

Docent Training Program 2011

The educational mission of the Honolulu Academy of Arts is carried out in large measure through the dedication of the Academy's volunteer docents who are experienced in guiding groups of all ages on a variety of tours of the Academy's collections. Their contribution to the museum is invaluable.

Membership in the Docent Council is attained through the docent training course, which is offered when additional docents are needed to meet the tour demand. The course beginning in the Winter of 2011 and concluding at the end 2012 will consist of four semesters (18 months) of instruction. The course includes a survey of world art and an overview of the museum's collections and programs. The first year will concentrate on Western, African, Pacific, Pre-Hispanic and Native America art. The second year will include the art of China, Japan, Korea, India and Southeast Asia. Weekly sessions on Mondays from 9:00 - 4:00 are divided into three parts: 1) an experiential approach to a particular gallery in the museum conducted by the education department staff, museum curators, and qualified docents 2) an art history lecture by a university professor, curator or other specialist from the art community and 3) workshops on media/technique and tour presentations, including practice tours.

Extensive reading as well as exams, research papers, and written sample tours are required. The tuition fee is \$175/semester plus the cost of textbooks (approximately \$250 for the course). Membership in the Honolulu Academy of Arts is optional, but recommended. Upon satisfactory completion of each semester of training, trainees will be allowed to conduct tours concentrating on the art they have studied to date. Upon satisfactory completion of the second year of instruction docents will receive a diploma and agree to a five-year service commitment. Docents are expected to give a weekly tour, or 50 tours each year.

All those that successfully pass the two-year Docent Training Program, become members of the Docent Council. The Docent Council is a professional organization with by-laws and elected officers. Docent Council members may attend continuing education

classes to prepare for major Academy exhibitions and to learn new teaching skills or tours. Special training sessions are conducted by the education staff, curators, university professors, docents, and other specialists, and cover specific works in the exhibition and relevant background material.

The Academy Docent Council provides educational enhancement, fun and camaraderie, and the great personal satisfaction of sharing one's knowledge and enjoyment of art with others.

We invite you to apply for the Academy Docent Council. After we receive your application, we will call you to make an appointment for your interview. If you have questions, please call **Betsy Robb**, Director of Tour and Docent Programs, at **532-3666**.