

Director of Research & Outreach, African American Heritage Trail of Martha's Vineyard (AAHTMV)

African American Heritage Trail of Martha's Vineyard (AAHTMV) seeks an experienced public history or preservation professional to join its team of consulting, part-time and full-time staff advancing heritage preservation, public history, cultural tourism. With AAHTMV's Executive Director plus community and academic partners, the Director of Research and Outreach will plan and manage research, recognition, commemoration, and preservation of African American heritage throughout Martha's Vineyard. Funded by a two-year capacity building grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Director of Research and Outreach will play a critical role in the expansion and protection of the 25-year old African American Heritage Trail.

The Director will join AAHTMV research initiatives underway, which currently focus on enslavement, emancipation, entrepreneurship, and endangerment of diasporic African Americans on Martha's Vineyard seasonally and year round. The Director will also lay the groundwork for AAHTMV to take strategic actions vis-à-vis African American heritage at risk of exclusion, erosion, and erasure, i.e. documentation for digital preservation and/or nomination for local preservation protections. The contracted position provides an early-career professional the opportunity to transform local preservation ordinances, state heritage inventories and national registers of historic places as well as the island's Inkwell beach and to assist in the protection and development of the much toured African American Heritage Trail of Martha's Vineyard <https://mvafricanamericanheritagetrail.org>.

Requirements

1. An academic background in public history, historic preservation; Africana, African American, ethnic, or American studies; or architectural and urban history.
2. Must have demonstrable heritage / history related experience (part-time or full-time, volunteer or paid),
3. Experience working with or for a nonprofit corporation (part-time or full-time, volunteer or paid),
4. Experience communicating research to public audiences and preservation stakeholders in print, digital and social media
5. An ability to plan and prioritize the tasks, expertise and experience of others.
6. Excellent communication skills, strong organizational skills, and an ability to handle sensitive and controversial issues
7. Experience managing multiple assignments in short time frames.

Full details at mvafricanamericanheritagetrail.org/