COLUMBIA RIVER
MARITIME MUSEUM
ASTORIA / OREGON

Lightship *Columbia* Docent

Objective: Lightship *Columbia* is the museum's largest artifact. Docents welcome visitors aboard and give them a brief history and safety talk before letting them explore the vessel on their own.

The volunteer will need to be able to walk on uneven pavement and navigate the stairs on the gangway and onboard the vessel. The docent should be aware of and comfortable with the safety protocols and equipment on board.

Volunteers need to be comfortable with the movement of the vessel, as well as engaging in conversations with small groups with awareness and respect for the diverse needs of visitors.

General duties:

- The volunteer will arrive about 10-15 minutes before their shift time to check in with the Front Desk and Volunteer Coordinator. Check in/out the key and keep it on your person or store it in the key box by the window in the doghouse.
- As the volunteer arrives at the doghouse, they will sign in and record weather, tides, and record the visitor count (at the end of the shift) in the logbook on the desk. Note the logbook's guidelines at the top of each page for when to close the ship. Use the radio to notify staff if conditions to close the ship are present.
- The volunteer will greet visitors, ensure they have Boarding Passes or assist with online ticket purchasing. They share about the history of Lightship *Columbia* as well as brief visitors on safety while on board (using ladders/stairs, watch head and feet, and being aware of young children especially with concern for the enclosure netting around the outside/deck area).

Training: Training for the lightship includes shadowing staff and learning about the history of the lightship until the volunteer is cleared to take shifts on their own. Docents are required to attend safety protocol and other training sessions (including docent training).

Time Commitment: Shifts are 2 hours long (11:00-1:00 and 1:00-3:00).

Who to report to: Volunteer Coordinator, Education Supervisor, Education Director