

Historical Clothing and Performance Intern

First State Heritage State Park

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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DESCRIPTION

Bring the past to LIFE! Work alongside our professional staff of historical educators at First State Heritage Park, Fort Delaware, and Indian River Life Saving Station. As an intern in this position, you will increase your knowledge of material culture, gain experience in the reproduction of historic clothing, practically apply your knowledge in living history programming, and learn the organizational skills required to manage a reproduction clothing collection that spans hundreds of years of American history.

LOCATION

Dover, DE – may travel to various locations throughout Delaware – access to vehicle available

TERM OF SERVICE

6-9 Months

Full Time 30-35 hours or Part Time 20-25 hours

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist in the day-to-day operations of a historic site, emphasizing the use of reproduction clothing
- Apply knowledge of material culture and sewing skills to fabricate, alter, or repair reproduction clothing
- Support interpretive programming, especially living history content, such as historic theatre.
- Inventory and catalogue existing historic clothing collections
- Inventory existing historic clothing/costume collection
- Organize clothing and accessory storage
- Implement and improve upon sign-out system for clothing collection
- Assess established system and make suggestions for improvement
- Implement approved improvement suggestions
- Other duties as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Must be able to work flexible hours, including some evenings and Saturdays
- An interest in history and experience in fashion and apparel studies, material culture, textiles or related field
- Must be able to work at least one day a week for the term of the internship
- Ability to understand and appreciate the historical context of the clothing collection.
- Professional appearance and demeanor.
- Responsible and trustworthy
- Pleasant and personable, enjoys people
- Independent and responsible
- Excellent organizational skills
- Systematic and highly detailed oriented
- Ability to demonstrate competent sewing skills.
- Ability to understand and follow verbal and written instructions.

- Able to stand for long periods, lift and transport up to 25 pounds of clothing
- Performs duties in compliance with Division and Park Customer Service Guidelines and Safety Guidelines.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

- The direct supervisor will be the Park Superintendent and Interpretive Programs Manager of First State Heritage Park.

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. Includes Seasonal Interpreter Training and FA/CPR. In addition to this formal and informal training to successfully conduct their internship assignment, interns will have the opportunity to build associated skills and share real-time experience with park staff and colleagues. Training will be made available to the interns to further their personal and professional development.
- **Housing:** Limited co-ed housing is available, at no fee, for interns providing full-time hours (30 or more per week). If selected for housing, an intern will share a house, duplex or dorm facility with other interns.
- **Activities:** Interns will have the opportunity not only to visit ALL Delaware State Parks at no fee, but also participate in many of the tours, programs, and associated events for free. Delaware State Parks span the length of the state and whether it be canoeing at Trap Pond State Park, surfing at Delaware Seashore State Park, attending a concert at Bellevue State Park, or touring the living history facility at Fort Delaware, there is certainly something for everyone.
- **Stipend Available:** Interns are not employees of the State of Delaware- they are considered volunteers and are not paid for their service. Interns may elect to receive a stipend to help cover expenses incurred during their volunteer intern service. The stipend is a fixed amount of \$100 per week for service of 30 or more hours per week or \$50.00 per week for service of between 20 – 29 hours per week paid biweekly as a direct deposit into the Intern's bank account.
 - The stipend is not a wage but does count toward the total income on which the intern's tax obligation is based. Interns electing to receive the stipend will complete IRS Form W-9 Request for Tax-Payer Identification as self-employed and will receive a Form 1099 at the end of the year that reports the amount of income from the stipend. No taxes are withheld from the stipend.

All Delaware State Parks Interns are required to undergo and successfully complete a background check performed by the Division.

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The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce