



## Graduate Student Positions for Fall '25

A variety of research, education, and content development positions are available to advance the interdisciplinary public engagement work of U-M's [Detroit River Story Lab](#) and its [regional partners](#). Selected students will work closely with U-M faculty leads and/or community organizations on various components of the Lab's [wide-ranging efforts](#) to activate riverside locations as sites of memory, connection, and community empowerment.

Applicants must have completed at least one year in a relevant graduate program and should have strong research, writing, organizational, and interpersonal skills, as well as a demonstrated interest in public-facing work. Start dates, specific assignments, and work modalities for these positions can be flexibly configured based on individual students' availability, research interests, and professional development goals. Compensation is \$26 / hour for 6-12 hours per week.

Project-based positions available for the Fall '25 semester and possibly continuing into Winter '26 include the following:

1. **Community heritage interpreter** to research, plan, and develop collaborative, site-based interpretive resources with community partners for use with DRSL's [crowd-sourced mobile app](#).
2. **Visual archives researcher** to expand a location-tagged and annotated [database](#) of historical images of the Detroit River and riverfront from the Detroit Historical Society collection for use in a variety of educational and public history projects.
3. **Community project assistant** to provide logistical, planning, and fundraising support for a variety of [collaborative events and programs](#) in Detroit River communities
4. **Curriculum developer** for an [LSA New Initiatives grant](#) to design curricular modules on public history research and engagement skills for undergraduate courses
5. **Community leadership pathway researcher** to build out DRSL's growing [River Opportunity Pathway Profiles series](#) featuring exemplary Detroiters whose career pathways and change-making community leadership roles can serve as models for young people who find inspiration in local waterways
6. **Podcast producer** to host (or co-host) the next season of the [Detroit River Stories](#) podcast.
7. **Visual artist / cartographer** to design and create an illustrated map of [community memory sites](#) along the Detroit River corridor
8. **Digital cartographer** to continue development of DRSL's ArcGIS [layered mapping tool](#) for the Detroit River Corridor
9. **Historical researcher** to design a digital exhibit—along the lines of DRSL's earlier projects on the Detroit River's [early shipbuilding industry](#) and [ties to U-M](#)) on Black and Indigenous participation in 18th-century Detroit River trade activity.

To apply for any of these positions, email your CV or resume along with a letter of interest as a single PDF file to [DRSL-Admin@umich.edu](mailto:DRSL-Admin@umich.edu). A single letter may be used to apply for multiple projects, but it should describe the specific interests and skills you might bring to each. Positions will be filled on a rolling basis, with priority consideration given to applications received by September 1.

Graduate students who have previously made significant contributions to DRSL's efforts are profiled in [this article](#) and on the Lab's [Research Team](#) page. A representative sampling of their projects can be found on the Lab's [Work Products](#) page.