

Certified Interpretive Guide Workshop

When was the last time someone transported you with a story of a wonderful place or time? How often do you remember the feel, smell and sounds of a place without actually being there? Do you want to share your passion about the natural world with others but lack the experience to find that perfect position in a zoo, nature center, history center or other? The Certified Interpretive Guide Course may be for you!

The **Chattahoochee Nature Center**, in partnership with the National Association for Interpretation (NAI), is offering this professional certification course for individuals who would like to deliver interpretive programs. The next CIG course is scheduled for **February 7-10, 2022**. Here is the [link](#) to our CIG web page.

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 meaningful interpretive programming to visitors.

Benefits

Certification helps you cultivate and build a professional self-image. By studying for and passing the test elements, you reaffirm your commitment to maintaining knowledge and dedication to the principles and skills of interpretation for yourself and your peers.

Certification makes you more competitive and may improve your chances of being hired or getting a promotion.

Certification may improve your opportunities to make job changes or work as a consultant.

The process of becoming certified and maintaining the designation provides incentives to continue professional development and confirms that you excel in this discipline.

Certification helps you maintain cutting edge skills and knowledge in the field of interpretation

Your Trainer:

Christie Hill is the Certified Interpretive Trainer and Naturalist Coordinator at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. She is an enthusiastic and engaging instructor! She has presented seminars for NAI Southeastern Region workshops, Georgia's EEA and led NAI Certified Interpretive Host workshops for Florida State Parks.

“Leading the CIG and CIH workshops has enhanced my skills as a trainer of naturalists and docents at the Nature Center! I use interpretation in every area. These skills are beneficial in all of my relationships and essential in mentoring new staff and volunteers in their teaching.

To contact Christie: c.hill@chattnaturecenter.org

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)
- CIG course workbook

Workshop participants are expected to:

- Attend entire 32-hour workshop
- Complete a 50-question literature review
- Produce a one page presentation outline. Time is built into the workshop to create this outline, ensure that participants understand the process of writing an outline, and mentoring from the instructor prior to grading the outline.
- Deliver a ten-minute thematic interpretive presentation on last day of workshop. Once again, trainers will insure each participant has the opportunity for one-on-one mentoring prior to presenting.
- Spend some time out of class each day for homework
- Provide for your own meals. Good snacks, coffee, etc. will be provided. We will take a one-hour lunch break each day, and stay at CNC for lunch together on day 4.

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

Interpretation Library

If you wish to view the reference books for this class, visit www.interpnet.com/store/ and look for the Core Review Library Package.

The texts used are:

Books included in this CIG specific literature review set are:

Gifts of Interpretation (Cable & Beck);
 Interpretation: Making a Difference on Purpose (Ham);
 Personal Interpretation (Brochu/Merriman);
 Interpreting our Heritage (Tilden).