

Certified Interpretive Guide Training Workshop

The **Chattahoochee Nature Center**, in partnership with the National Association for Interpretation, is offering a professional certification course for individuals who will be delivering interpretive programs, have public contact at interpretive sites, or would like to build their skills and resume.

The CIG Program

The Certified Interpretive Guide program is designed for anyone who delivers or would like to deliver interpretive programs to the public. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors.

This 32-hour course includes:

- history, definition, and principles of interpretation
- making your programs purposeful, enjoyable, relevant, organized, and thematic
- using tangible objects to connect audiences to intangible ideas and universal concepts in interpretive programs
- presentation and communication skills
- certification requirements (open book exam; program outline; 10-min. presentation)
- all materials, workbook, and CIG course textbook

As a result of this training you will be able to:

- Demonstrate the understanding that interpretation is a profession
- Identify the characteristics of interpretive audiences
- Explain why and how interpreters need to relate to their audience
- Convey the importance of providing interpretation for different learning styles
- Understand the need for audience analysis
- Articulate the need for conducting content related research
- Establish the relationship between tangibles, intangibles and universals
- Synthesize information about audiences and resources
- Write a presentation outline
- Demonstrate understanding of the guiding principles of interpretation

Workshop participants are expected to:

- Attend entire workshop.
- Complete a 50-question literature review
- Produce a one page presentation outline. Trainers will allow significant time for coaching with individual participants prior to grading outline.

- Deliver a ten-minute thematic interpretive talk on last day of workshop. Once again, trainers will insure each participant has the opportunity for one-on-one mentoring prior to presenting.
- Provide for your own meals.

Requirements for the CIG Course

Anyone age 16 or over with a desire to increase their knowledge and skills related to interpretation may participate. Membership in NAI is not required, but NAI members may pay a discounted fee to participate in the program. You can also lower the cost by electing to take the training without becoming certified.

Interpretation Library

If you wish to view the reference books for this class, Visit www.interpnet.com/store/. You can purchase your own set of books now or after the workshop. NAI offers a discounted package price of \$83 + \$12 shipping. Or call NAI at 888-900-8283, order the "CIG Certification Library" and have the books shipped to you. Recommended reading before workshop: *Personal Interpretation* by Tim Merriman & Lisa Brochu, also available at NAI. One set of books will be available for use during the class, but may not be taken home.

The texts used are:

- *Interpreting Our Heritage* by Freeman Tilden;
- *Interpretation of Natural and Cultural Resources* by Knudsen, Cable & Beck;
- *The Gifts of Interpretation* by Beck & Cable;
- *Sharing Nature with Children* by Joseph Cornell;
- *Interpreting for Park Visitors* by Bill Lewis.

Your Trainer:

Christie Hill is a Certified Interpretive Trainer, and has been the Naturalist Coordinator at the Chattahoochee Nature Center for six years. She is an enthusiastic and engaging instructor with a passion for interpretation.