



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

For more information, please contact Amy Hudson:
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Join our team of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers!

Volunteers are an important part of the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. Each year, we benefit from the efforts of dedicated volunteers who assist us with a variety of projects and tasks. We need volunteers for various activities, both indoor and outdoor. While we may not always have available positions in all areas, we'll be glad to inform you when positions open in your area of interest.

As an RTPI volunteer, you will receive an individual or family membership, a 20% discount in the museum store, and will be recognized during our annual volunteer appreciation event.

Volunteer opportunities:

Activate your curiosity and others'. Become an RTPI **Docent** while learning about the life and art of Roger Tory Peterson. Docents will guide RTPI visitors in learning about temporary exhibitions, the building, and the life and work of Roger Tory Peterson. Docents will learn pertinent information about exhibitions, the building, RTPI and its mission, Roger Tory Peterson's life and work, his role in the environmental conservation movement, and his connection to the Jamestown community.

Put your hospitality skills to use as an RTPI **Visitor Services Assistant**. You'll play a critical role by connecting with visitors and providing them with a meaningful experience. As a Visitor Services Assistant, you'll welcome visitors to the museum, take admissions, answer questions, and provide information about current exhibitions and programs.

Join the RTPI team as a **Collections Assistant** and learn about collections management while assisting with the organization, documentation, and safekeeping of objects in the Peterson Collection. Projects will include entering information about objects into the online database, documenting and labeling objects, and assisting with location audits of objects in the collection.

What does it take to mount an exhibition? Become an RTPI **Exhibition Assistant** and learn the art of installing and deinstalling artworks. Exhibition assistants will assist with the installation and de-installation of temporary exhibitions, including unpacking and packing artwork, preparing condition reports, and hanging artwork and labels.

Do you love spending time outdoors? Become a **Building and Grounds Volunteer**, and you can help beautify and maintain the RTPI gardens and grounds. Put your green thumb to good use by weeding, watering, staking, raking, cutting, shoveling, and mulching the RTPI gardens, nature trails, and landscape.

RTPI hosts a variety of special events throughout the year, including fundraisers and program-related activities. Join us as a **Special Event Volunteer**, and experience the excitement of being a part of our vibrant team. Special Event Volunteers assist with the set-up of events, the overall guest and vendor experience, and help with post-event clean-up.

About RTPI

History

In 1984, RTPI was founded in Peterson's hometown of Jamestown, New York, as an educational institute charged with preserving Peterson's lifetime body of work and making it available to the world for educational purposes. RTPI is also chartered with continuing Peterson's important legacy of connecting people with the study of natural history through art, education, and conservation-focused programming. The public spaces of RTPI's iconic building serve to display original items from our special collections, as well as visiting nature art and natural history exhibits. In addition, RTPI engages in natural history education and community outreach.

Roger Tory Peterson's signature contribution to the arc of the American Conservation Movement was the modern field guide. Trained as an artist, Peterson understood the power of art to inform, inspire and illuminate people about the natural world. His illustrated field guides allowed for easy, accurate identification in the field. The experience of using the field guide has helped millions of people across the globe really see the natural world. To be inspired by it. To fall in love with it. Throughout his multifaceted career, Peterson helped us to see the challenges, too – the devastating impacts of pesticides, habitat loss and other environmental ills. He also demonstrated that each and every one of us can make a difference in protecting the earth's diversity of plants and animals.

Vision

The Roger Tory Peterson Institute is a living embodiment of the Peterson Field Guide. It is a trusted source of information, inspiration and illumination. It is a gateway to the natural area wonders that inspired Roger to his career as one of the world's premier artist-naturalists and international ambassador for the protection of nature. It is a leader for driving the cultural economy of Jamestown and the surrounding area.

Mission

Home to the largest collection of Roger Tory Peterson's work, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute is a leader for the study, exhibition and nurturing of art that matters to the planet. Through world class exhibitions and programs, RTPI illuminates the beauty of nature; challenges us to confront environmental issues of regional, national and global concern; and inspires us to preserve the earth's biodiversity – with a particular emphasis on the natural area wonders of Western New York.

Values

Art Matters -- among the many ways to raise awareness about conservation, art has a unique and underutilized power to engage hearts, minds and hands

Biodiversity Matters -- RTPI embraces the full diversity of the biological community

People Matter -- RTPI embraces the full diversity of the human community

Sanctuary Matters -- RTPI is a safe space, a refuge for nature, a place of reflection, renewal and rejuvenation for people

Speaking Out Matters -- RTPI takes no sides regarding politics but will always side with nature no matter the politics



VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip/Postal Code:** _____

Primary Phone: _____ **Alternate Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Educational Background: _____

Relevant Experience: _____

Interests/Skills: _____

Days and Times Available During Regular Business Hours:

Monday (10am-4pm)	Tuesday (10am-4pm)	Wednesday (10 am-4pm)	Thursday (10 am-4pm)	Friday (10am-4pm)	Saturday (10am-4pm)	Sunday (1pm-5pm)

Volunteer Opportunities (Check All Areas of Interest)

Buildings and Grounds Collections & Exhibitions Docent Visitor Services Events

Are you interested in volunteering for occasional after hours and/or off-site events?

Please return your completed application to RTPI, or email to Amy Hudson: ahudson@rtpi.org