

Volunteer Role Description

Tŷ Gwyrdd, St Fagans: National History Museum

Background

The Tŷ Gwyrdd is a centre for learning used regularly for programmed activities, workshops and talks. The activities focus on themes relating to sustainability and/or natural history. Activities are focused in the building and surrounding areas around the museum. There is a full time post of Sustainability Facilitator who develops all of the activities at y Tŷ Gwyrdd.

Purpose of the role

We are seeking volunteers to help the Sustainability Facilitator run activities at Tŷ Gwyrdd and nature areas on site.

Location: Tŷ Gwyrdd, St Fagans: National History Museum, St Fagans, Cardiff CF5 6XB

Department: Learning

Main tasks

- Work alongside the facilitator to run informal seasonal activities for families. We will provide the content of all workshops and activities and will brief you in detail as to the learning objectives and content of each of the activities.
- Assisting staff– preparing to set out materials and adding ‘extra hands on deck’ during busy sessions
- Helping to maintain the activity trails around the site– these trails are available for families to take onto the site to focus their visit.
- Keep registers of families booking to participate in workshops.

Requirements

Essential

- Good communication skills
- Enthusiasm for issues relating to sustainability, the environment and natural history
- Enjoy helping others to learn
- A committed belief in lifelong learning and the role museums play in this
- The ability to work in a team
- Available on the training day of 11 July 2012

Desirable skills or interests in

- Museum learning
- Working with families and the general public
 - Proficiency in Welsh/foreign languages/BSL
- Confidence in interacting with groups of people

- Experience in informal learning environments (such as playgroups, youth schemes or community groups)

Hours & commitment

Ideally we are seeking volunteers who are available to help with activities at Tŷ Gwyrdd, which are mostly held during school holidays and the first weekend of every month. Please see below a schedule of forthcoming activities which gives an indication of the number of activities that take place. Volunteers will not need to attend every activity.

Following a 3 week trial period, this role is then available longer term

Benefits

- Learn about ways of creating engaging interpretation about themes relating to sustainability and natural history
- Gain facilitation, interpretation and visitor care experience
- 20% discount in our National Museum gift shops
- 25% discount at our Museum coffee shops
- Reference supplied if required
- Tŷ Gwyrdd volunteering T-shirt

Reporting to – Danielle Cowell, Learning Officer

Training and Support– We are holding a training day to support our activities program. The training day will focus on providing training in basic bat and bird identification and allow an opportunity to discuss and prepare for summer & autumn activities. Lunch will be provided. Date: 11th July 2012. 11am-4pm

Expenses

We can offer reasonable, pre agreed reimbursement of public transport (with receipts) up to a maximum of £5 per return journey, or, if travelling by car we can offer a free parking token.

A bus service will be running between National Museum Cardiff and St Fagans: National History Museum from 5 April until 30 September. Amgueddfa Cymru staff and volunteers will be able to travel on this service free of charge provided they can show their security pass.

How to apply

Please complete the accompanying application form and return to:

By post: Sian Layton, Volunteer Co-ordinator, HR Department, National Museum Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP

By email: volunteering@museumwales.ac.uk

If you have any queries or would like assistance filling out the application form, do get in touch at sian.layton@museumwales.ac.uk or telephone 029 2057 3190.

NB Due to the high demand for volunteering opportunities, we cannot guarantee your placement, however we do ensure that all applications are treated equally and will be submitted for consideration. You will receive a response via email to let you know if you have been selected for the role or not (If you do not have an email address, please provide us with a postal address) and you may be invited in for an informal meeting.

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales welcomes volunteers from all parts of the community.

Deadline for applications

2nd July 2012

Many thanks for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you.

Events July – October

Go green in the garden!

24,25,31 July 1,4 August 11-1pm & 2-4pm

Have a go at some simple activities and discover how to transform your garden into a haven for wildlife. Take a step towards a more sustainable lifestyle by growing your own herbs.

Birds

7, 8,14, 15, 28 & 29 Aug 11-1pm

Come along to the bird hide to watch the woodland birds and learn how to identify them.

Bat cam 7, 8,14, 15, 28 & 29 Aug 2-4pm

Watch the roosting bats on our live bat cam and find out more about them.

Family Bat Walk

23 Aug 8-10pm

Join an exciting after-dark journey around the Museum to find bats. Meet at the main entrance at 8pm. Wear sensible clothing & bring a torch.

Autumn feast

1 September 6 October 2&3 November 11-1pm & 2-4pm

Discover the wealth of seasonal food available in the autumn and take some traditional recipes home to try for yourself.

Halloween Bats

30 & 31st October 11-1pm & 2-4pm

Find out about the bats that live at St Fagans and take part in batty activities.

Pick it, cook it, eat it!

14 July & Aug 11th 11-1pm & 2-4pm

Come for a walk around the cottage gardens where we'll harvest some fresh, seasonal produce. Then it's back to the kitchen to transform it into tasty treats for us all to try.

Time: 11-1 and 2-4 (2 x 2hr sessions)