

EXPERIENCE FACILITATOR

RAISING NEBRASKA

LOCATION: Raising Nebraska, Grand Island, Nebraska

DIRECT SUPERVISOR: Experience Coordinator, Raising Nebraska

WORKS WITH: Nebraska Extension Educators and Specialists, Volunteers, and Interns

POSITION TYPE: Part-time/Hourly

SEASON: Year-Round

TIME COMMITMENT: Approximately 10 hours per week. Hours are flexible, based on weather and programs. Position will have increased duties during the Nebraska State Fair.

SALARY RANGE: \$12.00 per hour

TRAVEL: Yes, based on weather and programs.

FACILITY OVERVIEW

Raising Nebraska is a 25,000 square foot experience designed to help visitors better understand and appreciate the advancements, impact, and global leadership of Nebraska agriculture. Since its opening in 2014, Raising Nebraska has hosted over one million people through its doors and through its off-site and digital programming. Raising Nebraska: Outdoors debuted in 2015. This 30,000 square foot space brings the indoor displays – literally – to life. The Raising Nebraska: Outdoors plantings illustrate Nebraska agriculture and what is possible in Nebraska horticulture.

The exhibit is available year-round and staffed by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and Nebraska 4-H Foundation. Raising Nebraska and Raising Nebraska: Outdoors are operated by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources through Nebraska Extension, in partnership with the Nebraska State Fair, and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Education Facilitator plays a vital role in educating the public about Nebraska agriculture. They will develop, implement, and evaluate a variety of high-quality, appealing, and innovative educational programs that actively engage youth, family, and multigenerational audiences. They will set and maintain high standards of program quality and impact. This role also supports core operational functions at Raising Nebraska during the Nebraska State Fair.

The ideal candidate is comfortable with public speaking and would enjoy interacting with a wide array of visitors, keeping them engaged with content, and providing compelling learning experiences. Individuals should have an interest in agriculture and a general understanding of the geography of Nebraska. We are interested in bilingual candidates (English/Spanish) as we strive to continue to offer a welcoming environment for all visitors.

The Experience Facilitator's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE EFFECTIVELY WITH EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR TO PROMOTE AND PRESENT PUBLIC PROGRAMMING INSPIRED BY AND INTERPRETING NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE.

- Develop and Deliver tours and workshops for Pre K-12th grade school and youth groups visiting Raising Nebraska. This includes developing program themes and goals, planning activities, writing lesson plans, procuring needed supplies, and coordination logistics for programs with the Experience Coordinator;
- In collaboration with Experience Coordinator and Nebraska Extension, develop exhibition-related supplemental educational materials;
- Train and supervise volunteers and representatives from cultural or community organization to assist with activities and programs, as needed;
- Collaborate with the internal and external partners to design and implement school, family, and community programs that are age- and audience-appropriate including but not limited to camps, workshops, tours, and events;
- **Curriculum Development**
 - Oversee curriculum development for standards-based youth programs related to Raising Nebraska exhibits themes and contemporary issues in agriculture, with emphasis making the topics relevant to diverse communities;
- **Outreach**
 - Develop and implement outreach programs including online lesson plans and virtual field trips related to Raising Nebraska exhibits for multiple grade levels and disciplines;
 - Lead off-site engagement at schools, community centers, fairs, and festivals;
 - Establish and maintain strong cooperative relationships with cultural organizations and community groups to build program diversity and audience interest;
 - Build and maintain partnerships with local and regional schools and school districts, colleges, universities, and community organizations, in collaboration with the Experience Coordinator;
- **Evaluation**
 - Consistently monitor/evaluate programs for attendance, effectiveness and improvement. Meaningfully reflect on past programs to help push Raising Nebraska's program offerings forward;
- Provide support to other Raising Nebraska programs and outreach efforts, as needed;
- Provide support for Nebraska's Largest Classroom Day(s) during the Nebraska State Fair;
- Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

REQUIRED

- At least 18 years of age;
- High School Diploma/GED;
- Bilingual (English/Spanish);
- 2-3 years' experience working with youth;

- Experience developing and implementing programs and activities for youth;
- Willingness to interact with groups of children and diverse groups of visitors for long periods of time;
- Must be dependable and reliable;
- An interest in Nebraska Agriculture and a desire to communicate this knowledge to others;

Skills

- Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office applications: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint;
- Ability to lead programs and activities for youth, family, and multigenerational audiences;
- Excellent communication skills: written, interpersonal, and public speaking;
- Experienced, energetic, comfortable, and effective public speaker;
- The ability to follow written and verbal instructions;
- Excellent listening skills and the ability to gauge the needs and interests of visitors & respond accordingly;
- Detail orientated with strong organizational skills;
- Ability to work independently, as well as within a team, and respond to guidance from staff;

Qualities

- Eager to learn and collaborate;
- Upbeat, positive attitude;
- Imaginative, resourceful, and creativity;
- Flexible and adaptable in approach to work;
- Passionate about creating impactful experiences for visitors;
- Demonstrated ability to positively interact with visitors in a manner consistent with a public educational facility serving multigenerational and multicultural/multiethnic individuals and families, the ability to provide excellent customer service, and respect for all people's points of view;
- Willingness to work alongside staff to create a welcoming visitor experience and ensure the success of programs and events;
- A sincere and genuine interest in people of all ages;
- Respectful of visitors' differences – learning style, cultural backgrounds, age level, and special needs;
- Demonstrated ability to create and sustain relationships with a wide array of diverse groups;
- Willingness to assist with initiatives and projects as needs arise;

Other

- Ability to work evenings and weekends as program schedule requires;
- Must be neat and well groomed - and wear name badge provided;
- Valid Nebraska driver's license with clean driving record;
- Ability and willingness to travel for program development and presentation;
- Reliable and consistent transportation;
- Pass a background checks and drug screening;

PREFERRED

- Bachelor's degree or higher in education, communication, agriculture, or closely related discipline.
- Five years of professional education and/or teaching experience with youth, teen and/or family audiences.
- Strong knowledge of learning theories/styles, child development, and the ability to apply it to audience engagement.
- Familiarity school curriculum development and knowledge of Nebraska State Educational Standards
- Familiarity with trending topics in agriculture
- Demonstrated ability in object-based teaching
- Experience working in a multi-generational space or drop-in activity space
- Experience in planning and presenting public programs for diverse audiences
- Experience developing and implementing program evaluation

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to move easily within the space for extended periods of time;
- Ability to transport and set up materials needed for educational programming;
- Ability to communicate clearly in oral and written formats;
- Ability to supervise youth in active spaces both indoors and outdoors;
- Ability to use a computer and telephone;

Note: Duties described above have been identified as essential functions as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Work will typically be performed in a museum spaces, outdoors, and in the communities served. Some travel is expected, sometimes overnight. The noise level in the Museum work environment is usually low to moderate.

BACKGROUND SCREENING

Raising Nebraska is a part of University of Nebraska-Lincoln 4-H/Extension. All volunteers and staff who work directly with youth are required to complete the Nebraska 4-H screening process found at <https://4h.unl.edu/resources/volunteers-screening>. Volunteer screening is done in order to assure a safe, positive, and nurturing environment for all youth involved with the Nebraska 4-H programs and provide protection for the child, the volunteer, the educator, the 4-H Council, the Extension Board, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. If you have questions about this process, please contact nebraska4h@unl.edu.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please send resume to raisingnebraska@unl.edu For more information, please contact raisingnebraska@unl.edu or call 308-385-3967. Applications will be accepted until March 2, 2020, or until position is filled.

All offers are contingent upon successful completion of background checks and drug screening.