
Wildlife Education & Ambassador Curator

Schedule: This is a full-time, year-round position that follows a non-traditional work week of Tuesday - Saturday, including frequent work required on evenings and weekends.

Compensation: Hourly, non-exempt position starting at \$20-\$22/hr, depending on experience.

POSITION SUMMARY:

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care (LTWC) is seeking a Wildlife Education & Ambassador Curator to lead our animal ambassador program, focusing on health, care, and training. In this role, you'll develop a targeted curriculum highlighting Lake Tahoe's wildlife and environment for various age groups. Additionally, you'll coordinate a team of volunteers to expertly handle and train live raptors for educational outreach. Join us in inspiring a connection between the community and Lake Tahoe's unique ecosystem while contributing to vital wildlife conservation efforts. This position reports directly to the Executive Director and collaborates with Senior Leadership.

WHO WE ARE:

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, Inc. (LTWC) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization whose mission is to rescue, rehabilitate and release orphaned and injured wild birds and mammals. LTWC operates under permits issued by California Fish & Wildlife and the United States Department of the Interior Fish & Wildlife Service. Our 27-acre location includes multiple wildlife enclosures and a new multi-purpose administration and animal care hospital building.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Animal Training

- Lead a team of volunteers to provide day-to-day care for ambassador birds and mammals, including, but not limited to, cleaning, feeding, watering, medicating, observing, and record-keeping
- Oversee animal diets and adjust as necessary.
- Facilitate training and enrichment programs for all ambassador animals
- Collaborate with Wildlife Rehab Managers to create health evaluations for incoming animal ambassadors
- Monitor animal health and well-being, and report suspected or observed animal illness or injury to appropriate staff
- Assist as needed with administering medications, providing treatment and restraining, including maintenance of beaks, talons/claws, and feathers
- Develop and evolve policies to ensure safety and security of ambassador animals
- Maintain and promote safety of staff, volunteers and guests

Education Program Delivery

- Provide outreach and education for a variety of audiences during tours, programs, and presentations both in-person and virtually
- Create specific educational program outlines as well as guidelines for on-site and off-site guests in line with LTWC's permit and mission statement

- Work with local school districts, partner organizations, and other educational providers to develop and deliver personalized educational programs
- Correspond with interested parties to develop and schedule educational programs
- Promote and maintain competitive pricing for programs
- Act as an ambassador and spokesperson for LTWC and its mission as directed by the Executive Director or other organizational leadership

Volunteer Coordination

- Oversee the training and development of volunteers and interns within the education and ambassador program
- Help create and maintain a Wildlife Education Intern Program & Policy Packet
- Supervise volunteers while on shift and provide constructive feedback on an ongoing basis
- Collaborate in developing Ambassador Volunteer Handbook & Guidelines

General Administration

- Maintain timely and professional correspondence with LTWC's staff and volunteers, partners, and the public via phone, email, and in-person interactions
- Assist in creating and refunding invoices for educational programs and events
- Oversee record keeping and preparation of all applications, renewals, and annual reports for agencies related to permits for education

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES:

- Bachelor's degree in animal science, animal husbandry, biology, zoology, fisheries & wildlife science, or a related area
- At least two years of experience handling and training birds of prey and mammals
- Working knowledge approved avian handling/training techniques, with a focus on positive reinforcement/choice-based training.
- Demonstrated commitment to following veterinary standards for quality of life, including the responsible use of euthanasia when an acceptable standard is no longer possible.
- Alignment with LTWC's philosophy on animal husbandry and training, including Position Statements from IAATE and the ABMA.
- Experience with curriculum development
- Strong verbal communication skills.
- Excellent time management skills, detail-oriented, professional, and dependable.
- Successful applicants will be required to pass a background check, including motor vehicle records.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to:

- Must be able to occasionally lift up to 50 lbs
- Must be able to hold a 5-10 lb. bird on the glove for 30 minutes
- Must be able to stand for long periods of time

LTWC will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities as required by applicable law.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES:

- Training and/or certification from the ABMA, IATCB, or a similar organization
- Familiarity or experience working in wildlife education and/or rehabilitation

- Bilingual

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with priority given to those submitted by February 4th, 2024. Please apply via our [online application form](#). Contact info@ltwc.org with any questions.

Studies have shown that women and people of color are less likely to apply for jobs unless they believe they meet every one of the qualifications as described in a job description. We are most interested in finding the best candidate for the job, and that candidate may be one who comes from a less traditional background. We encourage you to apply, even if you don't believe you meet every one of our qualifications described.

Equal Opportunity Employer: We are an equal opportunity employer and value diversity in our organization. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability status.