

Many Volunteer to Work at the Bible Museum

THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT THRIVES: Here, the volunteers work to drift the first Bible museum in the Nordic region.

Just over a month ago, the Nordic Bible Museum was seeking volunteers for the museum, which is set to open its doors soon. Many are willing to work for free.

- We have received more than 30 applications, most of them from well qualified candidates, says founder of the Nordic Bible Museum, Rune Arnhoff.

When he placed an advertisement on Finn.no just before the Easter Holiday, he assumed that the applicants would consist of retirees and people with an interest in history and the Bible.

- Most of the applicants have a background in arts or culture, or they have relevant experience from previous work in museums or libraries. Many have higher education that is relevant for the museum, he says.

After assessing all applications and inviting many for an interview, there are now 20 people associated with the museum as volunteers.

- Most are going to be museum attendants, and some will work as guides. We also have people who are going to work in the museum shop, and two people are going to help catalog the collection, says Arnhoff.

Opens on May 31st

The Nordic Bible Museum is located in Nedre Slottsgate 4c, between Akershus Fortress and Karl Johans gate, and is opening its doors on May 31st.

- There are still some tasks remaining before everything is ready for the public, but with so many volunteers involved, I believe most things will run smoothly, says Arnhoff.

He believes that the high number of applicants is due to the fact that many find museum work to be both interesting and educational.

- Some of those involved were unemployed people interested in job experience, others had previously had similar work and were glad to contribute. Many also have another job, and wish to contribute part-time, Arnhoff adds.

The newly recruited staff have different backgrounds and hail from different places.

- We have Norwegian, Swedish, Russian, Syrian, Yugoslavian, Italian, and Belgian coworkers. Some are fresh graduates, others have backgrounds as teachers, archaeologists, librarians, historians, or have other types of higher education, he says.

The Nordic Bible Museum is the first one of its kind in the Nordic region. With over 300 square meters of space, the museum will display a multitude of Bibles in different sizes, shapes, and colors, from all the Nordic Countries.

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