



Fairfield Museum

EXPLORE *the past*, IMAGINE *the future*
370 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT | 203-259-1598
www.fairfieldhistory.org

Museum Education Internships: Spring 2018

The Fairfield Museum and History Center seeks interns in the Education and Community Programs department to assist with the following projects:

- 1) Education Programs for Teachers & Students
- 2) Public History Programs for Adults, Families & Children

The Fairfield Museum's mission is to create exhibitions and educational programs that strive to make history personal and meaningful by connecting people with the complex history of this region and its broader context in the nation and the world.

1) Education Internship

The intern will work with the Director of Education and other Museum staff to develop and present educational activities for outreach programs and the busy field trip season in late spring for Fairfield Public Schools and other districts in the region. This includes the Colonial Life field trip with Living History, a 1780 Sun Tavern tour, debate or re-enactment; Old Burying Ground Orienteering; tours of the historic Town Green; and "Creating Community" exhibit tours. Programs for Pre-K students includes an activity and tour inside the new Cottage Children's Museum and Gallery Tours, Museum Collection, and other activities for grades 3 – 4.

The Education Intern will learn inquiry-based teaching skills to help present education programs. The intern will also assist with developing and refining the accompanying teacher resources, pre/post activities and lesson plans. These resources reinforce the new Connecticut Social Studies Frameworks, which are guided by the *College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards*. Education programs also strive to reinforce CT Core and curricula in language arts and library media.

The internship is an opportunity to develop important career skills for emerging professionals and pre-service teachers in the areas of:

- curriculum writing and development to support CT Social Studies Frameworks and CT Core;
- teaching with primary sources;
- adapting and writing content, such as non-fiction text, for appropriate grade levels;
- and utilizing inquiry-based methods to reinforce 21st century skill-building for college and career.

2) Public History Internship

The Public History Intern will work with the Director of Education and other Museum staff to research, develop and plan Community Programs in conjunction with the Fairfield Museum's permanent exhibition, "Creating Community: Exploring 375 Years of Our Past," the Museum Commons historic properties, and/or two upcoming exhibitions:

An American Story: Refugees in Fairfield County (February – July, 2018)

In partnership with the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants (CIRI), this exhibition looks at the stories of refugees who rebuilt their lives after settling in the Fairfield area and honors CIRI's 100 years of serving immigrants and refugees in our local region.

The Plot's Afoot: Culper Spy Ring (May – October, 2018)

Local artist and illustrator Kirk Manley will bring a new perspective to the Culper Spy Ring through colorful graphic novel panels and book. Fairfield was an important stop for spies carrying messages and information from Long Island and New York City to General George Washington's headquarters during the American Revolution.

The intern will assist with the development of public programs for adults and/or public programs for families and children, such as identifying speakers, creating hands-on activities, developing assessments and evaluations. Adult programs include Museum After Dark, panel discussions, tours, and lectures. Family and children's programs include Family Focus days, art and history workshops, community events and tours of exhibitions and historic properties. There is also the opportunity to utilize local history and lore to write interpretive materials and scripts for Living History programs and interactive tours of historic sites.

The internship is an opportunity to develop important career skills for emerging history professionals in the areas of:

- public program development;
- public interpretation of local history and heritage sites;
- community outreach and audience engagement;
- and identifying and collaborating with partners in the non-profit, business and heritage community.

Qualifications:

Potential candidates should have an interest in working in a museum environment that promotes education through artifacts, objects, primary sources and history to develop innovative, engaging and inquiry-based programs. Internships are open to college juniors, seniors or graduate students studying education, history, or museum studies who are interested in working with a diverse audience including teachers, students, adults, and families. Excellent written skills are recommended as well as an attention to detail, ability to work both independently and with multiple staff, dependable and organized with excellent research skills. Proficient computer skills in word processing, database management, and desktop publishing are preferred.

Interested applicants should submit an inquiry and resume to Christine Jewell, Director of Education and Community Programs to education@fairfieldhs.org or mail to Fairfield Museum and History Center, 370 Beach Road, Fairfield, CT 06824.



The Fairfield Museum's vision is to use history to strengthen community and shape its future. The Museum serves adults, families and children through dynamic and engaging exhibitions and educational programming. Education programs serve over 6,000 students from Pre-K through grade 11 and adult learners from regional universities and senior citizens. Public programs serve over 7,000 participants through community events, adult, and family programming.

The Fairfield Museum is located adjacent to the Historic Town Green, established by English colonists in 1639 and one of Connecticut's oldest public spaces. This cultural campus includes municipally-owned historic properties listed on the State's Register of Historic Places that illustrate key periods in Connecticut's development. The Museum has spearheaded the revitalization of the historic Town Green through new exhibitions featuring interactive, hands-on experiences in three properties: Sun Tavern (c.1780), Victorian Cottage, and Barn (1888). More than 400 years of diverse stories are embedded throughout this space: it was an early Native settlement, the setting of Connecticut's 1692 witch trials, a locus of Revolutionary politics, and it was attacked by the British in 1779.