



Position: Director of Education & Community Engagement

Status: Full-time

Basic Function: Located along the Space Coast in Melbourne, Florida, the Brevard Zoo is an AZA-accredited facility with a diverse collection of over 900 animals representing nearly 200 species. It is also home to the Sea Turtle Healing Center (STHC) for rehabilitation of wild marine turtles. Brevard Zoo is well-known for its strong conservation ethic and unique attractions, such as kayaking through the Africa area, giraffe feeding and various animal encounters.

Reporting to the Zoo's Executive Director, this position is responsible for setting the overarching vision, strategy and a theoretical background for the Education Department. This includes working across the Zoo to identify target audiences and outcomes; designing and creating new programs; serving as a liaison between Brevard Zoo and community partnerships; department planning; organization initiatives; developing, training and supervising education staff; as well as budget administration and financial productivity. As a member of the Zoo's Senior Staff, the Director of Education actively participates in Zoo operation-based activities, meetings and decision making.

Responsibilities:

- Strategic development of the Education Department's plan based on the review and assessment of current programs, initiatives, goals and objectives to promote affective connections to animals, positive social interactions, understanding of the nature of science and engagement in pro-environmental attitudes and behaviors.
- Drive a social innovation thread across all programming by expanding access to and engagement in scientific inquiry for all audiences, particularly for underserved communities in the greater Brevard area.
- Be an aggressive fundraiser by working in coordination with the Development Department and Executive Director to advance the education agenda through the development of proposals, cultivation efforts and by garnering government and foundation support. Begin to nurture and create a culture of fundraising among the Education Department managers.
- Organizationally assess and monitor the current structure of the Education Department to ensure that it is operating efficiently, and the structure best supports future initiatives.
- Through audience research, create and evaluate new programs, as needed, to ensure the ongoing growth and development of the Education Department meets the needs of the Zoo and the community.

- Manage and lead the day-to-day operation of the Education Department including management and oversight of the budgetary responsibilities; cultivation and infrastructure of strong communication throughout all levels of employees; and ongoing leadership, guidance and development of the education team.
- Maintain a strong education and community outreach program and strive to develop partnerships, cultural competencies and programs that connect the increasingly-diverse communities of Brevard and surrounding areas with the Zoo and its mission.
- As a member of the Zoo's Senior Staff, work closely with other departments to identify opportunities for education and programming, content design for exhibits and messaging. Actively participate in Senior Staff activities and provide insight regarding the relationship between Zoo initiatives and the Education Department.
- Serve as chief spokesperson for the department. Make personal appearances and presentations at various organizations, education and corporate entities, fundraisers and other venues as needed. Provide leadership and vision regarding Education Department initiatives and department progress to the Executive Director and Board of Directors as required.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in education, science or related field
- Five years of demonstrated skills in supervisory/management experience
- Experience developing and leading education initiatives within zoos is preferred
- Extensive experience in grant writing
- Proven experience with identifying and developing audience-driven programs and evaluation-based outcomes
- Excellent communication and organizational skills

Benefits:

Brevard Zoo offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes paid sick/vacation time, local tourist attraction discounts and Zoo membership. Also includes health, dental and vision insurance as well as a retirement plan.

Apply Now:

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to hr@brevardzoo.org or mail to:

Human Resources
Brevard Zoo
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