The Mississippi Department of Archives and History is recruiting a Garden Curator for the Eudora Welty House and Garden. Restored to the period of 1925-1945, the nearly two-acre Arts and Crafts-era garden provided significant inspiration to Welty's writing. Responsibilities include day-to-day care (weeding, planting, and pruning by hand; supervising garden volunteers and interns; leading the annual plant sale; developing programs; guiding garden tours; overseeing horticulture and lawn crews; sourcing historically appropriate plant material; managing plant records; garden history research; leading preservation initiatives and partnerships; contributing articles and public presentations; frequent reporting to stakeholders; keeping current on best practices in sustainable historic gardening; and occasional grant work. Duties also require supporting a small, enthusiastic team in all areas of operations, including house tours, point-of-sale register, creating social media content, and assisting with special programs. The Garden Curator will work closely with the site director in a historic, mission-oriented environment under the administrative direction of the Museum Department.

Work hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with at least one Saturday per month from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., plus various after-hours events and programs throughout the year (author talks, plant sale, etc.).

The ideal candidate will have skills, ability, and experience working in the following areas:

- A basic familiarity with gardening and nature.
- A basic (and continually cultivating) knowledge of Welty's life and literature to guide garden work.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), and various mobile apps.
- Extreme attention to detail outdoors (only weeding the correct plants) and in the office (archiving paper and digital plant records into a cloud-based botanical database).
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- The ability to withstand frequent work outdoors in heat, cold, and rain, stand and kneel for long periods, and lift fifty pounds.

Education and experience must meet one of the following criteria:

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university and gardening experience. This position is not limited to horticulture degrees; candidates with liberal and fine arts backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
- The successful candidate will demonstrate a genuine interest in Eudora Welty, gardening, and the arts; and a passion for sharing Welty's home place with the public.

To apply for this position, submit an online application via the Mississippi State Personnel Board. For more information, contact the MDAH human resources office at 601-576-6866. The Mississippi Department of Archives and History is an equal opportunity employer.