Title: Aquatic Programs Educator

Hours: Part-time, seasonal, occasional weekends and/or evenings required

Compensation: Hourly

Description: The Aquatic Programs Educator position is responsible for assisting in the development and delivery of new programming related to the ecology, biology, chemistry and physics of the Delaware River Basin. The primary duties include outfitting and utilizing a new Citizen Science Lab, part of an upcoming exhibit, River Alive! During warmer months, the Museum’s docks will be used for Water Quality Citizen Science Programs with the public and water-based science activities with students.

Qualifications:
• At least 2 years of experience teaching hands-on science programs in an informal setting to wide-ranging audience required. Previous experience working with underserved youth a plus.
• BS in Biological Sciences, Aquatic Biology, Environmental Science or related field required.
• MS in Biological Sciences, Aquatic Biology, Environmental Sciences or related field preferred but not required.
• Previous experience using water testing equipment.
• Comfortable with conducting various aquatic animal dissections in an educational setting.
• Familiarity with aquatic microbiology identification and collection, along with using microscopes.
• Previous experience on boats; must be comfortable in and around the water.
• Previous experience maintaining aquaria and/or plant life a plus.
• Basic computer skills necessary.
• Good interpersonal communication.
• Ability to represent the Museum to potential visitors.
• Flexibility and ability to take initiative.
• Patience and attention to detail.
• Upon hiring, a PA Child Abuse History Clearance and State Criminal Record Check are required.

Duties:
• Educate the general public, school groups, summer camps and in-house programs from Pre-K to Adult with hands-on experiential-based learning. Subjects can be anything relevant to the Delaware River Basin and a blend of its ecology, biology, physics, chemistry, history, technology and art.
• All lessons will feature the Citizen Science Lab, River Alive! and the dock. First responsibilities include working with the Manager of STEM Education & On-Water Programs to purchase items, design and outfit the lab space for immediate use.
• During warmer months, guests will be invited outdoors to conduct regular Citizen Science water quality testing on the dock, facilitated by the Aquatic Programs Educator.
• Aid in the development of new water-based programming, utilizing the new Citizen Science Lab, River Alive! Exhibit, the Dock and Floating Wetlands Project.
• Ensure all equipment in the Citizen Science Lab is maintained and stored in a clean and organized way. This includes cleaning lab items and disposing waste.
• Occasionally host after-hours event programming at the Citizen Science Lab.
• Inform all guests as to the safe way to use science equipment including dissection tools, microscopes, chemicals and glassware.
• Tend to the upkeep of the Floating Wetlands Project.
• Assist with River Stewards Expedition, a 2-week teen adventure on-water camp for underserved youth.
• Oversee the River Stewards Apprentices and see to their continued training. Apprentices are local high school students from Philadelphia with an interest in environmental education; they act as Junior Staff after successfully showing competency in a given activity.
• Perform other duties as assigned.

To apply:
Send a brief cover letter and your resume in an e-mail to Jennifer Totora, Manager of STEM Education & On-Water Programs at jotora@phillyseaport.org. No phone calls.

Independence Seaport Museum deepens the appreciation, understanding and experience of the Philadelphia region’s waterways through history, science, art and community. For more information, please visit phillyseaport.org.

Location: Independence Seaport Museum, 211 S. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19106. The Museum is easily accessible by public transportation and nearby parking.