

Daytime Telescope Facilitator Volunteer

The Adler Planetarium is proud to host a team of fantastic telescope volunteers whose goal is to share the sky with our guests. The Adler Planetarium's telescope facilitation program is increasingly popular; indeed, guests come to Adler *specifically* seeking experiences involving telescopes. Come join our wonderful team and you, too, can learn how to bring the heavens alive with telescopes!

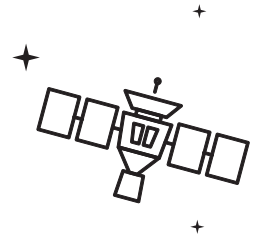
The Adler's mission is ***to inspire exploration and understanding of our Universe***. Our model of guest engagement follows four core values:

- **Empower:** We empower guests to follow their own path of learning.
- **Welcome:** We read our audience to make decisions on how best to facilitate their learning experience. The Adler is a place for everyone.
- **Collaborate:** We respect our guests for who they are and what they know, and we build a collaborative learning environment.
- **Play:** We take our science seriously, but not ourselves. We play with purpose and go out of our way to make guests feel special.

Daytime Telescope Facilitators provide authentic, engaging experiences for our guests, especially opportunities to view the Sun safely through a telescope when the weather permits -- and fun exploratory activities when the weather isn't quite so cooperative.

What do we look for?

- **Volunteers must be 18 or older.**
- We don't need you to have a degree in astronomy. No, really! We will help you become comfortable working with guests of all ages, facilitating activities, and handling some pretty cool telescopes – including telescopes in the Adler's Doane Observatory!
- We love outgoing people who enjoy working with others as part of a team and who are willing to dive into new experiences.
- We need “guides on the side,” not “sages on the stage.” In other words, we facilitate and explore. We don't lecture.
- Our volunteers must be able to lift and move awkwardly-shaped telescopes that weigh up to 40 pounds. Our volunteers also need the ability to reach and navigate around multiple people in tight spaces; move and react quickly, as needed, to assist guests with telescope viewing; and must have the ability to enter and exit the Doane Observatory and utilize the telescopes there via stairs.
- We need a regular commitment. For weekday shifts, volunteers must be able to facilitate a 3-hour shift once per week. We are currently recruiting for the following shifts:
 - Mondays: 10 am – 1 pm or 1 pm – 4 pm
 - Thursdays: 10 am – 1 pm



- Fridays: 10 am – 1 pm
- For weekend shifts, facilitators are required to facilitate a 3-hour shift once every two weeks. We are currently recruiting for the following weekend shifts:
 - Every other Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm or 1 pm – 4 pm
 - Every other Sunday: 10 am – 1 pm or 1 pm – 4 pm
- If you do not see a shift listed above for which you are available, please check back in the future.

Training will consist of:

- Attendance at a general volunteer orientation session.
- Attendance at a telescope training class - how to use a telescope, practical observing techniques, information about the Sun, etc.
- Attendance at a facilitation skills workshop
- Experience shadowing a veteran telescope volunteer or Adler staff member.
- Certification session after all the above are complete.

We ask volunteers in this position to:

- Make a regular commitment to provide telescope observing once a week (weekday volunteers), or every other weekend (weekend volunteers) for 1 year. Guests come here 363 days per year. We're busy on weekends, but we're REALLY busy during holidays, holiday weekends, summertime, and spring break.
- Attend all sessions of a comprehensive training program, and complete the program certification process

Interested? Please apply on our website. We look forward to hearing from you!