

North Carolina Museum of Art Park Guide Volunteer Description

Responsibilities

- Engage in an introductory training over eight consecutive weeks from April to May 2022. In-person training takes place from 5 to 6 pm in the Museum Park. Training includes interactive sessions with NCMA staff as well as reading and studying online resources. Volunteers learn methods of inquiry-based art exploration and strategies for developing interactive, engaging tours for K–12 student and adult visitors of diverse ages, cultures, abilities, and interests.
- Develop a personal tour plan of the Museum Park that includes art and nature. The tour will be vetted by the manager of docent experience. Conduct a practice tour as part of the process of qualifying to become a Park guide.
- Once trained and qualified, facilitate interactive, engaging tours about art and nature in the Park to K–12 student and adult visitors.
- Lead tours from March to November, volunteering on the same day every week (Wednesday through Sunday). Guides will be assigned tours on their day as needed.
- After initial training, participate in ongoing meetings during the year. These meetings include receiving updates on the art and Park, learning new interpretive strategies, and developing new programs and resources with NCMA staff and other Park guides.

Park tours provided

Guided Tour of the Museum Park

Explore nature and art during this 90-minute tour. The route through the Park is approximately two miles long, with variations in surface and incline. Target audience: Mixed-age; these tours are designed to be family friendly, so that children and adults of varying ages may engage in the art and nature around them, and enjoy contributing to the group's exploration of the Park.

School Park Tours

School tours of the Museum Park invite students to explore three or more works of art, the varied ecosystems in place within the Park, and the plants and animals that coexist within them. Tours are 50 minutes in length. Target Audience: K–12 students

Additional tours will be developed in the future based on audience needs and interests and as Museum resources develop over time.

Benefits of being a Museum Park guide

- Excellent opportunities for continuing education provided by NCMA staff
- 10 percent discount at the Museum Store, Sip, and East Café
- Chance to contribute to educating visitors about the state's art museum and providing skilled, memorable experiences for a wide range of visitors

Requirements

- Park guides must be interested in and willing to facilitate tours for K–12 students and adults that use conversation and varied kinds of interaction to achieve identified goals for specific tour plans.
- Guides must be able to commit one day per week (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday) to touring, with the expectation of giving one 50- to 90-minute tour on that day as needed. Guides are able to sign out for days they are unavailable.
- All Park guides must undergo a security check facilitated by Museum staff.
- Experience in biology, horticulture, ornithology, environmental education, or other nature-oriented disciplines is appreciated but not required.

For more information on becoming an NCMA Park Guide, please contact Gennifer Stanley, manager of docent experience, at gennifer.stanley@ncdcr.gov.