



MIT MUSEUM PRESS RELEASE

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MIT Museum, Cambridge *Announces New Volunteer Program*

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The MIT Museum is looking for new volunteers to work with students and the general public to deepen their experience while visiting the museum. This new program is geared toward people from all backgrounds interested in making a difference, and to those who enjoy teaching and having fun while guiding others to better understand scientific and technological concepts.

"People come from all over the world to take in our galleries, and students from throughout New England – including a good many from Cambridge – come to learn about MIT, robotics and the history of artificial intelligence, to view our world renowned holography collection and to see the kinetic sculptures of artist Arthur Ganson," says Beryl Rosenthal, Director of Exhibits and Public Programming. "With this program we aim to give visitors access to trained teachers who can enhance a visitor's understanding of the variety of concepts that underlie our exhibits and programs. We know that visitors really enjoy having someone to talk to as they walk through the Museum."

Education Coordinator, John Markowitz Bijur has developed job descriptions for gallery educators, school programs volunteers and an assistant for a K-8 science teacher training program to be held at the Museum this July. Gallery educators work "on the floor" of the museum and answer questions and give demonstrations of scientific and engineering. The school programs volunteers assist in the preparation for and delivery of middle and high school workshops at the Museum on topics such as stroboscopy, solar energy, and protein synthesis.

"While no technical background is required for these positions, it does help if volunteers enjoy working with people and have an interest in science and technology," says Markowitz Bijur. "We are looking for people who can commit to anywhere from 4 – 40 hours a month, and for those with a genuine interest in working at a museum dedicated to

engaging the public in better understanding science and technology. I am excited to meet new volunteers and to get our new education volunteer training system up to speed."

The museum is located just a few minutes from the Red Line in Central Square, and the #1 bus stops a block away. Call Jon Markowitz Bijur at 617-253-9607 for more information or to sign up for an interview; or e-mail him at jbijur@mit.edu. Volunteer applications may be downloaded at <http://web.mit.edu/museum/about/internship.html>.