



Live the Adventure, Honor the Legend™

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Museum volunteers are key to making the USS Midway one of the top museums in the nation. Welcoming over a million visitors a year, volunteers have plenty of opportunities in various areas to get involved. From interacting with museum guests, lending a hand in the museum library, participating in exclusive high profile and community events, to working behind the scenes preparing exhibits or answering the phone. Midway volunteers are essential to the everyday operation of the museum and are part of a dynamic “crew” that shares in the passion of having fun, while building a greater sense of community. Prospective volunteers must be 18 years of age and make a monthly commitment. Benefits include (but are not limited to) museum discounts, making new friends, and gaining new skills.

1. Safety .....All days, especially afternoons
2. Airwing (aircraft maintenance and restoration).....Tues, Fri, Saturdays
3. Knot Tying Team ..... Weekends
4. WWII Veterans as Storytellers (Speakers Forum) ..... Wed, Sat, or Sunday
5. EDUCATION: Overnight Program.....Weekend evenings
6. Ship Restoration .....Tues, Thursday, or Saturday 7am-2pm
7. Docent (Tour Guide) .....All days, especially afternoons
8. GROUP PROJECTS ..... Groups of 10 or more for 1-day projects
9. CURATORIAL – Proceedings.....20 Hours per month
10. EDUCATION: Leadership Academy ..... Monthly on weekends
11. CITIZEN TUTOR..... One Semester

*Detailed descriptions are listed in this document*



Join us in our effort to **entertain, educate and facilitate** the needs of our museum guests.

For information on other cultural volunteer opportunities in San Diego,  
please visit: [www.culturalvolunteers.org](http://www.culturalvolunteers.org)

*(Updated as of June, 2016 – this list is subject to change)*

**For more information about volunteering at the Midway, please contact the Volunteer Office**

**(619) 398-8289    [volunteering@midway.org](mailto:volunteering@midway.org)**



## 1. Safety Department

Job Description: Our guest experience is our priority and safety volunteers serve an important role in this effort. Safety volunteers patrol all areas of the ship, provide basic first aid for guests and staff and respond to all emergency situations. They monitor and assist with wayfinding.

Minimum Requirements: Friendly team players are wanted. Prospective volunteers must be 18 years of age, physically fit, and able to commit to 20 hours a month (flexible schedule). Personal traits of timeliness and diplomacy are necessary. Volunteers for Safety must be able to climb up and down the many ladders (stairs) aboard ship as well as walk and stand for extended periods of time. Qualification in First Aid, CPR and Defibrillator training is provided. Prior experience in customer service preferred; experience in nursing, EMT, paramedic, or law enforcement is helpful.

Training Provided: All new Safety volunteers must complete an initial two-day, eight-hour orientation and training session **after** completing the self-guided museum tour at least once. An additional 40 to 60 hours of on-the-job training and a certification “walkthrough” is required before being awarded the Safety Team “Red Hat.” Timeliness, reliability, guest service skills, diplomacy and the ability to remain calm in an emergency are necessary. Qualification in first aid, CPR and AED use is not required; however, it is encouraged and provided free of charge.

Duties: Work shifts can be any day of the week, for roughly five-hour periods (8:30-1:30 or 12:30-5:30). After 200 hours of volunteer service and completion of an online crowd control tutorial, safety officers are eligible to work special events. Safety team members are assigned a post at the start of the shift and are expected to assist guests, patrol for potential hazards and respond as trained to emergency situations.

Commitment: A commitment of 20 or more hours per month.

## 2. Airwing/ Aircraft Restoration

Job Description: This position provides the opportunity for airplane buffs to participate in both the “resurrection” of aircraft stricken from service to full static (non-flying) status, as well as the maintenance of those restored exhibits onboard the Midway Museum. Immense pride is associated with being a member of a team that brings an aircraft from virtual scrap condition to a full-fledged museum quality static exhibit. It is one of the most rewarding experiences a volunteer can encounter.

Minimum Requirements: *No prior experience necessary.* Team membership is open to all who have the desire and are capable, but especially to experienced aircraft metal workers, painters, body work and novices with a mechanical aptitude. The work requires climbing on stands, ladders and aircraft as well as lifting up to 20 pounds.

Training Provided: All volunteers must complete an initial orientation with the Airwing department.

Duties: Projects include restoring and maintaining a variety of historic, military aircraft to include: washing aircraft, corrosion control and preservation, painting, and maintenance support on board Midway. Those with prior metalworking skills may have opportunities at North Island.

Commitment: A commitment of at least 10 hours per month is desired to start and stay current, initially all volunteer will start on the ship. Work hours: 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Normal activities aboard Midway are performed **Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays**, with other days available upon approval. Restoration projects in Hangar 805 are performed **Tuesday and Thursday through Sunday**.

### **3. Knot Team**

Job Description: We are looking for volunteers who enjoy people and enjoy crafts. Previous knot tying or macramé experience preferred, but we are willing to train. The Midway has a very popular exhibit where volunteers demonstrate rudimentary knot tying skills. They also make and give knotted items, such as, Turks-head bracelets, lanyards, and monkey fists for a suggested donation towards our scholarship program. The total donations collected for the year 2015 was more than \$100,000 for more than 17,000 knotted items. The donations collected go to the Midway's Education Scholarships.

Minimum Requirements: Strong interpersonal skills. Ability to learn and demonstrate knot tying and a basic understanding of the museum's layout and history.

Commitment: 10 hours per month. Flexible shifts between 10am – 5pm, Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

### **4. WWII Veterans as Storytellers (Speakers Forum)**

Job Description: This exhibit involves World War II veterans sharing personal stories with Midway guests. Midway visitors are eager to meet veterans with first-hand experience.

Minimum Requirements: Volunteers are asked to participate for one or more 2-hour shifts per month on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays.

Duties: Conversational/freestyle discussion; additional visual aids may be used by the guest speaker to enhance their stories.

### **5. Overnight Program Support**

Job Description: Assist youth program team to host groups during evenings or early AM hours. This position is meant to provide educational support rather than caregiving.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be friendly, articulate, have the ability to climb ship's ladders, and be a minimum of 18 years of age. Criminal history security check is required.

Training Provided: Volunteers need basic understanding of the ship and its components.

Duties: Supervise groups and help facilitate activities, such as tours and presentations.

Commitment: At least one shift per month. Evening shifts are 3pm-11pm, Morning 6:00 am-10:00am, or full overnight. There are 45 events per year.

### **6. Ship Restoration**

Job Description: Revitalizing selected areas of the Midway and transforming compartments and work spaces to authentic representations of "the way life was" aboard Midway. Current projects include restoring the Combat Information Center (CIC) which will be added to the visitor tour by in 2016 and prepping the old Naval Tactical Defense System (NTDS). Each area is revitalized by the museum's restoration volunteer force, beginning with dirty clean-ups and ending in authentic area restorations and realistic reproductions.

Minimum Requirements: Prospective volunteers must be physically fit, able to climb ladders and work in confined spaces. A significant number of volunteers from a variety of trade backgrounds are needed, including metal smiths, welders, electricians, plumbers, painters, carpenters and handypersons - professionals and novices alike. Trade experience is desired but not mandatory. Navy personnel, active or retired, of comparable rates or interests are invited to participate. Volunteers must be able to lift 20 lbs., climb ship's ladders, climb short step ladders, and be able to get down on their knees and get back up without assistance. Safety shoes are recommended.

Training Provided: All Ship Restoration volunteers must complete an initial orientation which is overseen by

the Engineering Department. Once a volunteer has been teamed with a mentor or existing volunteer, a mutually agreeable work schedule is arranged.

Duties: Most work projects involve cleaning and/or painting. The majority of Ship Restoration team members work mornings on Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday between the hours of 7 am and 2 pm. Each volunteer is asked to work a minimum of 4 hours per week, or 20 hours per month, and all volunteers work in pairs or groups, never alone, for the safety of the entire department.

## **7. Docent (Tour Guide)**

Job Description: This position interfaces with the public and provides a personal touch to Midway's self-guided audio tour of the museum. Being a docent is probably one of the most rewarding experiences a volunteer can encounter as you witness positive reactions of visitors to informative, yet individually embellished (as appropriate) presentations.

Minimum Requirements: Strong interpersonal skills with a preferred background in public speaking and/or education and with the ability to communicate information clearly and concisely are important qualifications for this position. Personal traits of timeliness, reliability and diplomacy are expected. Prior military service is a plus, but not essential. Prospective volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, able to climb ship's ladders and stand/walk for periods of up to 4 hours.

Training Provided: A 7-week, 40plus-hour training curriculum (6 hours each session), using a standardized outline covering all aspects of ship familiarization, exhibits, history and interpersonal skills. After completing classroom study, 20-hours of "on the job" training is required accompanied by a seasoned docent before successfully completing a walk-thru with a docent leader.

Duties: As a docent graduate, you will give brief talks to groups at various venues throughout the ship. All activities are under the direction of the Chief Docent and daily operations are delegated to a Docent of the Watch (DOW) who makes various daily watch assignments.

Commitment: After completion of the above requirements and receiving a "yellow hat," a minimum of 20 hours per month is required. Scheduling is flexible with shifts available 7 days a week; watches (shifts) are 4 hours each in the AM or PM with occasional frequent opportunities to assist at special evening events.

## **8. GROUP PROJECTS**

Groups of 10-20 from military, corporate, social, educational and other organizations are invited to participate for a one-day project. These projects will give your team the opportunity to spend time aboard; learn about the history of Midway; and help keep our ship clean for the museum guests coming from all over the world. Join in the spirit of service to inspire future generations. Time Commitment: 3-4 hours, typically mornings, advanced arrangements required. Option to tour museum at your own pace following the project. Call Steve Suslik for more info (619) 398-8289 or email at [ssuslik@midway.org](mailto:ssuslik@midway.org).

## **9. PROCEEDINGS MAGAZINE PROJECT – CURATORIAL/LIBRARY**

Writing for Magazine archiving project. Volunteers are needed to summarize articles on Naval and Marine history. The United States Naval Institute and the USS Midway Museum have a joint project to provide a digitized index to the USNI's Proceedings magazine, which has been published since 1874. The goal of the project is to provide summaries of each of the main articles from more than 1300 issues in an internet-accessible database. Commitment: minimum four hours per month for a minimum of 4 consecutive months. Requirements: typing skills, computer literate, interest in Naval History, research, reading, and writing. Flexibility to work from home or in Midway library (accessible only via ship's ladder). 20 hours per month.

## 10. EDUCATION – LEADERSHIP ACADEMY – MENTORS AND ASSISTANTS

Volunteers must be over 18 and go through a background check. Mentor requirement: former military service willing to share their personal story. Assistant requirement: good communication skills. Both mentors and assistants help facilitate team building and leadership exercises in partnership with the Travis Manion Foundation Leadership Academy. Required Availability: Saturdays, 4-5 times per year. Strong interpersonal skills required. This leadership program is primarily for at-risk, high school-age students. One Saturday each month, a group of 25 – 30 high school students meet, facilitated by veterans and families of the fallen. This is not a military recruiting tool; it is an opportunity to teach our next generation that they have the ability and opportunity to become leaders in their community right now. Following the Saturday seminar, TMF will organize a service project for students to exercise their character and leadership, and to give back in honor of our nation's fallen heroes.

## 11. CITIZEN TUTOR

Assist teachers in preparing students for Citizenship and English as a Second Language. Training is provided. Good interpersonal skills required. Using tutoring techniques, tutors guide and provide practice for students learning civics and the English language. Conduct mock interviews in preparation for a formal immigration interview. Work in partnership with a classroom teacher to engage in language drills and casual conversation for students to practice their language skills. Provide students with assurance and confidence during classroom interaction. Volunteers will work in partnership with the staff of community-based organizations, and will use resources and training developed by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on behalf of the Midway, and will be entitled to all benefits of the Midway volunteer program.

*Requirements:* A commitment of one class period per week, at the same classroom for a period of one school semester and completion of Midway and partner organization application, including Live Scan and TB test.

*Volunteers Make the Midway Magic!*

