

Collections/Exhibits Internship Focus

Description:

Do you enjoy deep dives into collections and artifacts and want hands-on experience working directly with our historical collection? If so, then this is the internship for you. This intern will explore the museum's collection in its entirety and find interesting artifacts that the public has not experienced before. The intern's primary responsibility will be to find an "artifact of the month" that will go on display in the museum's lobby or in the community room. This will require research, writing, and artifact handling. Requirements for time will range from 4 -6 hours per week based on the applicant's availability and desired credit hours.

Responsibilities:

Primary responsibilities will include:

- Visiting the secondary collections building at least once a month to find and select an artifact of the month
- Researching and writing artifact labels for the display case
- Hosting a small reception once a month on the selected artifact for local community members

Secondary responsibilities will include:

- Writing about your experience and artifacts on our museum blog as a published article
- Assisting museum staff in artifact handling and deaccessioning process
- Other research and museum needs including docent activities and historic research for publishing

About the Museum:

The Champaign County History Museum has existed in two different locations during its lifetime. Beginning in 1972 at the historic Wilbur Mansion the museum hosted many community events, and exhibitions, and became a staple of the local community until 1997 when the museum moved to its present location at the oldest commercial building, the Cattle Bank. Since then, the museum has hosted a volunteer and internship program that has seen over 3,000 volunteer hours per year and over 800 intern hours. In 2023, interns worked directly with artifacts and special collections, researched and wrote academic articles for publishing on our museum blog and digital exhibition page on our website, and engaged with local community members at events and exhibition receptions. If you are interested in this internship opportunity please contact Museum Manager Will Best at wbest@champaigncountyhistory.org for more information.