

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(ST MICHAELS, MD – January 5, 2012)



### CBMM offers volunteer docent training beginning February 2

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) in St. Michaels, MD is offering training for new and existing docent volunteers at the museum beginning on February 2 and continuing on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout February. The training is free and open to the public, with advanced registration needed.

This training is offered once a year, and prepares participants to lead group tours, interpret the museum's exhibits, and assist at special events. Anyone who enjoys interacting with people, has a curiosity about the Chesapeake Bay, and would like to help promote the Bay's cultural heritage is encouraged to participate in CBMM's volunteer docent training.



The new volunteer orientation from 10 - 11am on Thursday, February 2 will provide the basic information for becoming a museum volunteer. The orientation is followed with a 6-part intensive training program led by CBMM's Director of Education Kate Livie, with topics ranging from learning about the museum's exhibits and collections to developing tour group management techniques. Sessions are scheduled for 10am-12:30pm in CBMM's Van Lennep Auditorium on February 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, and 23. All sessions must be attended to qualify as a museum docent.

CBMM docents provide invaluable support to the museum in its mission to promote a deeper understanding of the Chesapeake Bay region and its history. Docents are asked to commit to one, 4-hour weekly shift. Duties can include guiding museum visitors and providing a memorable and positive visit; staffing individual exhibitions and leading demonstrations, classes, and special events as needed; and promoting the museum and its mission to others.

"Many docents express that volunteering at the museum is one of their most gratifying experiences," commented CBMM's Director of Events and Volunteer Program Melissa Spielman. "I often receive comments from volunteers who say that engaging museum visitors from across the country and around the world is inspiring and fulfilling work. That kind of feedback makes me feel the same about my work here also."

Pre-registration is required for the volunteer training. To enroll or to receive more information, contact Melissa Spielman at 410-745-4956 or at [mspielman@cbmm.org](mailto:mspielman@cbmm.org).

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