Title: Seasonal Adventure Facilitator PT/I
Supervisor: Public Events Director
Type: Part time/intermittent
Duration: April – October

*Kalamazoo Nature Center (KNC)* is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire people to care for the environment by providing experiences that lead them to understand their connection to the natural world.

Because we value the strength diversity brings to the workplace, the Kalamazoo Nature Center is committed to the recruitment, retention, and development of a workforce that reflects the society in which we live. We encourage applications from candidates representing diverse backgrounds.

Summary:
The Kalamazoo Nature Center On-Call Seasonal Adventure Facilitators (SAF) work within the Learning & Engagement (LE) team, and are responsible for implementing safe and effective experiential education programs for the general public. SAF will work under the Public Events Director to lead outdoor adventure education programming with the overall goal of facilitating participants’ deeper personal connection with nature. These responsibilities are conducted according to the organization’s policies, procedures, and all local/state/federal regulations and laws. SAF will be scheduled for programming when programs are available. This position will have regular Saturday hours, and additional hours available on an on-call basis. This will include primarily weekend and evening programming. Programs include Zipline, River Canoe Trips, Archery, and the potential for backpacking overnights.

Duties:

- Facilitate positive experiences and connections with nature.
- Lead public adventure programs including: zipline canopy tour, zipline ground-landing, river canoe trips, archery, and any other scheduled adventure programming.
- Facilitator will be trained and coached on proper use of all program equipment, including the technical and social-emotional skills necessary to safely operate the program equipment/activities.
- Manipulate ropes, cables and other related equipment used in tying knots, belaying and rigging used in setup, operation and breakdown of various zipline elements.
- Operate adventure programming related gear and equipment including, but not limited to: ropes, harnesses, helmets, carabiners, safety lines, ladders and pulleys, canoes, life vests, and compound bows.
- Assist in pre-program preparation including, but not limited to: setting ropes courses, checking gear, loading canoes, and setting up archery range.
- Negotiate various terrain types and obstacles encountered in program delivery and emergency situations.
● Responsible upkeep, inventory, care, and maintenance of LE equipment and facilities used for programming
● Ascend to, traverse at, and descend ladders and other course access equipment at heights that may exceed 30 feet
● Keep participants physically safe in respectful and effective ways
● Occasionally lifting 50+ pounds
● Other duties as assigned by supervisor

Requirements:

● Minimum of 2 years of experience in guided facilitation and/or adventure education
● Excellent risk-management and facilitation skills
● Demonstrated experience with maintaining emotionally and physically safe learning environments
● Confidence and ability to work outdoors in all conditions
● Confidence with public speaking and group facilitation
● Confidence in working individually, as well as within a team.
● Willingness to work a varied schedule including weekends and evenings
● Lifeguard certification preferred, or willingness to attend certification
● Wilderness First Responder certification preferred, or willingness to attend certification
● Small Watercraft Rescue certification preferred, or willingness to attend certification
● Archery Instructor certification preferred, or willingness to attend certification

Key Skills

● High integrity
● Independent thinker with strong initiative, but comfortable working within a defined framework
● Self-motivated (takes initiative) with high standards
● Hands-on and variety seeking
● Dynamic and fun, yet responsible and professional
● Flexible with a "whatever it takes" attitude

To Apply:

Please submit a cover letter, resume and contact information for three professional references to: Emma Vasicek at evasicek@naturecenter.org

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Kalamazoo Nature Center is an equal opportunity organization that will not discriminate in its programs or hiring practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, height, weight, sexual orientation or gender identity, marital status, or political affiliation.