



CENTRO DE TEXTILES TRADICIONALES DEL CUSCO

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Volunteer Positions Offered by the CTTC

The Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco offers two types of volunteer positions: Education Department Volunteer positions and Project Volunteer positions. Before applying to volunteer at the CTTC, please review the following and decide which type of volunteer position you would like to apply for. A prospective volunteer can apply for only one of the two volunteer positions.

Education Department Volunteers

The Education Department at the CTTC runs programs and organizes events for the children of the weavers, the public of Cusco, and for national and international visitors to the Center. We are always looking for hardworking volunteers to help with any given program, event or activity we are organizing.

Prospective volunteers who apply to be an Education Department Volunteer should expect to be given work in preparing for the Education Department events that coincide with the dates for which they will be with the CTTC. Preparation work for events can include everything from stuffing informational packets and preparing materials to planning activities for the events and creating advertising, invitations and other documents. While the CTTC strives to put a volunteer's talents and knowledge to work, the nature of the event at hand often dictates the type of work the volunteer will perform.

Volunteers who do not speak Spanish at an advanced level should expect to be given more hands-on work, as opposed to an active role in event planning. Volunteers who speak Spanish well will be able to take on more demanding tasks.

While Education Department Volunteers will spend the majority of their time working in the CTTC's offices in Cusco, they will occasionally have the opportunity to travel to the communities to participate in Education Department events, any scheduled dying workshops, and other activities in the communities.

Requirements for being an Education Department Volunteer:

1. A minimum of a three month commitment.
2. A volunteer must be at least 18 years old or older.
3. Spanish is not required but is greatly appreciated.
4. A positive attitude and an ability to adapt to sudden, unexpected changes in events.
5. An ability to take the initiative, think for yourself, and problem solve.
6. The volunteer must apply at least one month in advance of the date they would like to begin volunteering.

Project Volunteers

Prospective volunteers who are self-motivated and capable of performing self-directed work are encouraged to apply to be Project Volunteers. Project Volunteers either create a project or select a project provided by the CTTC to realize independently during their time as a volunteer.

Project Volunteers are given a wide margin of independence to work on projects that they can tailor to their own strengths and abilities. Examples of projects proposed and designed by volunteers include: creating new videos for the CTTC, taking high quality photos of the weavers to use in publications and exhibits, and a dental project to clean teeth and teach good mouth hygiene to the weavers. Volunteers are encouraged to design their own project and present it to the CTTC, but should be aware that the CTTC may reject the project for various reasons including but not limited to: time constraints, restraints on available resources, the feasibility of successfully completing the project, etc.

If the volunteer would prefer to work on a project suggested by the CTTC, they should indicate this on the Volunteer Application and the CTTC will send them a list of available projects. The CTTC encourages those interested in applying to be Project Volunteers to apply not only individually, but as teams of two to five volunteers depending on the size of the project.

Requirements for being a Project Volunteer:

1. A minimum of a three month time commitment.
2. A volunteer must be at least 18 years old or older.
3. Advanced Spanish and/or Quechua.
4. The volunteer will either create a detailed project that they wish to execute or will select a project suggested by the CTTC.
5. An independent and focused work style that requires minimal supervision other than revision, occasional collaboration, and approval of project plans.
6. The experience and knowledge to execute independently the majority of the work on the project.
7. The volunteer must apply at least one month in advance of the date when they would like to begin volunteering.

Example of a project executed by a Project Volunteer:

One Project Volunteer with the CTTC proposed her own project to create a new institutional video for the CTTC and a promotional video for an upcoming event. Upon approval of her project and her arrival at the CTTC, she worked independently to sort through days of footage, and create an outline of the videos she wished to make. She developed a script and text that members of the Education Department reviewed and edited, and she drew up a list of the new footage she needed. Members of the Education Department arranged visits to the community for the volunteer and helped her with the interviews she needed with the weavers. The volunteer then edited and included this footage in her videos as well. The success of her project was determined by her ability to work independently, both at the CTTC and on her own time, to develop her project. When she needed assistance she clearly communicated her exact needs to the Education Department. When required to work jointly with Education Department members to review the progress of her project, the volunteer easily accepted constructive criticism and worked well in a team situation to build her project.