POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Enrichment Workshop internship

GROUP/DEPARTMENT: Animal Programs

JOB RELATIONSHIPS:
Reports to: senior craftsman/ Enrichment Workshop
Supervises: [insert job titles of directly reporting positions only]

BASIC FUNCTION:
This position contributes to the success of the Chicago Zoological Society by expanding and refining our material knowledge in the design and production of naturalistic durable enrichment devices for animals on exhibit. These enrichment devices do help encourage natural behaviors while enhancing the overall aesthetic appeal of the exhibit.

PRIMARY JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Assist in the molding, prepping and casting of enrichment devices that resemble natural looking rocks and logs. These devices will be used as puzzle feeders with food rewards or to encourage play.

2. Production mold making and casting using silicones, plasters, and urethanes.

3. Assist in the creation of custom made timed feeders. These feeders when used together will encourage animals to forage food from their habitats in a more natural way and the unpredictable nature of the feeders will encourage activity and exercise throughout the day.

4. Work alongside both Animal Program staff and Enrichment Workshop artists to create a system for constructing standardized electronic control systems that are used in natural looking PVC feeders. These self-contained 12volt feeders will have a door that opens at specifically programed times to reveal food items.

5. Other duties as assigned.

* Denotes Essential Job Function(s)

POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of mold making and casting process
- Experience with and an understanding of a variety of electrical components, including integrated circuits, transistors, relays, voltage regulators, resistors, etc.
- Comfort with basic hand tools and weights and measures
- Basic computer skills, proficiency in at least 1 computer programming language a bonus
- Ability to problem solve and provide alternate perspective
- Comfortable in art/studio environment
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills and ability to follow direction
- Must enjoy wildlife and want to contribute to the care and welfare of animals in our care
• Experience and/or ability to work and interact effectively with a diverse, multicultural audience.
• Valid driver’s license required. Illinois residents must possess a valid Illinois license within 90 days of hire. Valid out-of-state license required for out-of-state residents.

DESIABLE/PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

• Experience or interest in one or more of the following areas:
  • Art production background: set construction, prop fabrication
  • Engineering or technical capabilities: mechanical design skills, material science
  • Industrial production: mold making and casting, knowledge of materials
  • Animal behavior science: animal welfare and enrichment
• Multilingual ability, Spanish fluency a plus.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

This is an opportunity to participate in new program creating naturalistic enrichment for the zoo’s animal collection and to impact the quality of their life.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

See physical requirements sheet.

| Pay Range: | ☐ Exempt ☐ Non-exempt | ☐ Union ☐ Non-Union |
|———|———|———|
| Position Code: | AAP Job Group: | Prepared by: |
| Historical Background: | Date Reviewed: |
| ☐ New position ☐ Revised job description | Date Revised: |

APPROVALS

___________________________________      _________________________________________
Management Supervisor                                        Group Head

____________________________________    _________________________________________
Department Head                                                 Human Resources