



Mastodon Fellowship Program

The Virginia Living Museum is honored to offer the Mastodon Fellowship to an outstanding student currently enrolled at or recently graduated from a college or university. This student will be pursuing a degree in geology or related field and looking for hands-on experience preparing fossils while educating the public.

The Virginia Living Museum was conceptualized by Harry H. Wason and created by his leadership with the Warwick Rotary Club and their partners the Junior League of Hampton Roads. This fellowship honors the museum's continuing commitment to preserving and showcasing the natural resources of Virginia. This award focuses on environmental education, a field which integrates physical, biological, information sciences, atmospheric and planetary science to the study of the environment and the solution of environmental problems.

The recipients will be known as Mastodon Fellows. The Virginia Living Museum will determine the fellowship recipients through a competitive application process. Qualified applicants will consist of current or recently graduated students whose course work and/or degree is relevant to the Museum's natural history collection programs. Students from all backgrounds and professional interests that relate to the VLM mission are encouraged to apply based on the guidelines below.

The awarded Fellow will formally agree to the following terms and conditions through a letter of acknowledgement upon acceptance of the award opportunity:

- Be enrolled at or recently graduated from an undergraduate or graduate program during the term of the project.
- Support the Virginia Living Museum as a Mastodon Fellow for no less than 5 hours per week, minimum 100 hours total program requirement (holidays and school breaks may be excluded) at the Museum under the direction of the Education Department.
- Participate in training and adhere to all lab safety protocols while conducting preservation tasks.
- Educate the public while conducting fossil preparation in the Mastodon lab.
- Develop a program or activity that connects the mastodon preservation project.
- Submit a copy of the completed project to the VLM immediately upon completion and agree to the use of data or information from the research project for VLM educational and promotional purposes.
- Comply with requests for information about project activity.

Awards:

An individual award will be made to a student recently graduated from or currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree with an interest in fossil preparation.

The award will be in the amount of \$2,500 per student for the program requirement.

Student Signature

Date

Director of Education Signature

Date