

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH INTERN – MaST CENTER AQUARIUM

General Summary

The Education and Outreach Intern will be focused on implementing the MaST Center Aquarium's public facing programs including educational outreach, informal and formal education programs, and social media. This includes an emphasis on creating and offering opportunities in formal and informal situations using a variety of modalities that take advantage of the strengths of the MaST Center Aquarium, its location on the Puget Sound, and the variety of partnerships of which the MaST Center Aquarium is involved in.

Pay Rate: This position pays \$20 per hour. The internship is a 1000hr temporary position with a flexible schedule with some evenings and weekends. The internship can be part-time or full-time during the school year, but will be full-time June 29th - August 28th. This position will not exceed 1000 hours total.

About the MaST:

The MaST Center Aquarium fosters a culture of marine stewardship by engaging our community through interactive learning, personal relations and exploration.

The MaST Center Aquarium is the marine laboratory for Highline College and is used for Highline and community classes, research, and other activities. The facility has approximately 3,500 gallons of flow-through aquariums and houses over 250 species of marine life from the Salish Sea. The MaST Center Aquarium is open every Saturday to the public during its Discovery Days and hosts over 15,000 visitors annually. During the rest of the week, the MaST Center Aquarium is used for Highline classes, school groups, and other activities that support its mission.

Located in the Redondo neighborhood of Des Moines, WA, the MaST Center Aquarium is about 10 minutes south of the main campus and is halfway between Seattle and Tacoma. It is located on a 270 ft. pier that extends out into Poverty Bay. Redondo is one of the top dive sites in the entire Puget Sound and features one of seven Octopus Protection Areas in the state.

Essential Tasks

Reporting directly to and in collaboration with the Community Engagement Coordinator of the MaST Center Aquarium, this position will:

PRIMARY:

- Lead and/or assist the MaST Center Aquarium's education programs; including prepping the facility, handling daily logistics, and following all established policies;
- Set up, deliver, and break down educational programs through inquiry-based or hands-on learning techniques to school and other groups visiting the MaST Center Aquarium and during external outreach events that meet the needs of our diverse and multicultural community members with varying abilities;
- Lead our Sound Science Summer Camps and coordinate a team of Summer Education Interns and volunteers to implement summer programming;
- Design, implement, and coordinate, in collaboration with the MaST Community Engagement Coordinator, a social media strategy that aligns with organizational and educational goals of the MaST Center Aquarium and Highline College;

- Use the Redondo Dive site and neighborhood and the Puget Sound as a way to inspire and connect the public to the Salish Sea. This will include both formal and informal curriculum, outreach and exhibits, inside and outside of the MaST Center Aquarium designed to engage the public

Ability to:

- Communicate effectively (verbal and written);
- Possess public speaking skills and knowledge necessary to deliver educational content in areas of marine biology, natural history and conservation issues effectively with the public in both formal and informal settings that meet the needs of our diverse and multicultural community members with varying abilities;
- Communicate and work respectfully and effectively with people from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender, age, sexual orientation, and socio- economic backgrounds, and with diverse physical and learning abilities;
- Work collaboratively with the MaST Center Aquarium Community Engagement Coordinator and other staff to enhance the success and mission of the MaST Center Aquarium;
- Work with minimal supervision, possess organizational skills, program coordination skills and be self-motivated;
- Exercise strong interpersonal, collaboration, team-building skills, share responsibilities and perform assignments in concert with the team’s efforts;
- Continuously update and increase their knowledge of Marine Ecology, Plankton, Marine Plants and Animals, Oceanography, and current events of the Salish Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Must be willing to work flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends. A typical schedule will likely be Tuesday through Friday;
- Ability to lift up to 50 pounds and to work outdoors, on wet and slippery surfaces;
- A valid driver’s license with no pending risk of loss and regular access to dependable transportation.

Qualifications

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school graduation or equivalent; **AND**
- 1-year experience of increasing responsibility coordinating and developing formal or informal education and/or managing volunteer programs.
- Computer proficiency with knowledge of MS Office applications.
- Ability to work in physically challenging environment including long periods exposed in extreme temperatures and field conditions while keeping an upbeat personality.
- Must have reliable transportation

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- 2+ years’ experience of increasing responsibility leading and developing formal or informal education programs with preference given to experience at a zoo or aquarium;
- Degree or equivalent experience in marine sciences, environment, or education;

- Computer experience in Zoom, including the ability to run virtual programming.

APPLICATION:

Submit a cover letter and resume to the Community Engagement Coordinator at awauhob@highline.edu.