



Character Actors & Handlers 2024-2025

This is an occasional, contracted position with an average of 5-10 hours per week (primarily weekends), depending on availability. The individuals filling these positions would be responsible for the safe and engaging facilitation of Grinch character meet and greets in our seasonal Grinch's Grotto exhibit in the Wood Museum of Springfield History.

The Grinch's Grotto is an interactive experience where visitors can explore a selection of winter wonderland activities and meet the Grinch himself in his Mt. Crumpit home.

Several character Actors and Handlers are needed on the following dates from 11:00-4:00pm:

- Every Saturday and Sunday between 11/9/24 and 12/29/24.
- First two Saturdays of January 1/4/25 & 1/11/25.
- Weekday and evening programs as needed.

Responsibilities of a Character Actor are:

- Wearing character costume for several 30–45–minute sessions over 4 hours.
- Interacting with guests appropriately, adhering to the character guidelines set forth by Seuss Enterprises.
- Arriving at time agreed upon in contract and ready in costume for scheduled character appearance time.
- Properly attend to costume as needed between uses to maintain quality.

Character Actors earn \$25.00 per hour.

Responsibilities of a Character Handler are:

- Assisting costume character actor in getting in and out of costume.
- Safely guiding character actor (in costume) from behind the scenes to designated appearance area.
- Mediating visitor interactions—inviting them up from line to meet the Grinch, answering questions, ensuring they are interacting with the costume and actor in accordance with our guidelines, etc.
- Keeping track of actor's time in costume and following break procedures.
- Assisting in the maintenance of costumes between uses.

Character Handlers earn \$15.00 per hour.

Both Character Actors and Handlers are expected to uphold the guidelines of costume usage and facilitation, follow Springfield Museum policy in visitor interaction, and provide an overall positive experience for

visitors. Openings for acting and handling are on a first come, first serve basis based on actor/handler availability.

All Character Actors and Handlers must complete a CORI (Massachusetts Background Check) before appearing in costume or being a handler. Contractors under 18 years old must complete work papers before appearing in costume or being a handler.

Individuals who are interested in applying to be either a Character Actor or Handler should contact Family Engagement Coordinator at famprograms@springfieldmuseums.org .