Illinois State Museum – Changes Docent

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Agency Contact: Beth Shea, Education Chairperson
How should students contact this agency? Email
How should students submit cover letters and resumes? Email attachments

General description of this agency
The Illinois State Museum promotes discovery, learning, and an appreciation of Illinois' natural, cultural, and artistic heritage.

Internship Description
The Illinois State Museum's permanent exhibit "Changes" is looking for volunteers to join its Docent Program. Docents are stationed in "Changes" with a cart full of hands-on items that go with the exhibit, such as mammoth and mastodon teeth, boxes of butterflies and other insects, coal and fluorite, and much more. Docents share these hands-on objects with visitors and answer questions. The successful docent is someone who likes the natural world (plants, animals, rocks, etc.), likes talking informally to people, and is able to learn the information in the exhibit.

Because the exhibit is very science-oriented, an interest in the natural world or science is important. Otherwise, any interest in a museum atmosphere, no matter the major concentration, should consider volunteering as a Docent. A willingness to informally interact with people is also important, as Docents interact with visitors of different ages.

Hours per week: 10
Number of weeks: 8 – 16 weeks, flexible
Position available: Spring, Summer, Fall

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