

VOLUNTEERS

EXHIBITS' THREE SUMMER INTERNS



The Exhibits department added three interns for the summer to assist in keeping all of our wonderful exhibits up and running: Lilly Pena, Emily

Roberts, and Wesley Mathews. Exhibit interns complete maintenance responsibilities and assist the Exhibits team in day-to-day activities.

Eric Thompson, an exhibit technician, described an ideal exhibit intern as friendly, organized, and resourceful. He stated that the current interns have provided the Exhibits team with a fresh perspective in the maintenance and updating of exhibitions.

Lilly, a senior anthropology major at the University of Texas at Arlington, was surprised how much she has learned during her internship. Despite having no previous experience in programming, she recently completed

a self-balancing robot for the Museum using VEX Robotics and ROBOTC.

Wesley, a geology graduate of Wichita State University, has also worked with robots during his internship, stating, "The robots present new challenges every day and are one of the most popular attractions within the Museum, so getting them fixed can be essential to ensuring the patrons, especially the younger ones, enjoy their Museum experience."

Both Lily and Wesley wanted to intern at the Museum in order to contribute to the display and representation of science education throughout the exhibits for guests to learn and enjoy.



IN THE NEWS

Thanks to **JUAN MUGARTEGUI**, special *Maya* volunteer, featured in June on *Univision*.

<http://www.univision.com/dallas/kuvn/noticias/historia/en-el-museo-perot-sigue-la-exposicion-denominada-mundos-ocultos-revelados-hasta-el-4-de-septiembre-video>

DISCOVERY CORPS FINAL PROJECT



This summer, 80 teens from 42 high schools participated in the Museum's *Discovery Corps* program, designed to provide STEM-minded teens the opportunity to engage and interact with guests and camp children. They assisted educators in summer camps, engaged with guests in exhibit halls, and created proposals for Discovery Kits. The Discovery Kit proposals suggest

new small objects and specimens that volunteers can utilize during their shift, and provide supplemental content to the exhibit halls. Each week this summer, a new group of 10 *Discovery Corps* teens teamed up to decide the focus of their Discovery Kit proposal, suggest objects and specimens, and complete their research. The *Discovery Corps* teens created Discovery Kit proposals for the *Life: Then and Now Hall*, *Expanding Universe Hall*, *Being Human Hall*, and *Dynamic Earth Hall*. The teens will present their proposals to their friends and families on their final day of *Discovery Corps*. The first session of *Discovery Corps* teens presented their final project on July 17, and the second session presented on August 14.

AMERICAN AIRLINES VOLUNTEERS



American Airlines has been a long-time supporter and donor of the Perot Museum. In June, they took their support to new heights with 15 AA staffers volunteering for a day of service with the Museum. Ken Wimberly, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at American Airlines, met the AA team for an early breakfast and kickoff prior to their volunteer shifts. You should be familiar with the name; Ken also serves on the board of directors of the Perot Museum.

AA volunteers were placed throughout the Museum, some with direct interactions with guests in the *Sports Hall*, *Engineering and Innovation Hall*, and at the earthquake table and Shale Voyager. Others built shapes for the Museum's wind tunnel, prepared lesson kits, and demonstrated the Beam robot to guests on every floor. This group of AA volunteers was diverse in their tenures and positions with American Airlines, creating a positive dynamic for both their volunteer group and for our Museum guests. Most of the AA volunteers were from the financial planning business unit, with Greg Schwendinger leading the volunteer effort. At least one other department was represented and they have promised to spread the word regarding the Perot Museum volunteer experience and recruit future AA volunteers!

As a special thank you, their day of service concluded with a complimentary architecture tour led by our lead volunteer, Melinda Kincaid. Photos and videos were taken and sent to the AA volunteer team to share with colleagues at American Airlines. The Perot Museum of Nature and Science looks forward to hosting more AA volunteers in the future.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: VOLUNTEER SERVICES INTERNS



The Volunteer Services department welcomed two interns this summer: Casey Myers-Morgan and Rebecca Reyes. Casey, a senior political science major at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, assists with the Mayor Summer Internship Program. You may also see her assisting at *Social Science*, volunteer and staff movie nights, *Discovery Days*, and sleepovers. She grew up in Dallas attending camps at the Natural History Museum in Fair Park and is excited to help create similar amazing experience for guests at the Perot Museum. Rebecca Reyes, a senior public and nonprofit management major at the University of Texas at Dallas, assists in the *Discovery Corps* program and the day-to-day operations of the Volunteer Services department. Rebecca has greatly enjoyed helping with *Discovery Corps* and working with the Museum's volunteers and staff. Casey will complete her internship with 150 hours, and Rebecca will complete her internship with 370 hours.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: DISCOVERY CORPS STUDENT BRYCE MCELVOGUE



Discovery Corps teen Bryce McElvogue has shined at the Museum this summer, and her enthusiasm has been noticed by volunteers, guests, and staff. As part of *Discovery Corps*, Bryce volunteered in Discovery Camp and participated in a group project that proposed

a new Discovery Kit for the *Life: Then and Now Hall*. Along with other *Discovery Corps* teens, she presented the proposal at the *Discovery Corps* session one final presentation on July 17. Bryce decided to volunteer at the Museum this summer due to her interest in paleontology,

which she intends to pursue as a career. She volunteers most frequently in the *Life: Then and Now Hall* and hopes to become a docent for the hall. As a senior at Mabank High School, Bryce is currently taking summer courses in government and English, and will graduate a year early in the spring of 2018. Following graduation, she plans to attend college at the University of Texas at Austin and major in geological sciences. Bryce hopes to become a curator at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and eventually become a college professor. Bryce combines her interest in paleontology with her hobby of painting by creating watercolor artwork of the *Parasaurolophus*. She plays tennis and is a member of the Dallas Paleontological Society. Bryce has volunteered over 170 hours this summer, and will receive the Presidential Service Award.



The Perot Museum is currently conducting research to learn how we can make the Museum a better experience for visitors. We are looking for both members and non-members. During their visit, study participants will be observed as they travel throughout the Museum, providing feedback about their experiences.

Participants will receive complimentary general admission tickets to the Museum and a small cash incentive for their participation. Participants needed include:

- Senior citizens with grandchildren
- Couples who attend Social Science event
- Families with children, particularly those who live in Lakewood and Plano
- Spanish-speaking and bilingual families
- Parents (both moms and dads) who meet at the museum for playdates
- Families who live outside a 90-mile radius of the museum

Please talk to your friends, families, and acquaintances about this interesting opportunity. If you find anyone interested, please pass along their name, contact information, and some general information regarding their background as stated above by September 15. **Your recruitment time will be logged as volunteer service time!**

Contact: Rose Jones, Ph.D., Director of Evaluation, at Rose. jones@perotmuseum.org or at 214-756-5869

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Every action in our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity.”

—Edwin Hubbel Chapin



SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

On *Discovery Days: Architecture*, three members of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers DFW Chapter assisted with activities related to architecture. SHPE-DFW helped guests build geodesic domes and learn how this design is structurally rigid to distribute stress throughout the structure, making geodesic domes able to withstand very heavy loads for their size.

The Dallas-Fort Worth Professional Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers was the first professional chapter to be established in the organization.

"Giving back is a high priority for SHPE-DFW. It is our duty to encourage the future generations to become future engineers. Our members serve as inspiration and role models for the underprivileged and underrepresented. Community outreach usually includes a focus on STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math."

Thanks to Celeste Martinez, Ronald Smith, and Rosaura Estrada who represented SHPE-DFW on this organization's first community outreach with the Perot Museum. We hope they will return again along with many more of their members in a future volunteer service opportunity with the Perot Museum.

VOLUNTEER MOVING TO STAFF YESSICA VALDEZ

Congratulations to Yessica who moves from volunteer status to staff in Guest Services!



WINNER OF
AUGUST'S VOLUNTEER OF
THE MONTH

MELINDA KINCAID

Melinda is retired Executive and Medical Technologist. She wears several hats including Architecture Tour Guide, Lead Volunteer, and as member of our Volunteer Advisory Council. She started as a volunteer in March 2016 and since completed over 275 hours of service. Most recently, she has assisted corporate group volunteers as a Lead Volunteer.



WINNER OF
AUGUST'S ACTIVE
VOLUNTEER DRAWING

**SUDARSHAN
SINGH**

Sudarshan is a retired geophysicist and member of our Volunteer Advisory Council who started volunteering in November 2015 and has contributed over 350 hours of volunteer service. He speaks three languages and can most often be found in the *Dynamic Earth Hall*.

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Museum of Nature and Science

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Preferred email for all inquiries, which alerts the entire Volunteer Services team:

VOLUNTEERS@PEROTMUSEUM.ORG

JANE MULLINS

Director of Volunteer Services

MARCIE KELLER

Manager of Volunteer Services

JONATHAN WHITLATCH (OUTGOING)

Manager of Volunteer Services

KIM ROESSER AND CHRIS WAGNER

Assistant Managers of Volunteer Services

AMY TOPF

Office Coordinator of Volunteer Services