



Mission: *Inspire love for science and curiosity about the world to create a brighter future.*

Volunteer Position: Aviary Aide

v.2024

CuriOdyssey is a serious science playground. Our exhibits and educational programs inspire excitement, curiosity, and discovery through distinctive interactive experiences. Our education philosophy includes creating an authentic, inquiry-based, and immersive environment while providing meaningful, robust, personal learning experiences. We believe engaging children at a very young age is critical, while their brains and skills of observation and inquiry are developing.

Aviary Aides enhance the visitor experience by engaging visitors in conversation to help them observe and learn more about the wildlife in the Aviary, which currently includes different species of birds and turtles. Aviary Aides also monitor and record bird behavior and help to maintain a safe environment in our beautiful walk-through Aviary.

Major Responsibilities:

- Greet each guest with a warm welcome
- Engage visitors in conversation and share information about Aviary birds and animals
- Show and interpret biofacts (e.g. feathers, eggs)
- Observe bird behavior and record notes in 3 categories: flight, aggression, and vocalization
- Serve as a safe presence for animals and guests. Ensure the Aviary does not exceed maximum capacity.
- Apply a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) lens when engaging with children, ensuring fair and equitable treatment. Avoid over-policing children and strive to understand and respect the diverse backgrounds and experiences of all children.

Qualifications:

- Welcoming, personable, and able to engage young children
- Comfortable initiating conversation with visitors
- Reliable. Able to make a weekly commitment.
- Interest in animals, conservation, and science
- Morning volunteers: Physically able to clean walkways for up to one hour
- Must be at least 16 years old
- Commitment to DEI Principles: An understanding of and commitment to applying DEI principles in interactions with children and avoiding biased behavior.

Schedule Options:

Morning shift:

- 9:00am-1:00pm on the same day each week for at least 12 months
 - Morning Aides only: clean aviary walkways by hosing off, brush cleaning or sweeping before opening at 10am.

Afternoon Aviary Aide:

- 1:00-4:00 pm on the same day each week for at least 6 months
- Volunteer availability should be entered into the shared volunteer Google calendar regularly.

Training:

- Orientation to CuriOdyssey, our education philosophy, and general volunteer policies and procedures will be provided by the Volunteer Department
- Specific training on wildlife information and Aviary Aide protocols and duties conducted by Animal Keepers on the first day of service
- On-going support and supervision are provided by Animal Keepers. One Keeper will be assigned as your lead supervisor, although you will likely interact with multiple animal keepers.

Volunteer Benefits:

- Invitation to attend volunteer events and enrichment sessions each year
- Quarterly volunteer newsletter
- 15% discount in CuriOdyssey Shop
- Free membership for volunteers who complete the minimum hours requirement
- Eligible for the Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA)
- Online access to the Volunteer Handbook, Wildlife Handbook, and an animal reference card set.
- Opportunity to obtain hands-on training with CuriOdyssey's education animals. Available to volunteers who have completed 15 hours or more of dependable service.

To Apply:

- Our volunteers represent CuriOdyssey to the public and can have a significant impact on the visitor experience. We therefore conduct a thorough selection process which includes:
 - [Volunteer application](#)
 - In-person interview
 - Reference checks
 - LiveScan background clearance (for applicants 18 and older)

www.CuriOdyssey.org

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