



Volunteer Opportunities (Ages 13-18)

Introduction

Volunteers are more important than ever before.

As the National Railroad Museum expands with new programs, exhibits and objects, staffing needs also grow. Much of that staff comes in the form of volunteers who are committed to enriching the Museum and its offerings with their skills and time. Everything from spending a few hours a week doing a project in the archives to assisting in children's programming is helpful – and very much appreciated.

Please feel free to browse our listings of current volunteer needs and contact us with your interests. For additional information, contact Jacqueline D. Frank at (920) 437-7623,x-24 or jdfrank@nationalrrmuseum.org.

Facilities Maintenance

Work with the maintenance staff to cut grass, weed and water flower beds, and tend to other gardening tasks. The grounds crew is great for those who enjoy the outdoors and working with plants. This activity can be scheduled on a regular basis for both groups and individuals, and can give students experience working in the landscaping and horticulture fields.

Library & Archives

While two percent of what the Museum owns is on display at one time, the Curator must account and care for everything else. The remaining collection is in storage and needs to be cleaned, repaired and catalogued. The Curator would like assistance with various inventory, sorting, and cataloging projects. These jobs are best for those who like to work independently, or with a partner, and are willing to schedule their time sometime during Monday through Friday. This is a terrific opportunity for those who would like to work in a museum once they finish school.

Museum Store

The Museum Store is a wonderful place to interact with families while learning marketing skills. During the winter, individuals are needed to assist in daily operations. During the June special event, A Day Out with Thomas™, the Museum needs large groups of individuals to operate the store and outdoor sales venues.

Newsletter

Rail Lines, the Museum's quarterly newsletter, needs feature articles of about 1000 words each for publication. Well researched articles related to the railroad on topics ranging from hobos to art to history are welcomed. This is a terrific way to have your writing published and possibly receive extra credit in school. If you have an idea or subject that you would like to write about, please contact us. This may be done individually or with a partner, at home or at the Museum.

Office Assistance

The staff does not always have time to do all of the routine office tasks that affect day to day operations. These jobs often include stuffing envelopes, opening letters, data entry and filing. This is a good opportunity for an individual who is detail oriented and is interested in working in an office setting after school.

Photography

The National Railroad Museum always needs photographs of people, events, trains and other objects for use in its newsletter and website. If you would like to develop your photography skills while donating your time and prints or digital images, we would be thrilled for your help during evening and weekend events.

Restoration & Maintenance

We continually need to care for our locomotives and rolling stock. If you like working with your hands and have an interest in restoration, the Museum can use your help painting and rebuilding. This is a good opportunity for groups or individuals who enjoy technology education.



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Special Events

Special events attract large numbers of patrons and the numerous activities at the events are a lot of fun. Additional help is always needed for areas such as crafts, face painting, gift shop assistance, story-time, and much more. This is a fun way for a club or large group of friends to help the Museum as well as finish all of their volunteer hours within a few days.

Miscellaneous Projects

Often the Museum has jobs with which we need help, but do not have a category. Sometimes we need a group to help clean out a box car or ready the grounds for a special event. If you like to spend a day or half-day accomplishing big projects with other people, we would like to know that we can call you and your friends for help. This is a terrific way to volunteer and finish your hours in a short period of time.

If you are interested in volunteering for any activity, please feel free to contact Jacqueline Frank at (920) 437-7623 x-24 or at jdfrank@nationalrrmuseum.org. We are always happy to talk to you about the volunteer opportunities that would be the most enjoyable for you.