**Visitor Experience Intern**

**Location:** NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary - Alpena, MI  
**Supervisor:** Jeff Gray  
**Status:** Independent Contractor - Seasonal  
**Start and End Date:** 6/3/2024 (Flexible) - 8/30/2024

### What We Need

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is a leading voice for U.S. protected waters, is seeking a Visitor Experience Intern, a position responsible for visitor services, facilitating sanctuary tours and educational programs, and promoting Great Lakes stewardship.

Specifically the Visitor Experience Intern will be the first point of contact for Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center (GLMHC) visitors. In addition to the responsibilities of visitor services, the Intern will work directly with the public by facilitating sanctuary education programs for the community youth, leading historical tours on sanctuary glass-bottom boat and kayak excursions, and communicating the sanctuary’s goals of natural and cultural resource protection through place-based learning workshops.

This is a twelve-week internship, from May 27th, 2024 through August 20th, 2024. The intern will be expected to work 40 hours per week, including some weekends. The position is currently in-office.

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is committed to a culture of inclusion, equity, and belonging. We are dedicated to attracting and retaining a diverse staff. We honor experiences, perspectives, and unique identities, and welcome the contributions that you can bring to the dedicated team. With a diverse team of employees, we can grow and learn better together and achieve our mission to protect the health of the ocean, coasts and Great Lakes for current and future generations.

### What You’ll Do

Responsibilities of the Visitor Experience Intern include:

- Assisting with guest services at the GLMHC, tour boats, and gift shop for both individuals and groups.
- Facilitating and assisting with existing sanctuary programming to community youth through educational workshops, Science On a Sphere presentations, and place-based learning opportunities.

- Delivering interpretive tours of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center's museum exhibits and aboard the Glass Bottom Boat and Kayak sanctuary excursions.*

- Learning about sanctuary research and programs to develop education and outreach materials for staff and the general public.

- Creating sanctuary outreach content for a variety of social media platforms including Facebook and Instagram.

- Supporting existing projects through database management and historical research.

- Engaging in community outreach event planning such as the Festival of Sail and Nautical Fest.

- Utilizing sustainability skills and act as a zero waste ambassador during outreach events and day-to-day operations

*Please note: As independent contractors, interns are not covered by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's insurance to work aboard vessels. Interns working on vessels will assume all liability risk.

**Who You Are**

List required qualifications (and preferred qualifications, if applicable)

The ideal intern applicant is/has:

- A current undergraduate student.

- Excellent customer service and interpersonal skills, including ability to present information effectively in one-on-one and group settings, and to facilitate a positive and inclusive dialogue with the audience.

- Good working knowledge of computers and familiarity with general office technology.

- Strong interest and engagement in cultural resource management, Great Lakes stewardship, and/or museum operations.

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

- Self-motivated with the ability to work both independently and in a collaborative environment.

**Why You Will Love Us**
The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation ("Foundation") is a leading voice for U.S. protected waters, working with communities to conserve and expand those special places for a healthy ocean, coasts, and Great Lakes. The Foundation works in close partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to increase stewardship of our ocean and Great Lakes through on-the-water conservation projects, and education and public outreach activities, and by support for research. Together, we safeguard species and the places they call home, and support coastal communities and economies.

How to Apply

Apply by emailing a cover letter and resume to rfp@marinesanctuary.org. Please make sure your email subject includes the title of the internship, "Visitor Experience Internship". Your application will not be reviewed unless the cover letter and resume are attached.

Please note: Intern waives any claim for personal injury or property damage against the Foundation and its officers, directors, employees and agents arising out of this internship, unless such injury or damage is caused by the gross negligence of the Foundation.

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws. This commitment applies to all employment practices within our organization, including hiring, recruiting, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, leave of absence, compensation, benefits, and training. The Foundation makes hiring decisions based solely on qualifications, merit, and business needs at the time.