

## THEATRE ARTS INTERN

MAPLEWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S BRUENTRUP HERITAGE FARM  
BIG RED BARN FARMERS MARKET, JUNE-SEPT., SUNDAYS 8:30AM – 1:30PM  
SUMMER 2025

## OVERVIEW

The Maplewood Area Historical Society is seeking several creative and enthusiastic Theatre Arts Interns to join our team at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm. This unique opportunity involves researching and presenting historic local news and gossip from the 19th and early 20th centuries. As an intern, you will bring history to life by performing in character, engaging visitors with lively storytelling at our popular Big Red Barn Farmers Market. This role is perfect for individuals who have a passion for theater, history, and interacting with the public—an internship perfect for a rising junior or senior in high school!

## ABOUT THE MAPLEWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Maplewood Area Historical Society is a state and nationally recognized leader in museum practice and public history programming. Located at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm, MAHS serves 17,000 regional residents annually during our public programming season, May 1 – December 15. Organized in 1997, MAHS led a grass-roots effort to save and preserve the Bruentrup Heritage Farm in 1999/2000 finding property, raising funds, and gaining public support in moving twelve historic Bruentrup Family Farm structures to our current location a mile away from the original homestead on White Bear Avenue. Receiving no State or Federal funding, and only a minor annual stipend from the City of Maplewood, MAHS is an independent 501c3 funded through the generous donations and gifts of our supporters. MAHS uses the twelve historic structures on the two-and-a-half acre historic core as well as the surrounding twenty-five acres of restored prairie to provide a venue to meet our mission of *building community through preservation*—the preservation of the native landscape, historic buildings on our campus, the cultural identities, arts, and practices of the people who have called the Maplewood Area home for the last 1,000 years, and the languages of the Indigenous Dakota and Hmong Refugee peoples. At MAHS, we believe that there is a story for everyone in our 180,000-piece collections, and in the programming we provide to the public, youth, and school students we serve. MAHS programming is guided in building events, camps, fieldtrips, classes, and lectures through focusing on four key cultures who have and continue to play a role in the development of Maplewood Area History:

the Indigenous Dakota, Yankee Americans, German Immigrants, and Hmong Refugee peoples. The Maplewood Area Historical Society is a welcoming place for all.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To provide an opportunity for a student to work in a theatre arts environment and gain work experience
- To provide family programming to the public during the weekly Big Red Barn Farmers Market
- To assist with sales at the Happy Pebble Shop Cart, Bruentrup Brats and Barnyard Dogs, or Old Oak Savanna Popcorn & Confectionary
- To educate the public on the history of the Bruentrup Heritage Farm and Minnesota during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

## **INTERN KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Research: Conduct thorough research on local history and uncover fascinating stories, gossip, and anecdotes from the 19th and early 20th centuries
- Character Development: Create and develop a compelling character or characters, incorporating historical context to deliver engaging narratives to market visitors
- Performance: Present captivating and historically accurate stories in character at the Big Red Barn Farmers Market each Sunday. Engage audiences of all ages with dynamic and interactive storytelling techniques
- Retail Component: Stationed at one of the market stations (Happy Pebble Shop Cart, Bruentrup Brats and Barnyard Dogs, or Old Oak Savanna Popcorn & Confectionary) assisting with sales and POS (point of sales) operations
- Audience Interaction: Foster a welcoming and entertaining atmosphere for market attendees. Encourage participation and questions from the audience to enhance their experience
- Collaboration: Work closely with the Maplewood Area Historical Society staff to ensure historical accuracy and program alignment with the Society's goals and values

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Must be at least 16 years old
- Strong interest in theatre, storytelling, and history
- Excellent verbal communication and performance skills
- Ability to engage and captivate a diverse audience
- Creativity and a flair for dramatic presentation
- Self-motivated, with the ability to work independently and as part of a team

- Previous acting or public speaking experience is a plus, but not required

## **SCHEDULE**

Part-time, seasonal internship. Sundays, June through September from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Additional hours for research and preparation are provided.

## **COMPENSATION**

\$15 per hour

## **TO APPLY**

Interested candidates are invited to submit a resume and a short cover letter detailing their interest and any relevant experience to Maplewood Area Historical Society Executive Director, T.J. Malaskee at [tj@maplewoodmuseum.org](mailto:tj@maplewoodmuseum.org). The Maplewood Area Historical Society values diversity and inclusivity and welcomes applicants of all backgrounds to apply.

Be a part of our team and enjoy a rewarding summer educating the public about our beloved farm animals at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm's Big Red Barn Farmers Market!