

Minnesota Marine Art Museum 800 Riverview Dr. Winona, MN 55987 mmam.org

## **Caitlin Crouchet**

Director of Communications ccrouchet@mmam.org (507) 474-1810

PRESS RELEASE (for immediate release)

## **MMAM Seeking Tour Leaders**

## Winona, MN (October 23, 2023) - Minnesota Marine Art Museum

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum (MMAM) sees around 30,000 visitors annually, including many school field trips and tours. MMAM's volunteer docents, or tour guides, are essential in MMAM's ability to welcome in students from the Winona area and beyond. MMAM is hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, October 26 at 10:00AM, and another meeting on Thursday, November 9 at 10:00AM, for those interested in becoming a volunteer docent at MMAM.

Minnesota Marine Art Museum volunteers love art and people. Docents are specially trained volunteers who facilitate tour experiences for visiting groups of all ages and abilities. Working with groups in the galleries, docents use inquiry, discussion and interactive strategies to help people make personal connections with the artworks and bring the artworks to life. Docents are knowledgeable, enthusiastic, excellent communicators who respect all viewpoints. MMAM is currently recruiting volunteers to lead school field trip experiences for students in kindergarten through 6th grade.

Benefits to becoming a MMAM docent include meeting others with shared interests and passions. Docents help to build creative capacity in children, helping them to create "a-ha" moments. Through special training, docents become active volunteers and important team members of MMAM. Docents also receive discounts in the MMAM Store, discounted museum memberships, and invitations to special events and parties.

Please RSVP for either the October 26 or the November 9 informational meeting by visiting the MMAM.org website and registering yourself for the meeting. Those that commit to becoming a docent will be required to attend a ten class training session to be held in February and March of 2024. Docents are asked to lead a minimum of six tours a year and attend monthly meetings after their initial training. For more information, go to www.mmam.org/docents.

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum is a nonprofit art museum that engages visitors in meaningful art experiences that explore our ongoing relationship with water. Located in Winona, Minnesota, the purpose-built museum is located on the banks of the Mississippi River and boasts six galleries, an educational and events space, and a destination retail shop on its seven acre riverside campus. It is through this surprising diversity that MMAM is not only describing what marine art is, but pushing the boundaries of what marine art can be.

###