STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
SUMMER 2011

Behind-the-Scenes Summer Volunteer Program:
The Behind-the-Scenes Volunteer Program (BVP) offers a very limited number of volunteer projects for 16 & 17 year old students over the summer. Work is mostly clerical and is performed behind-the-scenes in Smithsonian offices.

Age requirement: Summer volunteer positions are for 16 and 17 year olds only. Students must be 16 or 17 years of age at the time application is received in BVP.

Duties: Clerical tasks (data entry, filing, scanning, shelving books, answering telephones, sorting mail) in administrative offices or libraries.

Requirements:
• Minimum commitment: 20 hours per week for 8 consecutive weeks.
• Applications must be received by May 15th.

A copy of the application can be found on the Internet at: http://si.edu/Volunteer/Behind-the-Scenes-Volunteer

Parents of minors must complete and sign Parent Consent Form which can be found at: http://www.si.edu/content/pdf/volunteer/parentconsent.pdf. An interview will not be scheduled with the applicant until this completed form arrives in the Behind-the-Scenes Volunteer office.

Once application and a signed “Parent Consent Form” form are received they will be reviewed for possible openings. If suitable openings are found, applicants will be contacted to schedule an in-person interview to discuss skills and interests and review specific volunteer opportunities. **An appointment will not be scheduled with anyone other than the applicant.**

We receive more applications than we have placements. A volunteer placement can’t be guaranteed.

For further information contact:

Behind-the-Scenes Volunteer Program
Smithsonian Institution
202-633-5253
e-mail: bvpvolunteer@si.edu
National Air and Space Museum (NASM)

Discovery Station Volunteer Program:

Discovery Stations at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum are portable "hands-on" interpretation centers which encourage informal learning through looking, discussion, and activities related to aviation, space exploration, astronomy, and planetary geology. Discovery Stations are presented during regular Museum hours throughout the week and on weekends.

**Carts are staffed:** Weekends and weekdays, during summer. Volunteers or Museum staff offer visitors a 3-12 minute immediate, informal, and interactive experience while visiting the world’s most popular museum! Demonstrations are conducted in the following areas, according to gallery themes:

- **From Airmail to Airlines**
- **The History of Air Transportation**
- **Living and Working in Space**
  - Human Space Exploration
- **Maps, Models, and Measuring Devices**
- **Tools of Astronomy**
- **Telescope Power!**
  - Tools of Astronomy
- **Black Holes**
- **Decoding Starlight**
  - Tools of Astronomy
- **WHAT Are You Looking At?**
  - Identifying and Interpreting Satellite Imagery
- **Touch a Falling Star!**
  - The Impact of Meteorites on Earth
- **Kite to Flight**
  - Problem Solving with the Wright Brothers
- **What is a Wing?**
  - Problem Solving with the Wright Brothers

**Age requirement:** 16 or older

Volunteers must be comfortable working with visitors and be able to stand for 20 minutes.

**For further information contact:** Beth Wilson

http://www.nasm.si.edu/getinvolved/volunteer/discovery_station_volunteer.pdf

Phone: 202-633-2548 Email: wilsone@si.edu
Friends of the National Zoo
TEEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Friends of the National Zoo Teen Volunteer Program offers several summer opportunities for teens between 13 and 17 years of age. If you have any questions, please call 202-633-4453.

Class Aide Program
Class Aides assist FONZ teachers during the Summer Safari Day Camp by interacting with children during class activities, helping supervise the class on Zoo walks, and helping with classroom set-up and clean-up. Sessions are one week long (Monday through Friday) and may be full- or half-day.

Age Requirement: 13-15 years old

Special Qualifications: Volunteers in this program must be interested in working with children in grades Kindergarten through 5th, be flexible, have a good imagination and a sense of humor, and be willing to walk the Zoo in Washington’s summer weather.

Time Commitment: One week (Monday through Friday) with a four- or seven-hour shift per day; a minimum of 20 hours.

Training: A mandatory 5-hour weekend training day on May 21 plus independent training activities.

Questions:
Debbi Hanibal
Teen Volunteer Supervisor
hanibald@si.edu
202/633-4453

Senior Class Aide Program
This program is an opportunity for older teens to demonstrate leadership, organization, and interpersonal skills. One Senior Class Aide will be assigned to each teacher to help supervise Class Aides, assist the teacher with lessons, and interact with children, parents, and staff. Sessions are one week long (Monday through Friday) and may be full- or half-day.

Age Requirement: 16-17 years old

Special Qualifications: Volunteers in this program must be interested in working with children in grades Kindergarten through 5th, have good communication and leadership skills, imagination and a sense of humor, be flexible, and be willing to walk the Zoo in Washington’s summer weather.

Time Commitment: One week (Monday through Friday) with a four- or seven-hour shift per day; a minimum of 20 hours.

Training: A mandatory 5-hour weekend training day on May 21 plus independent training activities.

Questions:
Debbi Hanibal
Teen Volunteer Supervisor
hanibald@si.edu
202/633-4453
Exhibit Greeter Program
Exhibit Greeters welcome visitors to the Smithsonian National Zoo at the front doors of the Zoo’s controlled-access buildings at the Invertebrate Exhibit. Using educational tools and objects, along with information acquired during training, volunteers will answer general questions about the Zoo and assigned exhibits, explain the purpose of controlled access, and maintain a tally of the number of visitors entering the exhibits.

Age Requirement: 16-17 years old

Special Qualifications: Volunteers in this program must have good communications skills, the ability and desire to work with people of all ages, the ability to work independently, and have a tolerance for the extremes of Washington’s summer weather.

Time Commitment: Twelve 3-hour shifts; a minimum of 36 hours.

Training: Two mandatory training sessions on June 18 and 25.

Questions:
Debbi Hanibal
Teen Volunteer Supervisor
hanibald@si.edu
202/633-4453

This information is compiled by the Behind-the-Scenes Volunteer Program. If you would like information on long-term assignments at the Smithsonian, please call 202-633-1000 and ask for the booklet Opportunities for Volunteer Service.