



Job Description

Job Title: **Public Historian**
Department: **Marketing & Communications**
Start Date: ASAP
Hours: Part-time, Two year position
Salary: Commensurate with experience

Program Overview:

Since 1893, Henry Street has delivered effective comprehensive services to residents of the Lower East Side and other New Yorkers. As a multifaceted nonprofit, Henry Street provides innovative social service, arts and health care programs from 17 locations throughout the Lower East Side. Building upon its of excellence, Henry Street has grown to offer more than 50 different programs, making it one of the most comprehensive settlement house in New York City, as well as one of the City's largest social service agencies. Henry Street is governed by a 45-member Board of Directors and is supported by government grants and contracts, as well as foundation, corporate and individual support.

The House on Henry Street: Settlements, Public Health, and Social Reform is a multi-platform humanities project to explore social activism, urban poverty and public health through the lens of Henry Street's history, bringing the Settlement's history and legacy to new audiences, many of them underserved. The project centerpiece is a permanent interactive exhibition in the Settlement's c. 1830 landmarked headquarters. A web-based exhibition with curriculum materials for high school and college teachers will deepen the interpretation, and a walking tour app for mobile devices will take the story to the streets of the Lower East Side. In addition to the main exhibition, the entire headquarters will be labeled and interpreted, enabling visitors to not only learn the Settlement's history, but also to tour the modern-day working social service agency.

Other components, including a public lecture series, and a series of public dialogue programs on community building and social reform, developed with our partner organizations the Museum at Eldridge Street and The Tenement Museum will enhance the interpretation of the history of Henry Street during and beyond its 125th anniversary year.

This project is supported by a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Qualifications:

- M.A. or Ph.D. in American history, with an emphasis on public history. Museum studies graduates with a strong American history background will also be considered.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Experience creating engaging public programs for diverse audiences
- Creative thinker, able to work independently and with a team
- Passionate about sharing history with new audiences, including immigrants and underserved/low income populations
- Bilingual (Spanish/Mandarin) a plus
- Flexibility and a sense of humor essential
- Able to climb four flights of stairs
- Excellent Microsoft Office Suite skills

Responsibilities:

- Create a public profile for the House on Henry Street history project on the Lower East Side and in New York City
- Develop and implement a strategy to engage new audiences, including Henry Street clients and the underserved, in the humanities
- Collaborate with project partners, the Tenement Museum and the Museum at Eldridge Street Synagogue, and other Lower East Side humanities institutions on public programming, including panel discussions, lectures and film screenings
- Create a master calendar, shared with partners, of all events
- Develop public programs of interest to Henry Street employees and clients, including those in our senior, education, employment, shelter and other programs
- Schedule and lead tours of the exhibition, and of the other interpreted spaces in the building
- Speak to community groups about the project to engage new audiences
- Work with the project evaluator to ensure that evaluation is built into the audience development strategy and public programs
- Provide historical content for the Settlement and Project website and social media channels

To Apply: E-mail Cover Letter and resume to jobs@henrystreet.org. Please indicate **“Public Historian”** in the subject line AND the website the position was found.

Due to the high volume of applicants, only qualified candidates will be contacted.

Henry Street Settlement is an equal opportunity employer/program.