

MUSEUM EDUCATION INTERNSHIP

As a Museum Education Intern, you will have an opportunity to help local students, teachers and families connect to and use Ventura County history in a meaningful way through the Museum of Ventura County (MVC), Agriculture Museum and Albinger Archaeological Museum collections. The internship will introduce you to museum education best practices and provide plenty of opportunities to develop your skills and techniques necessary to work with teachers and PK – 12 students.

Goal

Overall, this internship is a professional learning experience that aims to provide aspiring museum and education professionals with experience in developing lesson plans, online resources, museum programs and field trip experiences, and examines the power of museums in supporting PK-12 cross-curricular education.

Anticipated Learning Objectives

By the end of this internship, the intern will be able to:

- Engage diverse audiences.
- Implement best practices for museum education.
- Develop object-based and interactive museum experiences, lesson plans, online resources and other materials for teachers, students and families.
- Connect teachers, students and families to museum objects in relevant, engaging, and educational ways.

Expected Responsibilities

During the internship, the intern should expect to:

- Assist with prep, set-up, and securing tour and field trip activity stations.
- Lead interactive school tours focused on second and third grade curriculum.
- Design new interactive elements and educational materials (games, assignments, activities, etc.) for museum educators to incorporate into teacher professional development workshops and direct-to-student programming and resources.
- Prepare materials to be used in professional development workshops, events, and other programs conducted by the MVC Education team.
- Creatively and collaboratively with the PK-12 Education team, develop concepts for new resources and programs for teachers and students.

Ideal Qualifications / Prerequisites

The ideal intern applicant is/has:

- In the process of obtaining an undergraduate or graduate degree in Museum Studies, Museum Education, Art History, History, Education, Anthropology, science/STEAM, or another related field.
- Experiences in formal and informal education settings a plus, but not required.
- Be able to work both independently and in a collaborative environment.
- Be open-minded in learning new topics and skills.
- Bilingual in English and Spanish, or another language, preferred.

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Audience

This internship is intended for 1-3 interns per session. Community college students, undergraduates, and graduate students are encouraged to apply.

Timeline

This internship will take place every internship season--spring, summer, and fall. This internship is expected to be part-time. The anticipated length of this internship is 12-15 weeks.

Eligible for Academic Credit

Interns may receive program or course credit for this experience if approved by their educational institution. Though MVC does not itself award credit, the Education Manager will help coordinate the requirements for credit with the educational institution. The prospective intern must take the initiative to prepare the paperwork and documents necessary for academic credit required by their educational institution.

Financial Information

This internship opportunity would provide a stipend for up to \$1,500 per term. Internship stipends issued by MVC are not considered salary or meant as compensation, but are awarded to help defray living expenses for an intern during the term of their appointment.

Requirements

Interested candidates must be enrolled in a degree granting program at the time of their internship and selected interns will need to provide a letter from their school verifying enrollment.

- Selected interns must submit to a full background check through Live Scan.
- Internships are positions with the minimum requirement of 15 hours per week for 12 to 15 weeks. However, not being able to work within these parameters will not preclude a potential applicant from being considered.

The Application Process

Please submit the following to Robert Cromwell at rcromwell@venturamuseum.org:

1. Letter of Interest
2. Current Resume
3. Letter of Recommendation from a faculty member or employer

Application materials are due by the following dates:

- Fall Term: August 27th
- Spring Term: ~~November 15th~~ Open until filled. Please apply.
- Summer Term: March 5th

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Robert Cromwell
Education Manager
rcromwell@venturamuseum.org
T: 805-525-3100 ext. 104

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ABOUT WHOM YOU WILL BE WORKING WITH

Museum of Ventura County: Please familiarize yourself with our mission statement, previous and current exhibits and events, and our locations. <https://venturamuseum.org/>

Robert Cromwell: Robert “Bob” Cromwell has worked as the education manager with the MVC/AG Museums since 2019, and previously worked as a classroom teacher, corporate instructor, and an educator with the National Park Service (NPS). Bob began his career as an intern with the NPS, and gained skills and experience through working with staff and volunteers at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Due to having this essential experience that became a stepping stone to a career in education, he wanted to “pay it forward.” He has created several internship programs in partnership with museums, universities, and public lands management agencies. The interns Bob has supervised have gone on to careers in education as K-12 teachers, National Park Service rangers, and Museum educators in Los Angeles and Shasta Counties. An essential first step to embarking upon a career in education is to gain relevant resume experience and build references—this internship will provide both as a “value added” in addition to the monetary stipend.

Leila Benoun Kaseke: While Leila is new to museum education, she has been an educator since 2011. She started her teaching career in Thailand, and has taught English as an Other Language to children, teenagers, and adults. Most recently, she has taught at Santa Barbara City College and Ventura College. Being a museum educator has all the same benefits of teaching ESOL: learning about a variety of subjects, working with a diverse student population, making creative learning materials, and being involved in the education community. The biggest difference is the amount of time spent with the students; she misses building relationships with the students and seeing them develop and accomplish their goals. She looks forward to mentoring interns and helping them to realize their professional passions, inspiring them to be ambitious, and collaborating to optimize the museum experience. Before being a teacher, Leila worked in publishing and did a variety of internships in the industry. She understands being an intern is an opportunity to try something new and develop additional skills. She wants the internship to serve the intern as much as, if not more, than it serves the museum.