*Do you want to advance the field of museum education and connect with peers, both nationally and internationally? Consider joining the Museum Education Roundtable Board of Directors!*

**2017 Call for Nominations – MER Board of Directors**

The Museum Education Roundtable (MER) is seeking nominations of qualified professionals for election to the MER Board of Directors. MER is one of the longest-standing nonprofit organizations championing museums as fundamentally educational institutions and helping professionalize museum education. Our lead product, the Journal of Museum Education (JME), is the only professional, peer-reviewed journal for the field. Through the JME and related programs and networking, we advance the museum field by promoting scholarship, dialogue, and community related to critical issues in museum education.

MER seeks committed and talented people from diverse disciplines for this working board. Specific areas of expertise that we are seeking in this board cycle include: membership, social media and development. Self-nominations are welcome.

Board members are asked to serve a three-year term (October 2017 - September 2020). An additional one to three more years is possible for a second term. MER will provide a board member orientation via conference call. All new board members are asked to attend the 2017 Board Retreat in Boston, on August 6, 7, & 8th. The annual board retreat location alternates between Washington, D.C. and another city each year. All other board meetings are conducted via conference call on a quarterly basis.

Board members are asked to participate in at least two roles, serving on one of the action teams and as a board officer, a liaison, or a task force member. All related meetings are conducted via conference call and supported by online file sharing using Proofhub. You are asked to participate in scheduled board meetings, typically one meeting each quarter, via conference call and an in-person annual board retreat in August. In general, there is a time commitment of a few hours per week throughout the year.

Nominees must be members of MER before they are selected as a candidate. Nominees (or their institutions) must be willing to bear the cost of board participation – MER does not reimburse personal expenses incurred as a board member.

Your nomination (or self nominations) must include the name, title, and contact information of the nominee and a brief paragraph describing the nominee’s interest and qualifications. The nominee must also fill out an application, indicating the desire and time to actively serve. Applications are available on the MER website [www.museumeducation.info](http://museumeducation.info) or by emailing the MER Nominations Task Force Chair.

Nomination applications must be received via email by **March 31, 2017**.

Samantha Norton, MER Nominations Task Force Co-Chair

Sr. Director of Learning Programs

John G. Shedd Aquarium

1200 S. Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605

(312) 692-3385

**snorton@sheddaquarium.org**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

NAME:

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City State/ZIP

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

**REASON FOR APPLICATION**

Please explain why you would like to join MER’s Board of Directors, including what you would like to attain from your participation on the Board and what you can best contribute.

**CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Names of the organizations and your role(s)

**COMMITTEES & SKILLS**

These are the current MER Board Action Teams:

Brand Development Strategy and Reader Engagement Editorial Support

In addition, the MER Board has identified five strategic issues for 2016-2020:

1. How can we advance the diversity and inclusion within MER, the JME and the museum field?
2. How can we continue to strengthen and further leverage the content of the JME?
3. How can we more deeply engage with and serve MER members and the broader JME readership?
4. How can we continue to strengthen our organizational development and meaningful board service?
5. How can MER better convey its brand and promote MER activities and membership?

What skills do you have that would be relevant to these committees and strategic issues?

**SELECTION PROCESS**

*All applications will be reviewed and considered by the MER Board Nominations Task Force. Final MER board member selection is determined by a majority Board vote at the May 2017 meeting.*

If you are selected, you agree that you can actively participate in scheduled board and committee meetings (including the annual August retreat), assisting with various tasks, for a three-year term.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MER Board Members are required to maintain membership and contribute at a level meaningful to each individual (we currently have and would like to maintain 100% Board donation). If selected, will you be able to fulfill this commitment?

 Yes  No

If you are selected, do you have the support (financial and/or otherwise) from your institution or your own means to be an active MER Board member fulfilling your commitments?

 Yes  No

If you are not selected as a Board member, or if you decide not to join, would you like to be a MER volunteer to assist our organization in various ways that match your skills and interests?

Yes  No  Perhaps

Please return completed *nomination letter, application & resume* by e-mail to:

Samantha Norton, MER Nominations Task Force Co-Chair

Sr. Director of Learning Programs

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The Museum Education Roundtable is a nationally recognized organization that fosters professionalism among museum educators by encouraging leadership, scholarship, and research in museum-based learning. MER promotes an active exchange of ideas through its programs and publications, including the *Journal of Museum Education*. [www.museumeducation.info](http://www.museumeducation.info)