent over or kneeling; may involve some lifting and moving of objects; standing for extended periods; climbing stairs, ladders, companionways, and/or gangways. Must be able to lift 100 pounds. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Consistent attendance and scheduling flexibility is an essential function of the position.

EDUCATION & SKILLS:

• Ability to communicate and work effectively with others, both staff and volunteers. Must be able to work independently or as part of a team to deliver quality educational programming.
• Bachelor’s Degree in related field
• Enjoys working with the general public, and people of all ages, especially children.
• Possesses excellent communication (verbal and written) skills
• Knowledge of basic livestock care and handling
• Display a willingness to learn, and a “can do” mentality
• Approach situations with creative, analytical and problem-solving skills
• Demonstrate exceptional customer service skills
• Enjoy working in a dynamic, fast-paced, team-oriented workplace
• Demonstrate an ability to work independently, following through on tasks to completion
• Be comfortable working outdoors, sometimes in adverse conditions such as heat, rain, etc. This person will be assigned to outdoor site tasks without air-conditioning.
• Able to perform physical tasks (lift 50 lbs.) with physical mobility
• Have experience with computer programs, such as the Microsoft Office package
• Successfully pass a criminal background check

**Position Hours:**
The work environment includes standing much of the day and working primarily outdoors during the general touring season while historic recreated period clothing provided by Living History Farms. Part-time hours will vary dependent on seasonal museum needs and applicant availability; flexibility is greatly desired. In winter, hours are dependent on program bookings and may vary from 6-20 hours weekly and may include weekends and evenings, with weekday evenings as applicant is available. Summer touring season hours will generally average 25-35 hours weekly, with chore hours possible on Sundays, camp hours possible on Mondays and general site work Tuesday through Saturday. Summer touring season days are generally scheduled from 8:45 am – 4:15 pm, but may occasionally include classes through early evening hours dependent on museum needs. Historic Site work environment requires standing for long periods of time, working around livestock, tools and machinery, and working in outdoor environment including heat/cold.

**General Information:**
Living History Farms is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. It's mission as an interactive outdoor museum is to educate and connect all peoples to the many stories of Midwestern rural heritage. All staff are required to uplift our mission, advance the museum’s core values in their work and consistently provide professional interactions with the public and co-workers with excellence. Living History Farms is a privately run, not-for-profit organization on 500 acres located in Urbandale, Iowa. For more information, please visit [www.Livinghistoryfarms.org](http://www.Livinghistoryfarms.org).

**Application procedure:**
Send resume and cover letter with LHF application to:
Living History Farms
Attn: Janet Dennis
2600 111th Street
Urbandale, IA 50322
Email: jdennis@lhf.org
FAX: (515) 278-9808