

MANITOGA / The Russel Wright Design Center: SITE EDUCATOR

Manitoga is the nationally landmarked House, Studio and 75-acre woodland landscape of mid-century industrial designer Russel Wright (1904-1976) in Garrison, New York. With a creative vision that integrates nature, architecture, and design to a remarkable degree, it has become one of the great modernist destinations within reach of New York City. Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center offers an array of public tours and programs to engage visitors whose numbers have tripled in recent years. The Russel & Mary Wright Design Gallery, featuring over two hundred of their groundbreaking designs for the American home, opened to the public in 2021. Manitoga seeks seasonal Site Educators to join our talented public program team and interpret mid-twentieth century designer Russel Wright's modernist home and landscape in Garrison New York for a broad public audience.

Manitoga Site Educators report to the Outreach / Public Programs Manager and work closely with Visitor Services Assistants to ensure that the public tour program is professionally and safely administered and is respectful of Manitoga's House, Studio, Landscape and Collections. Through a ninety-minute site tour, Site Educators help visitors experience Manitoga's extraordinary power of place and enduring design lessons. Seasonal tours, limited to 12 visitors per tour group, are offered May through mid-November, four times daily on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, with additional tours on select afternoons, rain or shine. Site Educators serve as articulate, informed, and welcoming ambassadors to Manitoga, its history and mission at all times. The ideal candidate for this role demonstrates excellent customer service skills and self-assurance. The individual must be highly attentive to detail, self-motivated, and able to work both independently and collaboratively as part of the public program team.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Complete Site Educator training with staff and professionals regarding Wright's design philosophy at Manitoga, the restoration history of the buildings and grounds, and the organization's future initiatives.

Lead tours at least 2 days per month, including weekends and holidays.

Assist in administering tour logistics prior to and at the conclusion of each tour.

Assist in promoting and selling memberships, Russel Wright and related merchandise from our small gift shop following tours.

Assist with coverage for at least 1 Manitoga event per year.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS / PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Excellent communication and customer service skills with the ability to foresee problems and develop solutions.
- High school diploma or equivalent required. College-level credits or degree in the arts preferred.
- Familiarity with architecture, landscape and/or design is required.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to multitask and prioritize.
- Good physical fitness with the ability to undertake moderate hikes and to stand in

and out of doors for prolonged periods

- Professionalism, reliability and punctuality required.
- Required to work some weekends, special events and select holidays during the tour season.
- Prior experience in customer service and/or working with the public required.
- Professionalism, reliability, and punctuality is required.

COMPENSATION: \$50 per tour - including public and group tours. Additional opportunities and compensation available for special tours, public events and programs.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send cover letter and resume with working experience to Sconnors@visitmanitoga.org or mail to Sarah Connors, Manitoga Inc., PO Box 249, Garrison, NY 10524