Smithsonian Institution Career Opportunity

Spark!Lab Facilitator (PART-TIME), Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation, Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History

The Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation (Lemelson Center) at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History (NMAH) seeks a part-time Spark!Lab Facilitator. Spark!Lab is a hands-on invention space at NMAH for children around ages 6 to 12 and their caregivers that incorporates displays of historical inventions, biographies of inventors, and information about invention as a process. To learn more about the Lemelson Center, visit http://www.invention.si.edu.

Position Description

Under the direct supervision of the Museum Program Specialist who oversees Spark!Lab, the Facilitator is responsible for delivering compelling visitor experiences in Spark!Lab. The Facilitator will:

- Work cooperatively with the staff and volunteers to present educational programs in Spark!Lab for general Museum visitors, specifically children and families.
- Ensure a positive Spark!Lab experience by greeting visitors; engaging visitors through conversation, inquiry, and experimentation; helping facilitate invention challenges; and offering assistance and encouragement at self-directed activities.
- Assist with daily operations to open, operate, and close Spark!Lab, according to procedures; performing routine maintenance such as inspecting for damaged or missing materials, replenishing supplies, keeping equipment cleaned and organized, and reporting problems appropriately.
- Assist with other general Lemelson Center activities as requested.

The best qualified applicants will have experience working in a hands-on education space, with a variety of personalities, learning styles, and age groups. The position will require frequent bending and moderate lifting.

Salary Information

This is a part-time (21 hours/week), Trust (non-Federal) position at IS-4, Step 1. The hourly rate is $17.5, with benefits. Required schedule includes one weekend day and some holidays.

Application

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume as a single .pdf document by email with the subject line “Spark!Lab Facilitator” to Lemelson Center Museum Program Specialist Emma Grahn at GrahnE@si.edu. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. Eastern on Friday, February 11th, 2022.

The Smithsonian is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities, people with disabilities, and candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.