

Curator of Historic Collections – Battleship Cove

Battleship Cove, “America’s Fleet Museum,” seeks an experienced Curator of Historic Collections.

This dynamic museum and memorial houses the largest collections of U.S. WWII vessels in the world and is home to 5 National Historic Landmarks. The curator is part of the Collections Department team which has responsibility for the historical artifacts held at Battleship Cove and the Marine Museum of Fall River. The Department is led by the Director of Marine Museum and Collections and also includes the PT Boat Curator.

Primary Responsibilities and Duties: The Curator of Historic Collections, a senior staff position, is responsible for all aspects of collections management for the artifacts under their charge. This includes managing the PastPerfect database, researching and cataloguing, store control, retrieval and presentation to the public. The Curator will be responsible for artifacts on display and collections documentation for the ships and objects in the collections such as the Huey, T-28, Cobra and Styx Missile.

The curator provides historical knowledge and support to other members of staff when required, such as to the Director of Education or Director of Communications for publications. This can take the form of but is not restricted to, finding and supplying historic photos, writing articles, providing copy for publication or interpretation support.

The Curator will support the forthcoming reinterpretation of the site and battleship *Massachusetts* under the direction of the Director of Education. The curator will provide historical support and also work as a major part of the project team to identify and develop storylines for the new interpretation plan. Exhibitions will from time to time be proposed and delivered and the curator will be an important part of the project team.

The Curator advises the Facilities Manager on procedures regarding preservation and restoration projects as well as maintenance plans that will impact on the well-being of the artifact and will include the ships. The curator is responsible for creating project initiation documents and plans for projects to be undertaken. This paperwork will follow museum industry standard practice and include conservation reports, methods of working, materials to be used and a job risk analysis. For projects, it will also include advice and oversight on material and object handling and movement.

Requirements and Qualifications: Experience in a museum or academic institution; knowledge of Naval/Military history and of the material culture of the US Navy would be an advantage. Experience in original research, proven ability to write, edit, and produce publishable work; sound knowledge of collection management, storage, and preventative conservation skills; some experience with archive and library collections preferred; experience in fundraising, grant writing, and donor relations preferred; experience initiating and executing exhibitions; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; M.A. (or equivalent) in Museum Studies, History, or related field required. Application Deadline: January 25, 2016. The Curator of Historic Collections, Battleship Cove, is a full-time position. Please send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to: Sue Couitt at suec@battleshipcove.org” as a Word attachment only with “Curator of Historic Collections” in the subject line. No phone calls please.