



Session Leader for Young Volunteers Program

ROLE OVERVIEW

Stepney City Farm is recruiting a Session Leader to facilitate weekly volunteering sessions for young people aged 12-18. This part time post is an exciting opportunity for someone who is keen to further their existing hands-on experience of working with young people in an outdoor setting. The candidate must be enthusiastic and able to support young people to plan and carry out practical activities on the farm. Activities range from animal care and gardening to DIY tasks and longer term projects. The successful candidate will be required to work most Sundays over the Summer Holidays, running a morning and an afternoon volunteering session. This role is funded until the end of August 2016 by the Jack Petchey Foundation. The post holder will be required to contribute towards evaluation and monitoring reports. There is the potential for the role to continue beyond the end of August, subject to funding.

DETAILS

Location:	Stepney City Farm, Stepney Way, London, E1 3DG
Pay:	£12.50/hr
Hours:	8 hours a week, 9.30-5.30pm every Sunday
Length of role:	26 th June 2016 – 28 th August 2016
Deadline for application:	5pm Tuesday 14 th June 2016
Responsible to:	Farm Education Officer

ABOUT STEPNEY CITY FARM

Stepney City Farm is a working farm and registered charity based in Tower Hamlets. There are various animals on-site including donkeys, sheep, goats, chickens, pigs and ducks so the main focus of the day-to-day running of the farm is caring for the animals. The organisation also seeks to provide educational opportunities for the local community with regards to the environment, animal care, organic gardening and rural crafts. We have a café and farm shop providing locally-sourced food, run a Farmers' market every Saturday, rent allotment space, work in partnership with local schools and youth clubs and have a Rural Arts Centre with a textile and community arts space, a greenwood workshop and a ceramics studio with a resident potter.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

'Farm Club' provides a unique opportunity for local 12-18yr olds to learn about food and farming, do healthy outdoor activities, make new friends and connect with nature. Common activities include farming tasks such as feeding the animals, mucking out, grooming, seasonal food growing and harvesting, and farm maintenance but there is scope to develop other farm-related tasks based around your interests/expertise. The young volunteers program has been running for the last 5 years with an average of 10 young people attending . Last summer we trialled an extended summer club which was hugely successful and showed the need for a paid worker to take ownership of the project and run it across the year. The Farm Club sessions will usually run from 10-1pm and 2-5pm every Sunday. Whilst there is only currently funding over the Summer, we are actively seeking further funding to sustain the project longer-term.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Plan and facilitate a Summer program of weekly volunteering sessions for 12-18yr olds.
- Support young people to take on challenges and reflect on their achievements.
- Risk assess, monitor and evaluate sessions, and update administration records in line with farm and Jack Petchey Foundation requirements.
- To be responsible, along with all other staff members, for compliance with health and safety regulations for staff and visitors.
- To adhere to all policies and procedures paying particular attention to Health & Safety, Child Protection, Equal Opportunities and Data Protection.
- Ensure that young people have an active say in the way the project runs.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential	Desirable
Demonstrable experience of previous work with children and/or young people	A current DBS check (formerly CRB)
Experience of working with animals and/or plants i.e. at a city farm or community garden.	An interest in sustainable food and farming
Enthusiasm to work with young people on the farm	Knowledge about organic gardening and animal care.
Ability to plan, risk assess and supervise a range of engaging farm activities in collaboration with young people	Experience of writing risk assessments
A responsible attitude to health and safety with an ability to spot and respond to potential hazards.	Ability to conduct evaluations and record monitoring data.
Ability to interact with a diverse range of people and age groups	Excellent IT and communication skills, experience of monitoring and evaluating projects
Basic financial management skills	Experience of managing project budgets.

Please note that the position is subject to the satisfactory completion of a DBS check.

FURTHER INFORMATION

What we can offer you:

- Hands on experience of working with Children and Young People for an environmental organisation
- Internal training relating to animal husbandry, gardening, child protection, developing lesson plans and working with young people
- External training opportunities regarding working with young people where available
- A friendly, exciting and supportive place to work

To Apply:

Email Alex Collings (alex@stepneycityfarm.org) with:

- A short expression of interest describing a) why you would like this position and b) how you meet the essential and desirable criteria outlined in the person specification. (one page of A4 maximum)
- Your curriculum vitae (CV) summarising your relevant experience

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Tuesday 14th June 2016.

Interviews are scheduled for Sunday 19th June. Start date is ideally the 26th June but this is somewhat flexible.