



Heritage/Riverfront Director

Position Summary

The Heritage/Riverfront Director is responsible for planning, coordinating, and overseeing activities that celebrate and preserve the rich history and traditions of the local shrimping industry. This volunteer works closely with the Festival Board, local shrimpers, community organizations, and other festival directors to ensure the festival authentically reflects Fernandina Beach's maritime heritage and honors the generations of families who built the shrimping industry.

The Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival is the largest event in Nassau County with an annual attendance of approximately 150,000. The Shrimp Festival committee is an all-volunteer committee with an Executive Board and 19 committee directors.

This is a volunteer position.

Key Responsibilities

Heritage Booth Management

- Plan, organize, and manage an engaging Heritage Booth throughout the festival.
 - Develop educational displays highlighting the history of the shrimping industry and the Isle of Eight Flags.
 - Recruit and schedule knowledgeable volunteers to staff the booth.
 - Work with local historical organizations, museums, and community partners to provide educational materials.
 - Ensure booth setup, operation, and teardown are completed safely and efficiently.
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Blessing of the Fleet

- Plan and coordinate all aspects of the annual Blessing of the Fleet ceremony.
 - Collaborate with clergy, shrimp boat captains, harbor officials, and local organizations.
 - Develop the ceremony timeline and coordinate participant logistics.
 - Arrange sound, staging, seating, and other event needs.
 - Ensure appropriate recognition of participating shrimpers and community leaders.
 - Coordinate event promotion with the Marketing and Public Relations Director.
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Shrimp Boat Decorating Contest

- Organize and administer the annual Shrimp Boat Decorating Contest.
- Develop contest rules and judging criteria.
- Recruit qualified judges and event volunteers.
- Coordinate contestant registration and communications.
- Arrange awards, trophies, and recognition for winners.
- Ensure the contest operates safely and according to festival policies.

Partnership with Local Shrimpers

- Build and maintain strong relationships with local shrimp boat captains, shrimping families, seafood businesses, and maritime organizations.
- Encourage participation in festival events and educational activities.
- Gather ideas and feedback from the shrimping community to strengthen festival programming.
- Promote appreciation of the local commercial shrimping industry through festival activities.
- Recognize the contributions of local shrimpers during festival events.

Festival Collaboration

- Work collaboratively with the Festival Board and committee directors to integrate shrimping heritage throughout the festival.
- Provide historical insight and recommendations for festival programming.
- Coordinate with:
 - Entertainment Director for heritage presentations and stage programming.
 - Marketing and Public Relations Director to promote heritage events.
 - Parade Director regarding participation by the shrimping community.
 - Kids Fun Zone Director to incorporate educational and cultural elements.
 - Work with the Executive Board to select Grand Marshal.
 - Board to host the Shrimpers' and Sponsors' dinner.

Volunteer Management

- Recruit, train, and supervise volunteers supporting Heritage and Riverfront activities.
- Prepare volunteer schedules and assignments.
- Ensure volunteers understand festival procedures and safety requirements.
- Recognize and thank volunteers for their service.

Budget and Resource Management

- Develop and manage the Heritage/Riverfront budget.
- Identify sponsorship and donation opportunities related to heritage programming with Sponsorship Director.
- Coordinate the acquisition, storage, and maintenance of displays, supplies, and equipment.
- Maintain an inventory of heritage materials for future festivals.

Post-Festival Responsibilities

- Oversee cleanup and storage of Heritage Booth materials and equipment.
- Evaluate the success of Heritage and Riverfront events.
- Collect feedback from volunteers, partners, and participants.
- Prepare a post-festival report with recommendations for future improvements.
- Maintain documentation and procedures to support future Heritage/Riverfront Directors.

Qualifications

- Commitment to the mission and values of the Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival.
- Passion for preserving and promoting the history of the local shrimping industry.
- Strong organizational and project management skills.
- Ability to build relationships with community members and local organizations.

- Excellent communication and volunteer leadership skills.
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Time Commitment

- Year-round planning with increased activity beginning approximately six months before the festival.
- Monthly committee meeting and weekly during April.
- Full participation during festival setup, festival weekend, and post-event cleanup.

Goal of the Position

To build awareness of the shrimping industry throughout the festival committee and activities.

Additional Information/Questions

Contact: Mary Molusky, Chairman

Chairman@shrimpfestival.com

To Apply: [Application Link](#)