



Apprentice Interpreter Application FAQs

What is an Apprentice Interpreter?

Apprentice Interpreters are part of a season-long volunteer program that lets Future Historians take the reins and bring history to life for our visitors.

After training in spring (focusing on historic thinking skills, historical content, and interpretation skills) Apprentice Interpreters will work throughout Pinecrest Historical Village as part of our Interpretive Team. In addition to bringing our historic structures to life for our visitors, Apprentice Interpreters will be provided with career development in the form of one-on-one coaching with museum staff, public speaking, and training in historic skills.

Who is eligible?

The Society's Apprentice Interpreter program is open to students who are at least 14 years of age by May 1, 2019. Candidates may include middle/high school students, homeschool students, or college students. No prior interpretive experience is necessary, as this program is structured to provide apprentices with the training and tools to become successful interpreters. Loving history is not a requirement either! This program offers unique experiences for students with a variety of interests and skills to take away.

What are the benefits?

- Firsthand experience working in an outdoor museum setting, which will be valuable for future resumes and job applications.
- Experience and education in how to communicate information in fun and creative ways
- Access to professional museum staff and training materials
- Opportunity to wear period clothing and use historical artifacts to tell stories

Upon successful completion of the program, Apprentices will be presented with a certificate recognizing their commitment to preserving and sharing Manitowoc County history for use in future applications and educational endeavors.

What is the commitment?

Apprentice Interpreters will be a part of the Manitowoc County Historical Society team for the entire 2019 season. You will be required to attend the interpreter training on either Wednesday, April 24 or Saturday, May 4 in order to prepare for the 2019 season. Seasoned MCHS interpreters will be attending the April 24th date (open to all), while May 4th will be for students who cannot attend the weekday date.

Apprentice Interpreters will volunteer at least 10 days between May 1 and October 24. Apprentices may work between one and four days a week, time is dependent on youth program schedules. Interpreters may volunteer for school tour experiences, homeschool days, summer day camps, or our preschool literacy program.

Apprentice Interpreters must also volunteer for two of eight special event days: Civil War Days, June 1 & 2; Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, August 10 & 11; Mid-Lakes Threshere, September 7 & 8; All Hallow's Eve, October 12; and Pinecrest Christmas, December 14.

How do I apply for the 2019 Summer Apprentice Interpreter Program?

Complete the Apprentice Interpreter Application. Include your short answer question responses and essay question response on a separate page. Staple everything together and then drop off, mail, or email your application to the Manitowoc County Historical Society. Your application must be received before 3 pm on March 29, 2019 to be considered. The Society's winter office hours are Wednesday through Friday from 11 am to 3 pm.

What do I need to know about the work environment?

The Manitowoc County Historical Society is an outdoor, living history museum comprised of 30 historic structures. Please consider the following physical demands and work environment to ensure suitability for the program:

Physical Demands

- Requires prolonged standing, some bending, stooping, stretching, and walking
- Requires hand-eye coordination and manual dexterity to perform demonstration tasks

Work Environment

- Work is performed in historic structures lacking climate control and with direct exposure to the outdoors, including allergens and insects
- Work will be performed while in period clothing in all weather
- Work involves contact with the public and may involve handling difficult visitors and large groups of students

When will I know if I have been selected as an Apprentice Interpreter?

MCHS staff will review the applications and will select the 2019 Apprentice Interpreters. You will be notified via email by Friday, April 12 if you have been selected for the program. After you have received the notification email, you will receive follow-up materials to prepare you for the interpreter training day on April 24 or May 4.

Who do I contact with questions and where do I send my application?

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Manitowoc County Historical Society
Apprentice Interpreter Application
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