



Planetarium – STEM Discovery Educator

JOB SUMMARY

The Planetarium – STEM Discovery Educator at the Living Arts & Science Center (LASC) brings a vital science education perspective and the integration of science and art to diverse audiences. This individual will be comfortable with in-person, hybrid in-person and virtual experiences. Ideal candidates should have experience in an educational setting and experience teaching young people. Approximately 30 to 37.5 hours per week. Flexible schedule including some night and weekend hours required.

Primary functions of this position will include:

Planetarium Coordinator

LASC is the home of The Farish Planetarium, Lexington's only planetarium.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Catalog and update planetarium library (obtain new images and shows)
- Keep other staff up to date on available planetarium content (used in No School Day classes, offered for field trips and birthday parties)
- Create planetarium schedule coordinated with astronomical events, other programming, & community events (NASA content, Discovery Saturday themes, Kentucky Water Week, etc.)
- Follow all safety guidelines for cleanliness and mitigation of Covid 19
- Create and facilitate planetarium training for staff and educators
- Maintain planetarium equipment (replacing bulbs, updating software, etc.)
- Facilitate astronomy classes using telescopes and planetarium software
- Create planetarium content (live shows, expand image warping capabilities)
- Participate in regional and national space related consortiums
- Diversify planetarium schedule (Date Nights, Farish after Dark lecture series, etc.)
- Meet expectations in accordance with grant requirements
- Be organized, reliable, and professional, meeting deadlines and demonstrating thoughtful planning and preparation

Earth & Space Science Discovery Educator

Duties and responsibilities:

- Create STEM workshops and lesson plans (Girl Scout workshops, Discovery Saturday activities, after-school classes, summer camps, virtual teaching, outreaches, Pre-K art day, adult classes, No School Day, etc.)
- Coordinate science content and teach discovery education courses as outlined above
- Coordinate Science Explorers program and act as lead teacher
- Lend expertise to Maker's Space, including making recommendations for activities and purchases

- Network and obtain STEM resources (NISE Net, NASA, Aldrin Foundation, Hubble Telescope, AstroReality, Sally Ride Foundation, etc.)
- Create and display engaging STEM content in the building (Innovation Lab, NASA/ASTC panels for planetarium)
- Lead immersive STEM camps
- Diversify and expand STEM camp offerings, both in person and virtual (Higher Orbits, engineering challenges, coding boot camp, NASA projects and competitions, etc.)
- Participate in exhibit design and installation
- Create and facilitate STEM Professional Development for K-12 educators
- Contribute personal experience, ideas, and teaching styles to provide a unique and engaging experience for students
- Bring knowledge, enthusiasm, and creativity to the classroom and planetarium, engaging students of all ages in meaningful hands-on learning

Other Job Duties

- Field trip assistant
- Mobile planetarium outreach (when safe to do so regarding Covid restrictions)
- Participate on the education team with other discovery educators and VISTA
- Catalog and utilize science materials and collections

ORGANIZATIONAL DETAIL - The Living Arts & Science Center

The Living Arts & Science Center is committed to ensuring opportunity and access to all. LASC provides arts and science programs for at-risk, special needs and underserved children and adults. The LASC is a creative and collaborative workplace and seeks an individual who thrives in that environment.

Each year, the LASC presents a wide range of free and paid programs and events including:

- Classes and workshops for pre-school students to adults
- 10+ annual art exhibitions in three art galleries and a children's art gallery
- Interactive art and science field trip and outreach programs for 12,000+ Kentucky students
- Monthly programs such as Discovery Saturdays with unique activities, guest artists and scientists, and planetarium shows
- Free art and science after-school programs for seven Title I schools
- Annual interactive community events such as Family Fun Day and Day of the Dead Festival

Qualifications:

- Bachelors of Science in related field required
- Teaching experience required, formal or informal, public, private or parochial. Virtual teaching experience also preferred
- Ability to provide a safe, welcoming, creative, and engaging environment for students
- Ability and desire to make interdisciplinary connections and relate material to current events and students' real-world experience

- Ability to work with minimal supervision, meet deadlines, and perform duties reliably and in a professional manner
- Effective communication with students, families, and coworkers
- Experience with students of diverse backgrounds including students with physical, mental, and emotional/behavioral disabilities
- Experience planning and implementing curriculum
- Valid Kentucky Driver's License and clean driving record required
- Applicant must pass a criminal background check as a condition of employment

TO APPLY:

Review of the applications will begin upon receipt. Position will remain open until filled.

To apply, provide a cover letter, resume and three references and mail or email to:

lhalligan@LASCLEX.org (Please put "Planetarium – STEM Discovery Educator" in subject line.)

No Phone calls please.