

2023 Smithsonian Volunteer Wrap Up

01 | 03 | 24

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Dear Volunteers,

As we wrap up another incredible year, we wanted to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support of the Smithsonian.

We can't tell you how thankful we are to have volunteers like you supporting our mission. The service you provide is invaluable, whether it's transcribing documents, working behind-the-scenes, out in the community, or in the museums interacting with our visitors.

We appreciate your precious time and the energy you've devoted to increasing and diffusing knowledge every day across the DC area, in New York, in Florida, in Arizona and from your homes across the country.

You are some of the best ambassadors for the Smithsonian and our biggest cheerleaders. Each and every one of you contributed to where we are now and it's because of you that we can accomplish so much. Working with passionate and talented people like you is such a joy.

Thank you for making 2023 amazing! We can't wait to see what you do in 2024!

Warmly,
Office of Visitor Services and Volunteer Management

From Left: Abbey Earich, Michael Rubin, Savannah Loebig, Ed Tudor, Kristi Delich, Bridget Balog, Liane Jacobs and Michelle Gelhausen



Smithsonian Volunteer Year in Review

3,267

The number of volunteers who contributed hours in 2023

231,289

The number of volunteer hours reported by volunteers in 2023

82,471

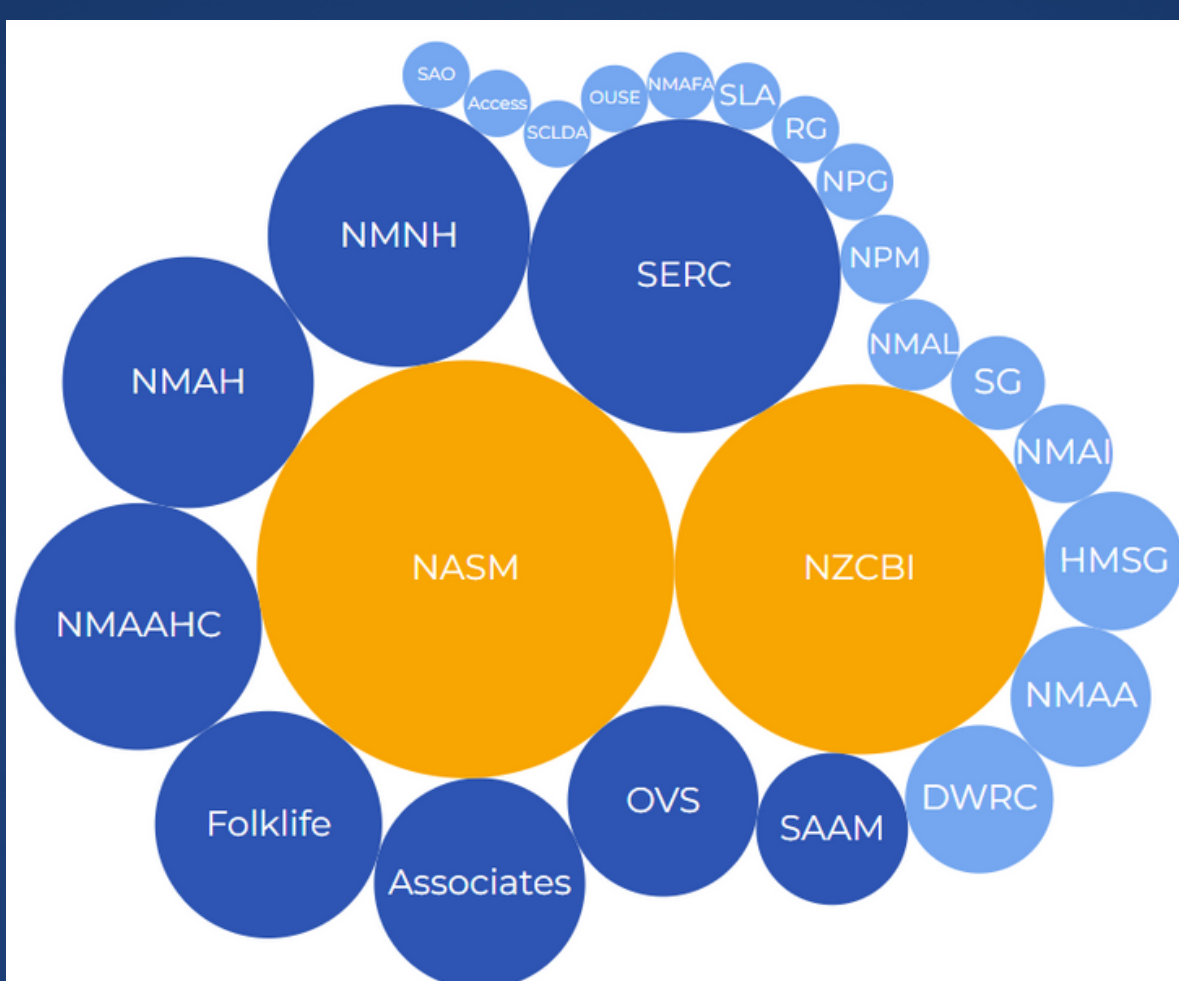
The number of active digital volunteers. Cumulative total from 2013 through 2023.

1,273,302

The number of pages transcribed in 2023.

25

The number of Smithsonian units who hosted volunteers in 2023



Bubbles represent size of volunteer program by number

*Volunteer numbers and hours are self reported by volunteers and units

Volunteer Enrichment

OVS hosted a variety of enrichment opportunities for volunteers to learn about what's going on around the Smithsonian. Topics ranged from talks about military uniforms to early human diets, and included our first in-person gallery tour since 2020,



8

Number of enrichments offered

589

Number of volunteers who attended an enrichment

400

Attendance at the SI-wide Volunteer Appreciation Event



24

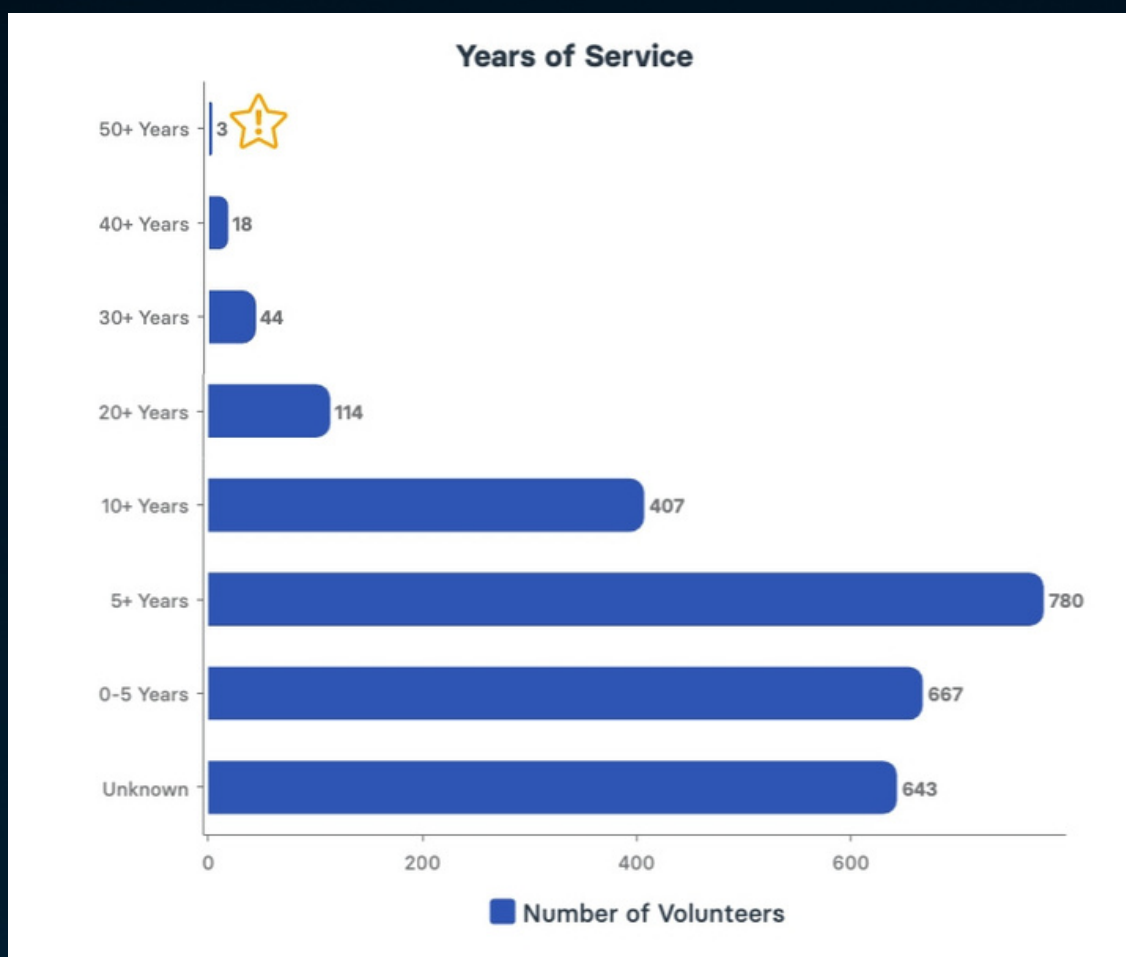
Number of units from which volunteers attended enrichments



Did you miss one of the enrichments? Are you interested in revisiting one of your favorites? Check out the

[Private Smithsonian Volunteer Enrichment Playlist](#) on YouTube!

Smithsonian Volunteers by Years of Service



**Volunteer years of service based on active date and hours as reported in VSys

Building Updates



The last facade stone on NASM's National Mall Building has been installed! Learn more below about the galleries that are anticipated to open in 2026:

[Jay I. Kislak World War II in the Air](#)

[National Science Foundation Discovering Our Universe](#)

[RTX Living in the Space Age](#)

As work continues in the Castle we will be sure to keep you updated on the progress being made!

February 2024 marks one year since the Castle closed to the public.



End of the Year Reminders

VSys - Checking In/Out - Logging Hours

Help us make sure our statistics are even more accurate next year by logging your volunteer hours!

The easiest way to log your hours is in real time so that you don't forget. It is right on the main page after you log in at vol.si.edu.

To Check In: Select the Check In/Check Out tile with the stop watch, Select the Opportunity you're volunteering with and then hit Check in.

To Check Out: When you're done volunteering with that Opportunity for that day, log back into vol.si.edu and Select Check In/Out again and input any relevant information on the next page before selecting Check Out.

VSys - Update Your Profiles

Make sure your personal and emergency contact information is up-to-date in VSys!

After logging in, select Edit My Profile on the main page to update your information.

If you have a badge, make sure that your badge number and its expiration date are accurate as well!

***Your badge number is on the back of the badge in the bottom right corner. It is the 8- digit code on the far right.**

VSys - Retake Your Trainings

You can also see if you're up-to-date on your SI trainings in VSys!

On the main page select My Info. On the next page scroll all the way to the bottom to see your certifications. **If your role requires you to take any of the trainings below**, make sure your certifications are still valid:

Information Security Awareness Training (ISAT) - annual requirement

Protection of Minors Training - annual requirement

EEO: Prevention of Workplace Harassment Training - requirement every 3 years

All 3 trainings are available in VSys! Click on the Online Trainings tab and select the applicable training to complete it.

Risk Awareness Training - New!

Smithsonian's Risk Management office has developed an online, self-paced course titled Risk Awareness at the Smithsonian.

This course is applicable for all employees, contractors, interns, and volunteers. The training includes an interactive lesson in English or Spanish and promotes a risk aware culture at the Smithsonian.

[Learn more about the course and how to create a Moodle Account here.](#)

Accessibility Reminder Assistive Listening at the Smithsonian

The central office of accessibility, [Access Smithsonian](http://AccessSmithsonian), strives to help the museums across SI provide consistent and integrated access to all our buildings, exhibitions, public programs, and digital endeavors.

To ensure volunteers and staff have the most up to date information to best serve the public, Access Smithsonian will be sending updated guidelines and best practices on accessibility over the next year.

[Learn more about about assistive listening systems, equipment, and devices at the Smithsonian here.](#)

2024

Things to look forward to this year!

2024 Smithsonian Volunteer Appreciation Event

More information to come! Planning is underway and we can't wait to celebrate you and all of your accomplishments!



2024 Folklife Festival

Indigenous Voices of the Americas:

Celebrating the National Museum of the American Indian

June 26-30 and July 3-7

At the 2024 Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the National Mall, Indigenous artists and makers, professional chefs and home cooks, musicians, dancers, athletes, and storytellers will demonstrate the depth of multigenerational traditions as well as new, innovative approaches to cultural expression.

Upcoming Exhibitions

Star Power: Photographs from Hollywood's Golden Era by George Hurrell

National Portrait Gallery: 3/1/2024 - 1/5/2025

Fighters for Freedom: William H. Johnson & the Struggle for Social Justice

Smithsonian American Art Museum: 3/8/2024 - 9/8/2024

Staging the Supernatural: Ghosts and the Theater in Japanese Prints

National Museum of Asian Art: 3/23/2024 - 10/6/2024

Brilliant Exiles: American Women in Paris, 1900-1939

National Portrait Gallery: 4/26/2024-2/23/2025

Game Changers

National Museum of American History: Spring 2024 - Indefinitely

Unbound: Narrative Art of the Plains

National Museum of the American Indian - DC: Spring 2024

OSGEMEOS: Endless Story

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: 5/18/2024-7/6/2025

Subversive, Skilled, Sublime: Fiber Art by Women

Renwick Gallery 5/31/2024-1/5/2025

Sublime Light: Tapestry Art of DY Begay

National Museum of the American Indian - DC: 9/19/2024 - TBD

In Slavery's Wake

National Museum of African American History and Culture: 12/2024 - TBD

Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo

Smithsonian American Art Museum: 11/15/2024 - 8/17/2025

Making Home - Smithsonian Design Triennial

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum: Fall 2024-Summer 2025

Thank you for a great 2023!



OFFICE OF VISITOR SERVICES & VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Smithsonian