

## **Job Title: Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab Director**

Organization: Bisbee Science Exploration & Research Center

Location: Bisbee, Cochise County, Arizona

Employment Type: Full-Time

Application Deadline: November 13th, 2024

### **About Us:**

The Bisbee Science Exploration & Research Center is dedicated to fostering a passion for science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) among K-12 students in Cochise County, Arizona. We achieve this mission through innovative programs, interactive exhibits, and engaging outreach initiatives. The Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab is a key component of our efforts, bringing hands-on STEAM education directly to local schools.

### **Program Overview: Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab**

The Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab is a dynamic and innovative educational program operated by the Bisbee Science Exploration & Research Center. Designed to ignite a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) among K-12 students in Cochise County, Arizona, this program takes hands-on learning directly to local schools.

### **Key Program Features:**

1. **Locally Relevant Exhibits:** The program features locally relevant exhibits that engage students with four different stations, each offering hands-on activities. These exhibits are thoughtfully designed to connect with the unique culture, environment, and interests of Cochise County.
2. **Adaptability for K-8 Settings:** All exhibits and curriculum materials are carefully crafted to be adaptable across a wide range of grade levels. This adaptability ensures that the program can effectively serve diverse age groups. Our current exhibits are geared towards kindergarten to eighth grade students, with a broader goal of reaching high schoolers through advanced learning opportunities.
3. **Pre & Post Materials for Teachers:** In preparation for the program's visit to their school, teachers receive pre and post materials that aid in seamlessly integrating the program into their lesson plans. This support helps educators align the program with their specific learning objectives.
4. **Student Facilitators:** The program fosters student engagement by training high school or other volunteers from each visiting school to facilitate activities at each exhibit station. These student facilitators serve as role models and enhance the learning experience for their peers.
5. **Comprehensive School Visits:** During the program's visits, all students at each school have the opportunity to participate in the interactive exhibits and activities. This inclusive approach ensures that the program reaches a wide audience of students.

6. **Data Collection and Feedback:** To continuously improve the program, surveys are sent to both students and teachers at the end of each visit. These surveys provide valuable feedback, allowing for ongoing refinement of the curriculum and exhibits. Post-activity surveys help measure the long-term impact of the program on student learning and interest in STEAM fields.

The Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab is more than just a traveling educational experience; it's a catalyst for sparking curiosity, creativity, and a love for STEAM disciplines. By providing hands-on, locally relevant exhibits, fostering teacher collaboration, and engaging high school volunteers, this program empowers students to explore the world of STEAM in a meaningful and memorable way. It's a testament to the Bisbee Science Exploration & Research Center's commitment to inspiring the next generation of innovators and problem solvers in Cochise County.

### **Job Description:**

The Mobile Lab Director is a dynamic and highly motivated individual who plays a pivotal role in the planning, execution, and evaluation of BSERC's mobile lab program, Sky Island STEAM Express. This full-time position encompasses a range of responsibilities, including curriculum development, exhibit development and fabrication (or managing fabrication), outreach and coordination with schools, scheduling, marketing, and maintaining partnerships for the program. The Mobile Lab Director works closely with local educators, artists, and experts to develop mobile lab exhibits and then coordinates with schools, organizations, and volunteers to bring this program throughout Cochise County, inspiring and educating K-8 students.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

1. **Curriculum Development:** Collaborate with educators and experts to develop an engaging and age-appropriate STEAM curriculum that aligns with state standards.
2. **Outreach and School Coordination:** Establish and maintain strong relationships with local schools, teachers, and administrators. Coordinate visits to approximately 25 schools each year, taking into consideration the academic calendar.
3. **Exhibit Development:** Dedicate time to the creation and refinement of new exhibits and curriculum materials. Pursue opportunities for exhibit development support. Each exhibit should have 4 stations with related hands-on activities and should accommodate up to 50 students at a time.
4. **Marketing:** Develop and implement marketing strategies to promote the Sky Island STEAM Express Mobile Lab program, reaching a broad audience of students, educators, and community stakeholders.
5. **Partnership Management:** Cultivate and manage partnerships with local educators, content experts, artists, and funders to discuss potential exhibit content and execution, and program sustainability and growth.

6. **Program Delivery:** Oversee the logistics of transporting the mobile lab to schools and ensure all equipment and exhibits are set up properly. Oversee and personally conduct at least 25 site visits each year.
7. **Volunteer/Teacher Training:** Prior to school visits, coordinate the training of site-specific volunteers to ensure they are well-prepared to facilitate exhibit activities effectively. Provide teachers with related pre and post materials.
8. **Budget Management:** Manage and maintain a yearly budget in accordance to funding streams available. Identify potential partnerships and grants to enhance exhibit offerings. Implement fee structures as they are developed.
9. **Data Collection and Reporting:** Maintain accurate records of program activities and outcomes, and prepare reports as required.

The Mobile Lab Director's multifaceted role is essential to the success of the Sky Island STEAM Express program. By overseeing all aspects of exhibit development, coordination, and site visits, they contribute to the continued growth and effectiveness of this dynamic initiative, ultimately inspiring the next generation of STEAM learners in Cochise County.

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in a relevant field (education, science, engineering, etc.).
- Strong background in STEAM education and curriculum development.
- Experience in project management and team leadership.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Flexibility to work evenings and weekends as needed for outreach events.
- Valid driver's license and willingness to travel locally.

**Benefits:**

- Competitive salary commensurate with experience.
- Paid Vacation, Holiday, and Sick Leave.
- Employee Related Expenses are available.
- Opportunities for professional development.
- The chance to make a significant impact on STEAM education in Cochise County.