HISTORIC ST. MARY’S CITY COMMISSION
POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Deckhand

Reports to: Captain, WF Supervisor
Department: Education Department

Classification: Contractual
Division: Interpretive Programs Division

Closing Date: December 17, 2023
Approved: Peter A. Friesen

Pay Rate: $35/hour

Job Summary: Under the direction of the Captain of Maryland Dove, the Deckhand is responsible for operating and maintaining Maryland Dove. Maryland Dove is a representation of an early 17th-century English boyer-rigged pinnace. Under the direction of the Waterfront Supervisor, the Deckhand will provide historical interpretation of Maryland Dove and colonial Maryland to the public both when stationed dockside and while underway. Primary functions include operating a 17th-century tall ship in a safe manner while presenting the history of Maryland’s founding in an accurate, dynamic, creative, and scholarly manner. The Deckhand will also assist the Captain/WF Supervisor in maintaining ship’s integrity, safety, and visual appeal.

Essential Functions:

• Serve as a Deckhand on board Maryland Dove during public sails and training sails not to include transit to outreach ports. This can include weekends and holidays.
• Average of 24 hours per month April through October.
• Serve as an underway interpreter during public sails.
• Support the HSMC policies and work practices by maintaining a prompt attendance record, offering encouragement to new staff, openly engaging the public, and presenting an inviting and enthusiastic attitude.
• Participate in random substance screening as per the United States Coast Guard to maintain good standing for the purpose of operating Maryland Dove during underway interpretation with patrons.

Additional Responsibilities:

• Participate in media activities such as film shoots, radio spots, and interviews with journalists.
• Represent museum at assigned workshops, professional organizations, and committees.
• Assist with site maintenance.
• Other duties as assigned.
The incumbent should possess the following knowledge, skills, and abilities:

The following skills may be required in some or all exhibit areas. (Specific training is provided by HSMC.)

- Ability to learn and then disseminate knowledge of pre-colonial and colonial history to the public.
- Ability to take direction and to work efficiently either alone or with others.
- Ability to communicate effectively with people of varied ages and backgrounds in both individual and group settings.
- Ability to perform deckhand duties in a wide variety of weather conditions, lift up to 50 pounds, and walk, bend, and/or stand for extensive periods of time.
- Ability to learn (or experience in) numerous craft skills including basic carpentry, hand sewing, canvas work, knot tying, marline spike seamanship etc.
- Ability to swim.
- Red Cross Lifesaving and Water Safety instruction certification is desirable, but not required.
- Ability and willingness to climb and work aloft in the ship’s rigging (between 30 to 70 feet up, either dockside or underway) to help handle sail or perform maintenance tasks. This is desirable but not required.
- Some knowledge of seamanship, coastal navigation, and square-rigged vessel operation is desirable.

Education and Experience:

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- One year of public service experience preferred.
- Knowledge of American colonial history.
- Excellent communication skills.

How to apply:

Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to marlee.putnam@maryland.gov

Historic St. Mary’s City is an equal opportunity employer.