

Mosh Junior Interpreter Program

MoSH is now accepting applications for its Junior Interpreter Program. The deadline to apply for the program is November 20, 2023. Students must have two letters of recommendations from teachers or school counselors, be available to work 10 hours a month on Saturdays or Sunday, volunteer for at least three special events during the year, and during school holidays.

The Junior Interpreters program is designed for teens who are interested in learning about our area's rich and diverse natural and cultural history and then sharing these wonders with museum guests through Discovery Stations, as galleries interpreters, greeters, and assisting with tours. Junior Interpreters will have the chance to develop public speaking skills, work with museum staff, learn about the field of Museum Studies, earn community service hours, and gain customer services skills.

Teens participating in this program will learn about the region's natural history from 700 million years ago when giant apex predators such as mosasaurs and other prehistoric creatures lived in the ocean that covered the region. Learn where fossils of the American mastodons can be found in this region and how they became extinct.

Participants can immerse themselves in the history of the area by learning about the history of the Indigenous people who lived here first, the birth of Memphis as a frontier river town, the effects of the Civil War and Yellow Fever, and how these things shaped the Mid-South region.

MoSH Teen Ambassadors Program

Once Junior Interpreters have completed the program, they can be invited to move up to the MoSH Teen Ambassadors Program. MoSH Teen Ambassadors are creative high school students who serve as ambassadors for MoSH. These students will work alongside museum staff to develop, design, and assist with running programming for teen audiences based on traveling and inhouse exhibits, special events, social media content, and community engagement. Students will meet twice a month with museum staff and take part in conversations that will lead to planning creative experiences for youth at MoSH. Teen Ambassadors will also have monthly volunteer obligations, must volunteer for three special events, and during school holidays.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must be in grades 10-12.
- Application deadline is November 20, 2023
- Two letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors
- Be able to communicate well with the public.
- Enthusiasm and a strong interest in learning about science, education, natural history, and museum studies.
- Attend mandatory orientation session.
- Volunteer for minimal of 10 hours a month, three MoSH special events, and during school breaks.

Applicants will be selected for the program based on written applications, face-to -face interview, and letters of recommendations. Interviews will be held on December 1-2 and 8-9. Selected applicants will be notified.

If you have any questions about the Mosh Junior Interpreter Program, please contact Janie Best Paraham, Manager of Volunteer Services at Janie.paraham@memphisth.gov

MoSH Junior Interpreter Program Application

Name: _____

Pronouns: _____

Age/ Date of Birth: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Relationship: _____

Experience:

- Think about experiences you have had at paid jobs, volunteer positions, with clubs, or doing school projects. Choose at least one experience that you feel developed skills relevant to being a Junior Interpreter.
- Describe what you did and explain how the experience is relevant to the Junior Interpreter program.

Interest & Motivation:

- Why do you think you're a good candidate for this program?

- What is it about this program that sounds exciting to you?

- Tell us about your interest in science and nature. Favorite subject areas?

Sharing Science, Nature, and History:

- These questions deal with the kind of conversations you will be having with visitors. There are no right or wrong answers; we just want to see how you would approach conversations about science, the natural world, and history

Imagine you're explaining the difference between butterflies and moths to a 10-year-old versus a 4-year-old. What would you do differently for these two children to help them understand?

- Choose ONE of the five historic Memphians below, and research them briefly. Find TWO fun facts about this person that you think would get people excited to learn more. Choose between: Julia B. Hooks, Clarence Saunders, Robert R. Church, Sr., Danny Thomas, or Burton Callicot.

Please submit your application and letters of recommendation to:

Janie Best Paraham

Manager of Volunteer Services

Museum of Science & History (MoSH)

3050 Central Ave. Memphis, TN 38111

Janie.paraham@memphistn.gov

901-636-2438

