

JUNIOR DOCENT PROGRAM



The Hudson River Museum is looking for a new generation of teenagers eager to work with museum staff, artists, scientists, visitors, and their peers for years packed with amazing opportunities. Junior Docents are high school students at Yonkers Public Schools who train to work with Museum visitors as tour guides, workshop leaders, and general ambassadors of the Museum. JDs become part of the Museum community as volunteers and can eventually qualify to become Museum employees. Applicants must be a freshman or sophomore in a Yonkers high school. As a member of the JD Program, you get the chance to organize and lead programs that open the doors to Yonkers's youth. Whether you are an artist yourself, you support art, history, or science, or want to do your part in a museum setting, the JD Program wants your voice heard. **The JD Program is commitment that meets once a week during the school year on Wednesdays and sometimes Fridays 3-5pm and starting in January one Saturday or Sunday per month. In order to be chosen for this program you must be able to attend all meetings and volunteer days.**

YOU SHOULD APPLY!

NAME (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

HOME PHONE YOUR CELL

EMAIL

HIGH SCHOOL

CURRENT GRADE BIRTHDAY

PARENTS NAME(S)

PARENT(S) WORK OR CELL PHONE

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:

1. What motivates you to apply as a Junior Docent, and what are you hoping to gain from the experience?
2. Are you a leader, a team player, an organizer? Please describe specific skills and experiences that you want to bring to the JD program.
3. If selected to be a member of the JD Program, what are three ideas you would like to see accomplished at the museum, as a program or opportunity for the community?
4. Are you willing to make a strong commitment to JD Program every Wednesday and some Fridays 3:00pm to 5:00pm, and one weekend day a month for 3-4 years? What other commitments have you made this year?
5. Who are three artists, musicians, writers, dancers, social leaders, or thinkers that have influenced you? How have they influenced you?
6. What qualities do you hope to gain from being in the JD program?
7. What do you typically do in your free time? Do you have hobbies and other after school activities? Please describe.
8. How did you learn about the JD Program?

I have read the program overview below, and understand the commitment that participation in this program requires. I understand that the applicant is responsible for their transportation home from the interview.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

To Apply:

1. Contact Araya Henry at ahenry@hrm.org or (914) 963-4550 x.219, to schedule an interview before October 21. Applicants will be notified the following week.
2. Interviews will be held at the museum through **October 21**. You can make an appointment after school Wednesday through Friday from 2:30pm to 4:45pm and weekends from 11:00am to 1:00pm. You must set up an interview in advance and have a way home.
3. Complete this application including parent/guardian signature.
4. Have a teacher or guidance counselor complete your recommendation form.
5. Bring your completed recommendation and application to your interview.

JUNIOR DOCENT PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION FORM

(Applicants should detach this sheet from the packet and give it to a teacher or guidance counselor. This completed form should be brought to the interview in a signed and sealed envelope.)

FOR A TEACHER OR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

This student is applying to participate in the Hudson River Museum Junior Docent Program. Junior Docents are high school students who train to work with Museum visitors as gallery guides, workshop leaders, and general ambassadors of the Museum. They meet curators and artists, visit other museums in connection with current *HRM* exhibits and collections, and use museum resources to create tours and workshops for peers and families. The program aims to enhance students' appreciation of art and culture; to connect them to the community; to enable them to practice communication and professional skills; and to increase their job-readiness by allowing them to work towards becoming Museum employees. To prepare for college, Junior Docents make trips to college campuses and receive college preparation study. The Junior Docent Program strives to foster peer mentoring and a sense of camaraderie among students, and to create an atmosphere which will encourage them to learn from each other as well as from the Museum's staff and collections. In order to apply for the Junior Docent Program, we ask that students obtain a letter of recommendation from a teacher or guidance counselor. Please note that academic merit is not a consideration for application. Please fill out this form and return it to the student in a signed and sealed envelope. **Please note this program should not be used for short-time community service hours.** The Junior Docent program requires a commitment of 1 day a week and 1 weekend day a month.

Student name:	Your name (please print):
How do you know this student?	How long have you known this student?

1. What are the first words that come to mind to describe this student?
2. Please describe in what ways this student would benefit from being a Junior Docent.
3. Please comment on the student's strengths and/or weaknesses. These may include: motivation, leadership, cooperation, creativity, enthusiasm and participation.
4. Please comment on the degree to which the student is reliable and committed to projects and activities. It is extremely important that the student commits to this program long term.

Any additional remarks or comments.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return this letter in a sealed, signed envelope to the student.
Any questions? - contact Araya Henry at (914) 963-4550 x.219 or ahenry@hrm.org.