



Polk Museum of Art
MORE THAN AN ART MUSEUM

VOLUNTEER DOCENT APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of application _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Current Employer: _____

Secondary/College/Graduate School(if any): _____

Major/ Degree/or area of study: _____

Your greatest asset as a Docent is your enthusiasm and interest in learning new things and sharing those with others. That alone could easily qualify you for our Docent program!

Have you had any teaching or public speaking experience or taken any art, art history, humanities or education classes? () yes () no

Please specify:

List professional and/or volunteer work. Include work in which you are currently involved.

Please list any special interest, talents and skills (such as foreign languages) which you may have:

Why do you want to be a docent? _____

Program Interest : (you may check more than one)

() Preschool/Kindergarten () Elementary (grades 1-5) () Middle/High School (grades 6-12)
() College/Adult () Seniors () Mentally/Physically Disabled

PLEASE RETURN TO

Polk Museum of Art, Education Department, 800 East Palmetto St, Lakeland, FL 33801

Application to the Polk Museum of Art Docent Program

Please read the following information and complete the form on the reverse page and return it to:
POLK MUSEUM OF ART, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 800 EAST PALMETTO STREET, LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33801

The Education Department of the Polk Museum of Art offers tours and outreach services to area elementary, secondary and college students as well as to other groups ranging from pre-school children to senior adults.

Polk Museum of Art Docents are volunteer staff members of the Education Department who lead tours and programs and devote time and professional expertise to help visitors understand and enjoy works in the museum's permanent collection and changing exhibitions. A thorough training program prepares the docents with teaching skills and helps develop their knowledge of aesthetics, the history of art and interpersonal skills. A college level art history course will be provided by the Museum in the fall. Lectures and workshops by staff, curators and visiting artists are supplemented by assigned reading, observation of tours, presentation of practice tours, and monthly meetings.

Polk Museum of Art Docents are committed to excellence; their enthusiasm for art and their interest in visitors endow the Museum with spirit and warmth. As Museum representatives, they are trained and evaluated by professional standards. Docents must also be members of the Polk Museum of Art.

We look for people who have:

- The ability to communicate effectively with a variety of groups and ages
- A warm and friendly attitude.
- Available time: Docents must be available the third Monday of every month for training and forums. In addition, they will be scheduled to give a minimum of two tours a month.
- The docent year follows the academic calendar from September – May. The docents have a vacation period from regularly scheduled tours and meetings from June through the end of August.
- The ability to make a one-year commitment to the program.

Docents are selected on their qualifications and willingness to make a serious commitment to this exciting program. Neither race, religious affiliation, gender, ethnic background, or sexual orientation are ever a consideration in the selection process. After receiving your application, the Curator of Education will contact you to schedule an interview.

Thank you for your interest in our docent program! 😊