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### **Gaylord-Pickens Museum launches Heritage Keeper Volunteer Program, hosts an Open House**

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum has launched the Heritage Keeper Volunteer Program to provide individuals who are passionate about Oklahoma’s history and heritage an opportunity to share that interest with others.

“The volunteers in our Heritage Keeper Program will play an essential role in accomplishing the mission of the Gaylord-Pickens Museum and Oklahoma Heritage Association, which is preserving Oklahoma history and promoting pride in our state,” said Nicole Harvey, volunteer coordinator for the Association and Museum. “They will make a difference in the lives of students and adults by sharing and teaching the rich heritage of our state.”

Volunteers can serve in a number of capacities through the program, including gallery guides and tour group leaders in the high-tech, interactive Gaylord-Pickens Museum, which tells Oklahoma’s history through the lives and accomplishments of its people. Behind-the-scenes service areas like event planning and administrative support are also available. All volunteers will have access to networking, socializing and continued learning opportunities, as well as benefits like a discount in the Gaylord-Pickens Museum Store, a complimentary membership to the Association and Museum after completion of a set number of volunteer hours and the option to attend Association and Museum special events.

“Our volunteers help us ensure that the lives and accomplishments of their fellow Oklahomans are remembered for many generations to come,” said Harvey. “By honoring these people, they also inspire others to follow their lead, creating an even better Oklahoma for all of us.”

To be eligible to serve in the program, individuals must be 16 years old or older, willing to commit one year to the program, have Internet access, attend formal training sessions, and pass reference and background checks. The first step in joining the program is to fill out an application and skills and interest inventory, which can be downloaded from [www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com).

For those interested in learning more about the Heritage Keeper Volunteer Program, an Open House will be held Saturday, Aug. 21 from 2-4 p.m. at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum at NW 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Shartel Avenue. Volunteer coordinator Nicole Harvey will be onsite to give an overview of the program and answer questions. Individuals who fill out a volunteer interest form during the Open House will be given complimentary admission to the Museum for the afternoon.

For more information about the Heritage Keeper Volunteer Program or Open House, contact Nicole Harvey at 405.523.3231 or [nh@oklahomaheritage.com](mailto:nh@oklahomaheritage.com), or visit [www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com).

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