

# Docent Internship for Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed at the Connecticut Science Center Spring & Summer 2020

### Overview

The Connecticut Science Center is looking for current undergraduate and graduate students in the fields of history, archeology, anthropology, and museum studies to serve as learning facilitators within the much-anticipated *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed,* a temporary exhibit traveling to the Connecticut Science Center. The docent role is to engage visitors of all ages and backgrounds, provide deeper content knowledge, answer questions, and invite discussion. A brief orientation, training, and exhibit guide will be provided.

Since the discovery of ruined cities in the jungles of Central America in 1839, the Classic Maya civilization (250-900 AD) has been the subject of intense popular and scientific interest. Today, many lines of evidence and inquiry allow us to reconstruct and understand the ancient Maya world. Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed examines the lost civilization of the Maya through the lenses of archaeology, epigraphy, ethnology, and art history. This interdisciplinary approach, coupled with the display of more than 230 objects and replicas and theatrical and interactive experiences, will appeal to Maya enthusiasts of all ages.

This is an unpaid internship, which is eligible for academic credit through the intern's college/university.

# **Internship Benefits:**

- Interns will gain hands on experience with cultural artifacts and interactive exhibits.
- Interns will have the opportunity to work closely with a variety of museum staff regarding exhibit design and content, educational experiences, and visitor engagement.
- Interns will become familiar with providing customer services, educational opportunities, and hands-on engagement in the museum setting that helps visitors explore and learn together.
- Interns will be able to observe and explore how visitors of all ages best interact with historical content in a museum setting.

#### **Internship Responsibilities:**

- Develop a strong understanding of the content and interactive experiences in Maya: Hidden Worlds
- Research and develop new supplemental interactive visitor experiences to support Maya: Hidden Worlds
- Assist in creating memorable visitors experiences in *Maya: Hidden Worlds*
- Facilitate engaging conversations with visitors of all ages related to content in Maya: Hidden Worlds
- Other related activities as assigned

## Requirements & Required Skills

- Interview Required
- Must commit for a minimum of 20-40 hours per month, Wednesdays through Sundays. One weekend day required.
- Advanced knowledge of early Latin American history or the lost civilization of the Maya is strongly preferred but not required.

- Must possess a strong desire and enthusiasm to help people of all ages and backgrounds understand and appreciate Mayan history
- Must have outstanding interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully to visitors of all ages
- Must be at least 18 years old and pass a background check.
- Must be willing to sign and adhere to the Connecticut Science Center's volunteer/partner agreement and code of conduct

Applications Due by February 5th