

What We Make Exhibit Gallery Volunteer

Program Description of *What We Make* Exhibit

A Makerspace is a physical space that seeks to foster creative, design, and critical-thinking habits through tinkering and hands on problem solving; seeks to engage an individuals' curiosity through self-driven projects; seeks to cultivate social interactions through collaboration and knowledge sharing in the common space; and encourages integration between the sciences, technology, arts, and history. Often makerspaces in museums are outside the galleries so this exhibition would be rare in that it will pair maker activities with collections in an exhibition space. Makerspaces create equity in learning by allowing different access points.

The MAC's *What We Make* exhibit "Inspired by Nature" is divided into four sections
Inspired by Landscape (Art Collection)

- The Art of Making: Prints, Drawings, and Encaustic. What makes them different, similar?
- The Importance of Objects: how is Art inspired by the environment?

Fur, Feathers, Flowers, and Fashion (Textiles Collection)

- The Art of Making: Millinery and the art of making hats.
- The Importance of Objects: Form vs. Function

Drawing with Beads (American Indian Collection)

- The Art of Making: The Art of Beading
- The Importance of Objects: what are beaded bags and why are they important?

To Fly Like a Bird (History Collection)

- The Art of Making: making and experimenting, woodworking
- The Importance of Objects: history of flight

Position information

- Education Department Gallery Volunteer
- Tuesday – Sunday, 2-hour shifts + training

Museum Training provided by the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture

- Visitor Engagement
- Campus Tour
- Safety Training
- Exhibit Content Training



Position description:

The Education Gallery Volunteer will assist the Museum Teaching Artist with the maker space environment. The volunteer will facilitate inquiry base learning through asking questions rather than giving answers to encourage exploration and experimentation. The volunteer will foster a fun and engaging environment that supports innovation, critical-thinking and curiosity. They will help create an inclusive environment to make the arts accessible to all, regardless of circumstances or ability. The volunteer will train with lead educators and the Museum Teaching Artist to learn effective teaching methodologies and ensure a quality experience for museum visitors. Volunteer will assist in materials prep and clean up and help in other galleries or with museum programs as needed. Volunteer will participate in an ongoing evaluation process of the exhibit.

Requirements:

Desire to learn an engaging teaching style to reach participants across diverse developmental levels to include them in the creative process.

Ability to adapt to varying populations and age groups.

Ability to express interpretive concepts clearly and concisely.

Ability to work both as a member of a team and independently.

If interested in volunteering, please send the following information in Word or PDF format to:

Linda.Strong@northwestmuseum.org

Completed volunteer/intern application (available on the museum's website)