POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Senior Roving Naturalist (Seasonal Intern)

GROUP/DEPARTMENT: Conservation, Education and Training/High School & College Outreach Programs

JOB RELATIONSHIPS:
Reports to: Coordinator, Conservation Science Scholars
Supervises: No one

BASIC FUNCTION: This position contributes to the success of the Chicago Zoological Society by engaging guests and providing informative and innovative education to increase guests’ appreciation of animals and nature and to contribute to providing an excellent guest experience. The basic function of this position is to primarily focus on connecting guests with wildlife and nature through close-up animal encounters and presentations.

PRIMARY JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential job functions.

1. * Engage guests in celebrating animals and nature by providing all Zoo guests with the opportunity to have a quality, close-up encounter with, but not limited to, a variety of domestic and exotic animals (reptiles and invertebrates).

2. * Develop and provide interpretive presentations such as daily Zoo Chats throughout the Zoo as needed.

3. * Assist the Coordinator of Conservation Science Scholars in the daily mentoring and coaching of Seasonal Assistant Roving Naturalists and Seasonal Roving Naturalists staff.

4. * Participate in off-site outreach events and programs.

5. Other related duties as assigned.

* Denotes Essential Job Function(s)

POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must have completed one internship as an Assistant Roving Naturalist or Roving Naturalist.
- Six months of volunteer or work experience in an informal educational setting, ideally at a zoo, aquarium, or nature center providing quality interpretive experiences
- Internship(s) are available to King Conservation Science Scholar alumni. Must have at least completed 1 full year in the King conservation Science Scholars program and be in good standing.
- Must have certification as a Certified Interpretive Guide through National Association of Interpretation.
- Demonstrated strong interpersonal and communication skills required.
- English fluency. Ability to read, write, speak and comprehend at an advanced level.
- Must be comfortable speaking in front of the public and using a microphone.
- Must be able to coach and mentor Roving Naturalists and Assistant Roving Naturalists.
- Must be outgoing and able to work independently with little supervision.
• Must be willing and able to work with a variety of invertebrates, including arachnids, crustaceans and insects, as well as reptiles, amphibians, fish and a variety of domestic and exotic animals.
• Must be open to new experiences.
• Experience and/or ability to work and interact effectively with a diverse, multicultural audience.
• A valid driver’s license is required on date of hire. If an Illinois resident, must possess a valid Illinois driver’s license at the time of hire or must obtain one within 90 days of hire. A valid out-of-state driver’s license is required at time of hire for out-of-state residents.

DESIIRABLE/PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:
• One year of coursework in the Life Sciences preferred.
• Six months supervisory experience preferred, but not required.
• Multilingual ability, Spanish fluency a plus.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This position description summarizes the primary duties and functions of this position, but should not be considered a complete listing of every duty the incumbent may ever be called upon to perform. Incumbent must have the ability to work evenings, weekends and holidays as needed. This position is assigned to work outdoors at a variety of locations along pathways and throughout the Zoo. This seasonal position lasts primarily between April and September depending on the needs of the operation. Work schedules are based on the needs of the operation. Incumbent must have the ability to work evenings, weekends and holidays as needed. The required uniform for Senior Roving Naturalists is khaki (tan) pants to be provided by the employee and a Society-issued uniform shirt. Additional uniform shirts and approved apparel are available for purchase. The Society will issue a nametag to be prominently worn by the employee. Shoes are to be conservative, maintained in good condition, and appropriate to the employee’s position and job duties. Work schedules are based on the needs of the operation.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: See physical requirements sheet.