

Docent Mentor Mission Statement

The Docent Mentor Team serves as friends, guides, and resources to the Provisional Docent class.

The following supports this statement:

Mentors are friendly. They are teachers, learners, facilitators, storytellers, entertainers, and enthusiasts. They work as researchers and constitute a community of like minds. They engage their diverse audiences as guides and information sharers.

Provisional Docents want and need knowledge; they deserve the kind of encouragement that will lead to demonstrable skills at leading tours.

The following supports this statement:

Mentors are accessible. They excel at sharing and they communicate regularly with Provisional Docents in ways that are transparent. They dispel mysteries, allow for individuality, verbalize realistic expectations and commitments, and stay involved throughout the Provisional Year.

To ensure Provisional Docents acquire the essentials they need to be effective and successful docents, Mentors will share knowledge, demonstrate best touring practices, promote individual styles, and be in regular communication with Provisional Docents.

The following supports this statement:

Knowledge: Mentors provide “how-to’s,” review “Close-up on Art” and “Spotlight” projects, and explain Museum hierarchy and chain of command.

Demonstrate best touring practices: Mentors encourage Provisionals to observe other docents and they advise on how to craft a tour.

Communication: Mentors are accessible, available, transparent, and supportive. They advocate, convey expectations, encourage, and reassure.