Position - Director of Science City

Scope:
Union Station Kansas City, Inc. seeks a Director of Science City, a core unit of Union Station Kansas City. The Director will oversee all aspects of planning and operations for STEAM-related educational programs, content for exhibits and the overall customer experience. This position requires vision and oversight for the development of innovative and inquiry-based approaches to STEAM educational programs and exhibits to increase people’s understanding of, and interest in, science.

The position is charged with building upon the organization's history and accomplishments to maintain and grow Science City's position as the regional leader in informal science education. In addition, they must inspire, lead, and shape a talented team of science educators, ensuring Science City’s continued success inspiring fun and engaging science learning for all.

Science City, winner of ASTC’s Leading Edge award, serves a diverse range of lifelong learners and is committed to cultivating meaningful partnerships with PK-12 schools, post-secondary and business partners to advance science learning throughout the region. The position has broad responsibility for the oversight of the planning, research, development, implementation and evaluation of all education programs, exhibits and annual community events. As a member of the senior management team, the Director works with executive leadership to craft and execute effective, long-term planning to further organizational growth and development.

Science City is a dynamic, hands-on science center featuring more than 300 individual interactive exhibits coupled with daily programming. Kids of all ages experience the amazing world of science first-hand through fun and engaging exhibits and programs. In addition to changing monthly themes and daily programs/activities open to all guests, Science City offers onsite science-themed programs to school groups (PK-12), outreach programs, the GKC Science & Engineering Fair and more. STEAM education is at the core of everything in Science City, be it exhibits, demonstrations, classes, shows, presentations, special events or programs. Visit www.sciencecity.com for more information.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for working collaboratively to develop and implement programs, projects, activities and events to meet/exceed the goals of the annual Union Station operating plan.
- Establish and manage general operating strategies, goals and objectives to ensure timely, cost-effective and high-quality execution of both new and well-established educational programs and projects for Science City’s diverse audience of life-long learners.
- Contributes to the stewardship of the Union Station/Science City organizational culture and ethos.
- Develop and maintain strategic partnerships with all levels of formal and informal education
and the scientific and business community.

- Work in close partnership with area schools, districts and educators to develop/maintain programs that align with the needs of area students and teachers.
- Promote best in class customer service in all aspects of the guest experience.
- Contribute to the development of annual business plans and budgets and manage their successful implementation in conjunction with Union Station’s overarching strategic planning process.
- Hire, train, facilitate and evaluate the professional staff of Science City and education department team members.
- Work collaboratively with:
  - Marketing team in the promotion and public relations strategies for all Science City programs and events to ensure annual attendance budgets are understood and met, as well as measuring guest sentiment.
  - Development team for fundraising, sponsorship and grant efforts.
  - Guest Services and Group Sales teams to ensure timely and effective communication and strategies to support Science City’s customer service and group needs.

- Oversee the day-to-day operations of the department through two direct reports: Science City Manager and the Manager of STEM Programs.

**Desired Skills and Experience Requirements:**

- BA or BS Degree, an advanced degree in science or education is preferred.
- Minimum ten years’ progressive experience in science center, museum or education organizations.
- Minimum seven years’ progressive experience in informal learning methodology, theory and practice as it relates to learning in informal settings; proven ability to incorporate informal learning methods into exhibits and programs and evaluate learning and guest engagement in informal settings.
- Minimum five years in a supervisory and management position, and five years’ experience in operational and strategic budget development and management.
- Proven ability to direct expansive, multi-team efforts on a variety of projects.
- Exemplary oral and written communication skills; proven ability to communicate complex information and concepts in an easily understandable way.
- Must be a skilled, visionary leader who will bring to the position a high degree of energy and creativity as well as the organizational, analytical and personal qualities that will inspire enthusiasm and collaboration within their team, the organization, among external funders and others.
To Apply:

Email your cover letter and resume to: employment@unionstation.org

Or mail your resume and cover letter to:

Union Station Kansas City HR Department
30 W. Pershing Rd., Suite 400
Kansas City, MO 64108-2422

Union Station Kansas City is committed to employing a drug-free and diverse work force. EOE M/F/D