



## New Bedford Whaling Museum High School Apprenticeship Program



The New Bedford Whaling Museum High School Apprenticeship Program is an education program available to New Bedford students whose families qualify as low-income and who express interest in gaining college and career readiness experience. The program utilizes Museum resources and collaborates with regional partners including BCC, UMASS Dartmouth, Junior Achievement, and the Immigrants Assistance Center to provide support, guidance, and knowledge on a variety of subjects. Apprentices are provided with courses in career success and personal finance, receive SAT and MCAS tutoring (and tutoring for specific classes as needed), are assisted with college applications and completing the FAFSA, and tour local colleges. In return, the Museum asks Apprentices to commit to the program and its conditions through high school graduation. **We are currently seeking up to 3 students from the class of 2017 and 3 students from the class of 2018.**

Throughout the first year of the program, Apprentices collaborate with Museum staff, volunteers, other apprentices, and local partners to learn the city's history and industries, general cetacean biology, interpretation of artwork and artifacts, and public speaking before advancing to providing tours and leading programming for the public and other organizations. The second year, Apprentices are placed with Museum departments as part of onsite internships to further gain work experience and complete individual projects. The final year, Apprentices are typically provided with offsite internships related to the field of study they wish to pursue..

During the course of the program, Apprentices will meet and learn from a variety of experts, and participate in hands-on projects and Museum events. Just as importantly, these students will develop organizing, problem solving, and team-building skills. They will have the opportunity to express and enhance creativity, develop presentation, storytelling and public interaction skills, and learn how to think on their feet in front of an audience. Because this is a time commitment through the end of high school, Apprentices receive a stipend as incentive to participate in the program.

**Applications are due by Friday, October 2, 2015** to the Museum's front desk or to the main office at your school (GNBVT – your school contact will be Ms. Walsh, Co-op coordinator). Interviews will be held October 5-9 at the Museum after school. Not all applicants will receive an interview. New apprentices will begin on Tuesday, October 13. The program runs 3:15-5:00pm Tuesday-Friday October-June, with occasional breaks. The program resumes in the summer Monday-Thursday, 10:00am – 4:00pm. Throughout the year, there will be special events, evening and weekend programs, etc. in which the Apprentices will be asked to participate.

### **Interested students will need to provide the following:**

A completed application (be sure to complete both pages)

A copy of your most recent report card

A completed copy of the income verification form (this is attached to the application)

### **Please address your application and required documents to:**

Brian Witkowski, Director of Apprentices & Interns

New Bedford Whaling Museum

18 Johnny Cake Hill

New Bedford, MA 02740

Applications are also available at [www.whalingmuseum.org/learn/opportunities](http://www.whalingmuseum.org/learn/opportunities), at your school, and at the front desk of the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Contact Mr. Witkowski at (508) 717-6886 or <mailto:bwitkowski@whalingmuseum.org> for additional information. Please keep this sheet for your reference.