

MIM

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM

TAKE NOTE | VTM News



The New Season Begins!

Welcome to all returning volunteer team members and to the new members of the team.

Summer is coming to a close, although Arizona weather takes a bit more time to catch up with the change. Those of you who volunteer year-round know and feel the ebbs and flows of the changing seasons well, and undoubtedly are already shifting gears.

With this season, it's back to school for the kids and back to MIM for field trips, so take some time to congratulate fellow volunteer team members and let museum guides know that they are already doing an incredible job with the initial tours. Not just anyone takes on the challenge of providing one of the most engaging experiences in the museum; we see museum guides' beaming smiles every morning, sharing stories of their day's biggest

In the last couple of months, we have also welcomed many new volunteer team members. They are still finding their way and their new “homes” throughout the museum, so please be sure to introduce yourself to new faces. You can find the names and photos of the most recent VTM Orientation participants in the volunteer team member lounge. Welcome to the MIM family, newcomers!



A Special Thanks for *Dragons and Vines*

Target Gallery Guides welcomed 38,000 guests to Dragons and Vines

Those of you who volunteered at the *Dragons and Vines: Inlaid Guitar Masterpieces* special exhibition have already received a special thank-you directly from the MIM team. Nevertheless, we would like to share your achievement with the rest of the team and provide here a few of the words of gratitude expressed about your incredible service:

“I know all the guests appreciated the assistance each of you provided, whether you were just handing them a flashlight and explaining why they would want to use it or you were talking to them about their own inlaid guitar. These types of personal connections are not just what we hope to see at MIM, but what many of us find so rewarding.”

—Catherine Ruvinov, Guest Service Manager

routinely serving as enthusiastic hosts, tour guides, advocates, guardians, experts, and storytellers on behalf of the instruments and artists. This was an especially memorable project in the way that it encouraged so many of the featured contributors to travel from their own homes to see their work celebrated in this world-class museum. Their visits are worth mentioning because they all commented on the fine people who were always at the door or working in the Target Gallery, and they were genuinely proud to witness a dedicated team of folks helping to represent multiple lifetimes' worth of combined creative effort. . . . Your recognition, treatment, and representation of them absolutely made them feel like celebrities in ways that their typically anonymous work does not. What a magnificent thing to bring into a person's life, and we can attest that they took that message home and are still talking about their visits with friends and family.”

—Rich Walter, Curator for United States / Canada and Europe



Volunteer Team Member Spotlight

Michael Robinson

Q&A: How do your educational and work experiences mesh with your service at MIM, if at all?

I have a teaching certificate from the University of London. Providing information about MIM to museum guests is such a pleasure. Once a teacher, always a teacher.

To learn more about Michael, read the complete “Spotlight” interview posted on the bulletin board in the volunteer team member lounge and on your Volgistics homepage.



Note Your Resources

Know all your resources as you continue to provide a world-class experience.

It's no secret that MIM provides the best and most welcoming guest experience around, and that is because our team makes this its biggest priority, especially the volunteer team members. We know you like having some basic resources at your fingertips so that you can stay informed and up to date. For this reason, the Volunteer Department has been actively working at updating many of your available resources and striving to make them more readily accessible.

There are some resources you should always know you have and can refer to often for updates and helpful information. The Volunteer Team Member Handbook, for example, is available in print in the volunteer team member lounge and linked on your Volgistics homepage. Also available in both those spots are MIM FAQs and the Volunteer Directory, which includes contact information of key team members you are likely to work alongside and who are invaluable resources. As the season progresses with upcoming events and changes in the galleries, keep an eye out for new links provided on your Volgistics

provided pitches for the next special exhibition, and various other news bulletins and useful tips.

We are here to help you, too! When in doubt, you can always count on the team to assist you. Get to know your team leads, and contact the Volunteer Department if you're not sure who to reach out to with questions or suggestions.

*"I travel not to go anywhere, but to go.
I travel for travel's sake. The great affair is to move."*

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Upcoming Events

[View All Events](#)

MIM's public programs are some of the best chances for continued learning, community building, and fun-filled volunteer opportunities! No extra training is needed—just an enthusiasm for interacting with guests.



MUSICAL ICON: JOHN LENNON

Saturday & Sunday, October 7 & 8

Come and join MIM for our third annual celebration of the life of the legendary John Lennon. Enjoy a special weekend of Curator Talks, film screenings, and trivia contests commemorating Lennon's legacy of peace and love.



ANCIENT MUSICAL TREASURES FROM CENTRAL CHINA: HARMONY OF THE ANCIENTS FROM THE HENAN MUSEUM OPENING WEEKEND

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 10, 11 & 12

Details Coming Soon!



EXPERIENCE SCANDINAVIA

Saturday & Sunday, December 2 & 3

Take in the rich history of Scandinavian music and culture at MIM! Join us for a celebration of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Finland. Delight in musical performances, traditional dances, a regionally inspired menu in the café, hands-on crafts, and much more.

To sign up for volunteer opportunities, check the calendar on [Volgistics](#). Questions about *Special Events* shifts? Contact volunteer@MIM.org.

Exhibit Updates

There's always something new to see at MIM. Stroll through the galleries to see new exhibits and changes in the following:

- **Latin America Gallery:** Mexico
- **Asia Gallery:** “China: Sizhu”; “China: Qin”; and “China: South”
- **United States / Canada Gallery:** “How Science Brings Music to Life” (STEM Gallery); Roberto-Venn; Arizona Instrument Makers; Band Organs; and Pearl Works

Trivia Question

April Salomon, MIM's executive director, is celebrating her “MIM-iversary” in October. As one of the museum's many team members on staff since its inception, how many years will this anniversary mark for her career at MIM?

The first five to reply and submit the correct answer by September 31 will each get a prize!

Bonus Question: What does the often-used acronym STEM stand for?

Volunteer Office | 480.245.6915 | volunteer@MIM.org

To find contact information for a specific assignment or team lead, please see the

Volunteer Directory located on the Volgistics homepage or in print at the volunteer team member lounge.



MIM.org | Open Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. | 480.478.6000

4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85050

MIM is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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