

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position:	Backcountry Volunteer Interpreter
Department:	Backcountry Program
Salary Level:	Volunteer
Default Housing:	<i>Backcountry (Final housing assignments may differ based on availability)</i>
Reports To:	Backcountry Camp Director
Desired Availability:	May 27 – August 12

Philmont Standards

- Must be at least 18 years of age by start of employment (21+ requirement, if applicable, will be noted below)
- Must become a registered member of Scouting America at the start of employment and subscribe to the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Declaration of Religious Principles
- Must provide a complete and current Scouting America Annual Health and Medical Record (Parts A, B, & C) to the Infirmary upon arrival including review of risk advisory and immunization requirements
- Must maintain a clean, well-groomed appearance and be willing to purchase required uniform parts to meet Philmont's uniform policy
- Must participate in designated staff training
- Must adhere to the policies and programs set forth by Philmont Scout Ranch management

Position Overview

Volunteer Interpreters serve in various roles in Philmont's Living History programs and must be available for at least two weeks. Typically, these positions are filled by former Philmont staff members who have previously served as Program Counselors or Camp Directors at one of the 15 interpretive camps located across the ranch. However, there are opportunities for those that have experience in interpretation at other historic sites, National Parks, or local historically themed programs. Themes for the living history programs at Philmont include Homesteading, Mining, Logging, Fur Trapping, Mountain Man Rendezvous, Post Civil War Encampment, Railroading, Waite Phillips Family, and Ernest T. Seton. Volunteer Interpreters deliver historically themed programs and hands on activities to participants while stationed at a specified backcountry camp for one to two weeks. Your work as a Volunteer Interpreter will be an important part of the learning experience for Scouts during your time at the camp. The objective is to give Scouts an understanding of the rich local history of our lands and to convey your enthusiasm for living history interpretation.

Primary Duties & Responsibilities

- Become thoroughly familiar with camp specific information and general program content
- Under the direction of the Camp Director, continue on-the-job training for seasonal staff, sharing your expertise with fellow staff members and learning theirs through cross training
- Deliver engaging and informative interpretive programs at scheduled program times
- Maintain a clean, organized, and safe work environment
- Ensure materials and supplies are stocked and in working order; report any needs to the Camp Director

- Ensure proper use, security, and care of program equipment
- Compile and share notes during your experience and share with the Camp Director to further enhance the future of the program
- Assist with any additional staff responsibilities at your stationed camp as directed by the Camp Director and as able
- Complete other duties as assigned by direct supervisor or ranch management as required

Desired Qualifications & Experience

- Experience as an interpreter delivering living history programs is required
- Experience with the hands-on activities and programs at desired camps is required
- Muzzle Loading Shooting programs will require current NRA credentials
- Previous Philmont staff or participant experience preferred and proves helpful (but not required)
- Excellent communication and presentation skills

Physical Requirements & Work Environment

- Must meet Scouting America height/weight requirements
- Be able to lift and handle materials potentially up to 50 pounds
- Frequent movement over rugged terrain to access all areas of camp location including hiking and climbing stairs
- Exposed to various outdoor weather conditions
- Based in remote locations with little to no cell service, internet, or other amenities

Additional Information

Applications will be reviewed by the Associate Director of Camping responsible for the chosen camp, who may contact applicants for an interview and/or additional questions and information.

It should be noted by applicants that Philmont Scout Ranch and the surrounding are located in a rural ranching community within the high desert of the Sangre de Cristo mountains. Climate, culture, and the availability of resources may vary significantly than other communities. Amenities applicants are used to may not be available on the ranch or the surrounding area.

Philmont and Scouting America provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.

This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and training.

Updated: 12/3/2024