



# 2018 Wild Bunch Performer Job Posting

Roger Williams Park Zoo is currently recruiting for part-time, seasonal performers to participate in and assist in developing a variety of entertainment programs which may include, skits, puppet shows, storytelling, games, and live animal presentations. (Wild Bunch performers will not be responsible for handling animals but will work in close proximity with animals and their handlers.) Wild Bunch Performers may also occasionally staff exhibits which may include regular interaction with guests, monitoring of animal contact opportunities, queue control, and exhibit interpretation.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES: (Performing, Preparation & Support)**

### **Performing:**

- Enhance the experience of our guests through interactive interpretation, shows that feature live animal presentations, stories, and activities.
- Perform solo and multi-person scheduled Wild Bunch shows, typically 4-5 per day, each approximately 20 minutes long and consisting of a variety of presentations and activities.
- Encourage children in the audience to participate in programs, both individually and as a group.
- Deliver shows that simultaneously engage both children and adults.
- Deliver both scripted and improv-style shows.
- Maintain on-stage enthusiasm whenever in uniform on Zoo grounds.

### **Performance Preparation**

- Assist in refining scripts and activities for shows based on feedback from audiences, observers, and other performers.
- Memorize stories and scripts.
- Set up and break down all equipment needed for performance, which may include sound equipment, puppet apparatus, costumes, and props.

### **Animal Performance Support**

- Assist trained animal handlers in maintaining a safe performance environment for the show animals.
- Support animal handlers in reinforcing trained animal behaviors.

### **Exhibit Support**

Though the primary function of the Wild Bunch Performer is to deliver content via shows, due to their high level of customer service skills Performers will also occasionally be called upon to support the Wild Bunch Exhibit staff in locations such as the Contact Yard exhibit where they will occasionally supervise Docents and Jr Docents and/or visitors to maintain guest and animal safety.

## **CRITERIA:**

### *Experience and Education:*

High School diploma or equivalent, plus a minimum of one year of experience working with all age groups; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Previous performance (preferably improv) experience and background knowledge in basic biology or animal sciences is preferred. Frequently required to stand; walk; use hands to manipulate

objects, reach with hands and arms; talk and hear. Employee occasionally lifts and/or moves up to 30 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close and color vision.

*Skills and Aptitudes:*

- Ability to engage children and adults of all ages and learning abilities.
- Must possess superior customer service skills
- Ability to work with individuals, small groups, and crowds either independently and/or collaboratively
- Be dynamic, enthusiastic and adaptable
- Must possess excellent public speaking skills
- Must have an appreciation for informal, lifelong learning in agreement with RWPZ's mission and commitment to education and conservation

*Additional Requirements:*

- Must provide proof of a negative TB test prior to the start of employment
- Must be available to work weekdays, weekends, holidays and occasional evenings
- Ability to work outdoors under various weather conditions
- Successful completion of a background check
- Valid state driver's license

Interested candidates are encouraged to send a cover letter and resume to:

Roger Williams Park Zoo  
*ATTN: Wild Bunch Performer*  
1000 Elmwood Ave  
Providence, RI 02907  
-or-  
[employment@rwpzoo.org](mailto:employment@rwpzoo.org)