**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**SCIENCE COMMUNICATOR**

**SITE:** **OTC – Business Unit based in W5**

**LOCATION: Queen’s Quay, Belfast, BT3 9QQ**

**RESPONSIBLE TO: Learning and Engagement Lead**

**TERMS: 37.5 hour per week over a 7-day rota**

**DATE: August 2022**

**OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE JOB:**

W5 is the Odyssey Trust’s Interactive Science & Discovery Centre and we are looking for people with a passion for inspiring others to learn about the world around them. If you have a love of science, engineering, technology or maths and you are skilled at finding ways to excite others to discover new ideas, ask questions and be amazed, then this could be the job for you!

The dynamic role of Science Communicator is a varied and interesting one. The successful candidate will become a member of the Learning and Engagement team with responsibility for delivering interactive science demonstrations, science shows, school workshops and a range of innovative programmes. This will involve effective liaison with the team as they develop new content and the post will require both the enthusiasm and skills to ensure that new programmes provide audiences with the most inspiring science experience W5 can offer.

The Odyssey Trust group of companies is committed to the core ideology of BEET, Best Experience Every Time for Customers and Colleagues. These principles will be developed with all workers to support outstanding customer service. All colleagues are expected to commit to the core values shown below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core Value** | **Behaviour** | **Customer Promise** |
| **Positivity** | Smile, can do  | We will always be helpful, welcoming & enthusiastic |
| **Integrity** | Deliver on our promises | We will be trustworthy & respectful |
| **Commitment** | Go above & beyond  | We will go the extra mile |
| **Innovation** | Find new ways to be better | We will always learn & improve |
| **Teamwork** | Together we achieve more | We will work together to put you first |

**MAIN DUTIES**

* Providing highly engaging, articulate learning experiences that meet the core aims of W5 as centre for learning for the public and education system.
* Presenting and supporting the development of public science demonstrations, floor shows, seasonal events, syllabus linked school workshops and school events.
* Preparing and presenting to both large and small groups, school/community groups and general public audiences that will be held both on-site and on outreach.
* Researching and keeping up to date with key science and science related topics, supporting the scripting of shows, sourcing required equipment, carrying out necessary risk assessments and supporting the shared training of other team members in the delivery of science demonstrations, shows, workshops and events.
* Liaising constructively with the Learning and Engagement Officers (LEOs) in the formation of new content for workshops, shows and events, and associated grant applications where appropriate.
* Prioritise and organise workload effectively to ensure visitors have a learning experience that is well structured and offers high levels of engagement.
* Assisting the public to have an enjoyable and engaging visit by facilitating their interaction with and understanding of the exhibits.
* Staying up-to-date with new exhibits and programmes and their associated science content by carrying out background reading, attending training seminars and assisting with the dissemination to other staff.
* Working with the Visitor Services Team in supporting exhibition floor events, assisting with evacuations etc, and acting as a Fire Warden as required.
* Maintaining equipment and non-technical aspects of the exhibits, equipment etc. in the area of assigned duties, and notifying the technical team of any relevant problems.
* Undertaking such training as may be deemed necessary e.g. Risk Assessment, Fire Evacuation/Warden training, First Aid training, Disability Awareness training.
* Ensuring the cleanliness and orderliness of their designated areas.
* Adhering to Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) guidelines and risk assessments.

All OTC staff are expected to:

* Maintain excellent working relationships with other staff and volunteers.
* Ensure the delivery of BEET to all our customers
* Be committed to and work in accordance with our Safeguarding, Health & Safety and other established policies and procedures.
* Be flexible undertake such other duties that may be required

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

***Essential Criteria***

* Educated to degree level or equivalent relevant experience.
* At least six months experience within the last two years of engaging with an audience. This could include, for example, small or large community groups, school groups, adult learning centres or youth work.
* A genuine and evidenced enthusiasm for STEM related learning, and a desire to engage in learning opportunities with a variety of audiences.
* Previous experience of working as an integral part of a team and an ability to recognise your own contribution to effective teamwork.
* Possess strong organisational skills, working accurately and without supervision.
* Ability to work under pressure and remain calm and professional in difficult situations
* Willingness and ability to work flexible hours (including weekends, evenings and public holidays and adjust to seasonal opening times) and travel as necessary.
* Driving licence which enables you to drive a car in Northern Ireland.
* Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure Certificate from AccessNI which meets the standards required by W5 & OTC.

***Desirable Criteria***

* A science related degree.
* A teaching qualification.
* Experience of researching topics and communicating findings in a good quality written and oral format.
* 12 months experience within the last three years of engaging with an audience (for example small or large groups, general public, school or community groups).
* Experience of using a wide range of audio-visual and scientific equipment.

***Salary***

Circa £21,000 to £22,000 per annum, dependent on qualifications and experience.

**Benefits**
The Odyssey Group has a range of benefits which it offers to full and part time staff [1].

* Free car parking.
* Contributory pension scheme, life assurance, a paid sickness benefit and health cash plan.
* Salary Sacrifice including pensions, holiday and cycle to work schemes.
* 33% Discount on in-house items, including coffee, in the W5 café & 10% discount in the W5 shop.
* Complimentary tickets to Belfast Giants, friends and family access to W5 and advanced ticketing to Arena events.

[1] [Some T&Cs and qualifying periods will apply]