



Job Title: Education Internship
Summer 2026

INTERNSHIP SUMMARY: Yakima Valley Museum is looking for a temporary education intern position who will work closely with the museum's Education Department to develop interpretive and educational programming for *The Land of Joy and Sorrow*, an exhibition exploring the experiences of the Japanese American community in the Yakima Valley. This is a paid, full-time internship for eight weeks in summer 2026. This eight week temporary position is sponsored by a grant from The Decorative Arts Trust.

Object-based research will be central to all activities, with a focus on the decorative arts and material culture that illuminate Japanese American domestic and agricultural life. From handcrafted tools and household items to textiles and furniture, these artifacts reflect both aesthetic traditions and cultural adaptation in a new landscape.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Curriculum Design:

- Create lesson plans that use decorative arts objects to connect students to broader themes of migration, resilience, and identity.

Traveling Trunk Program:

- Research and curate object-based trunks that showcase decorative arts and material culture, bringing hands-on experiences to classrooms and community spaces.

Exhibit Development:

- Conduct decorative arts and material culture research
- contribute interpretive writing and label copy
- develop educational materials that highlight craftsmanship and design traditions.

Other Duties:

- Support museum educational and public programming when appropriate.

OUTCOMES:

- Hands-on experience with decorative arts research, interpretive writing, curriculum development.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong interpersonal skills, enthusiasm and ability to contribute to a positive work culture.
- Ability to work as part of a team and collaborate with colleagues and stakeholders to reach common goals.
- Experience with historical research.
- Familiarity with museums, cultural institutions, and/or non-profits.
- Familiarity with the Yakima Valley a plus.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work efficiently and courteously with diverse audiences including members of the public, staff, volunteers, and other stakeholders.
- Ability to prioritize tasks to meet scheduled deadlines.
- This position requires frequently standing and lifting 25 pounds or more.

COMPENSATION:

This temporary position is full-time, 40 hours a week, for eight weeks and open to an undergraduate or graduate student. Compensation will be \$17.50/hour. This position is Tuesday-Saturday.

We encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds. Diverse perspectives and experiences enhance the richness of our work and reflect our community. We expect that not all candidates will meet every criterion in this job description, and some candidates may decide not to apply if they do not meet every line in the description. We encourage you to apply anyway!

Yakima Valley Museum is an equal opportunity employer.

Please submit a resume, letter of interest by May 22, 2026. Please submit to Liz Hobson, Executive Director at liz@yvmuseum.org