



## **Part-Time Educator Bowne House**

### **ORGANIZATION**

Built c. 1661, the Bowne House is a microcosm of social, cultural, and political history. It is one of the oldest surviving structures in New York City and the oldest in Queens. The Bowne House is a fine example of mid-17th-Century Anglo-Dutch architecture with an exceptional collection of furnishings, but its true magic is its story. The house was built by John Bowne, a prominent Quaker and advocate of religious freedom, who emigrated from England to Boston in 1649 and eventually settled in Flushing, Queens. The contributions of this family to New York City's heritage began with the courageous actions of John Bowne (1627-1695), who used the house as the first indoor meeting place for the Society of Friends, at a time when religious diversity was forbidden by law.

### **POSITION**

The educator is responsible for conducting tours for visitors. The museum has developed educational materials which reflect the stories of John Bowne and of some of the nine generations of family members who occupied the house. These included prominent businessmen, abolitionists, educators and horticulturalists. Continuity of ownership provides an unusual view of changing cultural values, tastes, and prosperity over time. The educator should become familiar with the history of the house, the family and the Flushing area. Our audience is composed of school groups as well as adult visitors. John Bowne and the Flushing Remonstrance are part of the New York curriculum. Visitors may be interested in architecture, furnishings, archaeology, and family history. The educator should be able to engage a wide audience.

### **REPORTS TO**

The Educator reports to the Volunteer Coordinator and to the Education Committee of the Board.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Conduct tours for visitors (tours are by appointment).

Be available to help at special events, as needed.

Conduct outreach to local schools and organizations to promote interest and visitation.

Conduct research to become thoroughly familiar with the story of John Bowne, family history, The Flushing Remonstrance, Flushing history, the Anglo-Dutch architectural style of the house, colonial life and customs, Quaker customs, and the horticultural history of Flushing.

Become familiar with commonly used household objects, such as those in the "please touch" exhibit.

Prepare educational materials for distribution to visitors, including advance mailings.

Prepare educational materials and program announcements for review by the education committee and the Board, for posting on the website.

Cultivate interest in the museum and encourage visitors to become members.

### **QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES**

Bachelor's degree required; major/minor in education, history, museum studies, material culture, architecture, art or performing arts preferred. A strong interest in American history and in the history of New York. Strong oral, written and presentation skills a must. Candidate must be able to engage the audience. Ability to work with a wide range of visitors of all ages, interests, and depth of knowledge. Proficient in computer skills, including Microsoft Word, Excel, Adobe, and Photoshop.

Please send cover letter and resume to [office@bownehouse.org](mailto:office@bownehouse.org).