

Position Description

Position: Telescope Facilitator
Supervisor: Senior Educator for Interpretation
Department: Education

Objective: One of the highlights for many Adler visitors is the chance to see night-sky objects during evening events. Join the team of dedicated Telescope Facilitators and operate telescopes on the Skywatcher's Terrace during ongoing programs such as Adler After Dark and Astro-Overnights as well as during special events on-site and off-site.

Responsibilities:

- Locate and focus telescopes on stars, planets, the moon, nebulae, or skyline buildings.
- Educate Adler visitors about different kinds of telescopes and what objects they see through them.
- Set-up, take down and properly maintain Adler telescopes.
- (Optional) Operate Adler's Doane Observatory telescopes, including a half-meter telescope, after 40+ hours of volunteering.

Qualifications:

- Excellent public-speaking skills for all ages and group sizes
- Must be able to lift 40 lbs. and stand for four-hour shifts
- Must be at least 17 years old
- No prior knowledge required
- Must have an interest in observational astronomy

Training:

Comprehensive training provided on telescope theory, practical observing and public facilitation techniques by an Adler astronomer. Additional training is on-the-job with experienced volunteers.

Commitment:

- Successfully complete a comprehensive training program and certification by an Adler astronomer.
- Commitment to facilitate evening viewing for at least 12 evening events over the course of one year after certifying.