

# The Interpreter's Creed

## As a practicing interpreter I shall:

- Seek to serve visitors; to be an ambassador for the place I work; to instill in visitors the ability and desire to sense beauty in their surroundings.
- Seek to respect all the visitors with whom I come in contact and welcome them as I would welcome guests in my home; and to share equally my knowledge and passion regardless of the visitor's age, gender, interest, physical abilities, or cultural differences.
- Seek to be agreeable, look good, have a polished presence, speak in a well-modulated voice, and be genuinely friendly.
- Seek to see the good, or the humor, in any situation and answer repetitious questions with enthusiasm, as if they were asked for the first time.
- Seek to convey only well-documented, accurate information.
- Seek to be an exemplary role model for environmentally responsible behavior by word and example.
- Seek to structure interpretive design and programming in such a way as to minimize the impact on cultural and environmental resources.
- Seek to improve my mind, continue learning about the resource, and expand my learning about the principles and processes of interpretation that will ultimately benefit visitors to the site.
- Seek to help other interpreters achieve their interpretive goals, particularly assisting new interpreters to develop confidence and abilities.
- Believe in myself; give my best to the world and expect that the world will give its best to me.

*Excerpt from Interpretation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

## Interpretation Reference List

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North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). [www.naaee.org/](http://www.naaee.org/)

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