

WORCESTER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ECOTARIUM

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Overnight Program Instructor **Department:** Education and Community Engagement

Effective Date: October 1, 2019 **Reports to:** Assistant Public Program Coordinator

Status: Hourly/ Non-Exempt; Paid training; Minimum of two shifts per month expected during the busy season from February to June on Thursday or Friday nights from 5:15 pm to 8:45 am or Saturday nights from 5:15 pm to 10:15 am; Overnight season runs from September through June

Position Summary:

The EcoTarium, A Museum of Science & Nature, seeks creative and engaging program instructors to deliver interpretive programs for Night Journeys (overnight programs). Programming is on a variety of natural and physical science topics and takes place on the museum floor, in classroom settings, in our digital planetarium, and outdoors on our 55-acre site. Teaching is primarily through hands-on and inquiry-based methods encouraging exploration and self-directed learning.

Candidates must enjoy working with families and children, possess a keen interest in science, and be committed to ongoing growth and learning in the fields of science and education. Participation is required for three evenings of paid training to become familiar with workplace policies, science and nature content, program materials, and teaching skills for various audiences. Separate paid animal-handling training with Wildlife staff is also required.

Qualifications:

- Minimum 18 years of age and completed one year of college or equivalent experience
- Background in physical science, astronomy, biology, education or related fields preferred
- Demonstrated previous experience in formal, informal, inquiry-based and/or experiential learning desirable
- Comfort with performance and/or public speaking, a flair for public presentation
- Good customer service and interpersonal skills
- Ability to multi-task and manage time efficiently
- Creative individual with ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Enjoy working in a fast-paced environment, be flexible and highly dependable
- Interest in and/or experience working with diverse audiences
- Able to navigate the building and grounds under any weather conditions, stay stationary for long periods of time, work in a highly sensory and stimulating work environment due to constant interaction with guests
- An ability to move program equipment and supplies up to 40 lbs desirable
- Pass CORI/ SORI background checks according to EcoTarium's guidelines

Responsibilities:

- Work as part of a team to provide an exceptional visitor experience and deliver museum-quality, hands-on educational programming on a variety of science and nature topics through structured and unstructured interactions with guests
- Conduct outdoor programming and navigate trails in all types of weather conditions

- Prepare, tidy, and maintain museum spaces and program materials including technical equipment and other supplies
- Report any issues with programming, guests, staff, wildlife, or exhibits to Senior Overnight Program Instructor and participate in preparation meetings and regular staff debriefs
- Take initiative in problem solving, leading programs, and fostering effective interactions between guests and staff
- Present a positive attitude and engender a sense of fun for guests where appropriate
- Handle animals for use in programs
- Uniform/dress code required

Non-Essential Functions:

- Other duties as assigned

Please send cover letter, resume and list of three references to: Human Resources, Attn: Overnight Program Instructor Search, EcoTarium, 222 Harrington Way, Worcester, MA 01604 or email: resume@ecotarium.org with “Overnight Program Instructor Search” in the subject line.

Review begins September 1, 2019, applications accepted until position is filled.

AA/EOE
www.ecotarium.org