PLIMOTH®
PUBLIC HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP

Department: Museum Education & Outreach/Center for 17th-Century Studies at Plimoth
Reports to: Deputy Executive Director
Position: 2 positions; Full-Time, Year-Round, One-Year Appointment
Supervises: None

POSITION SUMMARY
The Public Humanities Fellows will join Plimoth Plantation at a pivotal moment in the Museum's history. As we enter the important anniversary years of 2020 and 2021, Plimoth is in the process of implementing Along the Shores of Change, the first comprehensive interpretive plan in the Museum's 75-year history. This transformation is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

We are seeking candidates to fill two positions -- one focused on the history of Indigenous southern New England through 1700, and the other focused on 17th-century Anglo-European/Indigenous interactions which occurred across the same landscape. Through their original research as well as their role in the development of accurate and engaging exhibits, educational programs, publications and staff training materials, fellows will advance the Museum's efforts to broaden public understanding of 17th-century America. One fellow’s research project will focus on patterns of material exchange evidenced in Native and colonial dwellings between 1620 and 1692 by creating an object-based history experienced across all the Museum's living history sites. Another research project will deepen the Museum's thinking on and representation of religion and spirituality in the development and transformation of 17th-century communities in southern New England. Fellows will also assist in the planning and implementation of a plenary conference in March 2020.

The ideal candidate will have a strong scholarly interest in the 17th-century history of the Atlantic World with particular emphasis on colonial and Indigenous New England. Some experience in public history, or a demonstrated desire to learn about the field, is required.

Current areas of scholarly interest to the Museum include:
- The history and archaeology of People of the Dawn Land (Eastern Woodlands) pre- and post-European contact;
- The Mayflower Compact and its continued democratic legacies;
- The history and archaeology of the region's first colonial and Indigenous families, their Worlds, and Everyday Lives through 1692;
- Indigenous and Anglo-European civic and community structures and expanding geopolitical networks through 1692;
- The impact and influence of New England's dual spiritual realms (Manitou and Providence) and their relationships to spirituality today;
- The evolution of the First Thanksgiving as an American holiday and its continued significance.
In your application, please address your work in one of these areas. Personal research on topics relevant to advancing research on Plimoth’s historical story are also encouraged.

These are full-time, temporary positions. Fellowships carry a stipend of $30,000 per year plus benefits. Housing may also available at the Center for 17th-Century Studies at Plimoth’s scholars residence. The application deadline is October 31, 2019. Start date will be in January 6, 2020 with a term of one year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Applicants must submit the following materials via email to the Human Resources Department, [tmaynard@plimoth.org](mailto:tmaynard@plimoth.org):

- A cover letter;
- CV;
- Graduate School Transcript;
- A brief (less than 5 pages) writing sample in an area related to the applicant’s scholarly interests within the field of 17th-century Atlantic World history;
- Three letters of recommendation.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Pursue professional and program development by conducting the appropriate research, consulting with experts and peers and preparing documentation for internal and external publications.
- Collaborate with the Associate Director of Interpretation & Training to train Living History Educators in the most up-to-date, accurate historical interpretation of Plymouth Colony as well as observing interpretation on the historic sites and assessing the training materials’ effectiveness in public performance.
- Research and draft training materials for content delivered using first-person, third-person and theatrical techniques that include both colonial and Native perspectives on New England history.
- Mentor Museum staff in developing their study skills and competencies, in maintaining the highest standards for museum programs and exhibits, and in developing new programs and exhibits for the benefit of our Museum audiences.
- As needed, serve on teams advancing special projects, exhibits, grant proposals, public relations, and special events.
- Serve as a valuable professional resource in specialized areas that serve Plimoth Plantation, the museum field and the wider range of interested individuals and organizations.
- Collaborate with Museum Directors in moving the organization forward both programmatically and as a healthy, productive workplace and prominent cultural institution with a national and international reputation for excellence.
- Other duties as assigned.
This description is not intended to be a complete list of all responsibilities, duties, skills, requirements or working conditions associated with the job. While this is intended to be an accurate reflection of key responsibilities of the job, management reserves the right to revise the job or to require that other or different tasks be performed as assigned.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE
- Recent completion (within the last 5 years) of an MA or PhD in History, Archaeology, Public History, Public Archaeology, Native American Studies, Anthropology, or American Studies.
- Demonstrated interest in or understanding of the 17th-century social, political, spiritual and economic history of the British Atlantic World with special emphasis on colonial and Indigenous New England.
- Fellows should also understand the spectrum of learning styles and be able to apply this knowledge in interactions with Museum guests, outside researchers, and students.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS
In accordance with the requirements of the National Endowment for the Humanities, scholars may not:
- Be currently enrolled in a degree-granting program; or
- Hold teaching or administrative assignments during the one-year period.

CORE COMMITMENTS
Whether part-time or full-time, year-round or seasonal, all staff and volunteers at Plimoth Plantation advance the museum’s educational mission and strategic goals; they uphold the museum’s core values and principles in their work and in all their interactions with the public and coworkers. This commitment helps to ensure that Plimoth’s reputation for excellence is maintained and that we, as stewards of the museum, are helping to create a relevant and sustainable future for Plimoth Plantation. The core principles that guide us in our work are:
- **Safety and Comfort**: Conduct yourself and your work at all times in a manner that helps to ensure the safety and comfort of all guests, staff, animals and museum property.
- **Compassionate Customer Engagement**: Plimoth Plantation exists to serve the public. It is their interest, goodwill and generosity that support the museum’s mission. Each and every one of us commits to consistently provide our guests with the museum’s unique brand of compassionate customer engagement.
- **Professional Excellence**: We believe in continual improvement and we strive for excellence in all aspects of our work every day. We approach our work with earnestness, vigor and the express purpose of providing enriching experiences for our guests.
- **Practice Personal Accountability**: Within the scope of your position, be personally accountable for improving the guest experience and for creating a rewarding, enjoyable workplace for yourself and your colleagues.
**Advance a Culture of Philanthropy:** In addition to earned revenue, Plimoth Plantation relies on support income (fundraising) from a variety of sources. This includes individual donors, private foundations and government agencies. Philanthropy strengthens and sustains the Museum. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, it is essential that staff at all levels of the organization understand Development as a vital tool that advances the Museum's mission, strategic objectives and highest ideals.

**Teamwork:** We value the satisfaction and fun that comes from working together toward a common goal or vision. Each of us takes responsibility for creating a collaborative, competent, cooperative environment and ensures that every team member has the opportunity to contribute to the success of the team.

**Upholding Our Workplace Culture:** How we work together matters as much as what we do. The key behaviors and qualities that help to sustain our workplace culture are: Imperturbability, resilience, courtesy, gratitude, a habit of finding out facts before making judgments, a commitment to not spread gossip or rumors, these qualities combined with a mature sense of perspective, as well as a good sense of humor are all essential to our workplace culture.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS & WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The physical demands outlined here are representative of those that must be met by employees to perform successfully the essential functions of the job. The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Work sitting, standing, kneeling or bent over, sometimes for extended periods of time.
- Should be capable of lifting and moving objects sometimes in excess of 25 pounds.
- Should be able to drive or ride in vehicles for extended periods. Must have a valid driver's license.
- Because of the historical nature of our work, some areas of the workplace are outdoors and therefore not climate controlled. Must be able to work in a variety of temperatures, and some of the work occurs outdoors in a variety of weather conditions (e.g. hot, humid, cold, rain, snow).
- Work may be performed in dusty and smoky environments, in poorly lit areas, near open fires, and in cramped and crowded places.
- The noise level in the workplace varies from quiet to loud.