

PROJECT COSTUME CURATOR

The **Maine Historical Society** seeks a Costume Curator for a 12-month, grant-funded project. He/she will be an expert in American historic costumes, with skills in textile handling, costume mounting and storage. He/she will participate in research, cataloging, improved storage, improved access and interpretation of the MHS historic costume. Reports to MHS Chief Curator.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES and DUTIES:

- Review and more thoroughly catalog identified aspects of MHS costume collection
- Add information, condition assessment and digital files to existing cataloging records
- Prepare costumes for photography, including mounting on mannequins
- Develop digitization strategies, direct digitization and work with project photographer to ensure quality control
- Supervise storage of each costume piece
- Oversee Curatorial Assistant, project volunteers and interns
- Perform minor stabilization to historic costume pieces as necessary
- Work with the Adjunct Curator of Historic Costume to research and interpret select costume pieces
- Other duties as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS:

Experience & Skills:

- Minimum of three years' experience in a museum or academic institution
- Expertise in American historic costume
- Proven experience mounting and stabilizing historic costumes
- Demonstrated commitment to broad international audience, engagement and learning
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills with museum/library colleagues, volunteers, interns, researchers, and the general public
- Ability to create and maintain well-researched and precise records

Knowledge & Education:

- MA (or equivalent) in History, Art History, Costumes, Museum Studies or related field
- Expertise in American Fashion History
- Broad knowledge of international contemporary culture
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Working knowledge of Maine history preferred
- Working knowledge of Past Perfect Museum Software preferred
- Collections management experience preferred
- Proficiency in other languages preferred