



DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
SCIENCE MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA
Richmond, Virginia

Summary of Position The Science Museum of Virginia seeks an experienced, visionary, and collaborative leader to become the next Director of Education. The Science Museum aims to be pre-eminent in informal STEM learning in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Director of Education will become part of a dedicated team within an organization supportive of new ideas and creative risk-taking. Guided by a core belief that compelling science inspires, the Director of Education will be charged with re-invigorating the Education Department and working with the Experience Development Team (Museum scientists and exhibit designers) to create meaningful and impactful learning experiences for a broad audience.

About The Science Museum of Virginia The Museum is a catalyst for inspiration and a place that sparks curiosity and generates ideas. The museum's mission is to inspire Virginians to enrich their lives through science. Housed in the historic John Russell Pope-designed Broad Street Station, the Museum offers experimental and innovative exhibits, programs, and live demonstrations, as well as astronomy presentations in a 76 foot Dome theater. The Museum is an agency of the state of Virginia, which provides 50% of the \$10 million operating budget. The Science Museum of Virginia Foundation is the museum's nonprofit fundraising partner and the steward of a \$15 million endowment. A recently completed capital campaign has allowed the museum to reinstall and refresh its exhibits, the last of which will come online in late 2018. Committed to informal learning which is playful and relevant, the Museum welcomes 400,000 visitors including 80,000 school-aged guests each year.

About Richmond Richmond is the capital of the Commonwealth of Virginia and has a population of 200,000 with 1.27 million in the metropolitan area.

Known for its historic sites and natural beauty, Richmond is a rich and diverse cultural and tourist destination with numerous hiking trails and a vibrant arts and entertainment scene. Richmond is also an economically progressive city at the center of commerce, innovation, and decision-making in the state. Richmond offers the amenities of a large city while maintaining a small-town feel and is accessible to urban areas including Washington, D.C. Part of the fabric of the community, the Science Museum is located adjacent to Scott's Addition, an historic neighborhood undergoing a transformation through the development of housing, restaurants, breweries, and shops.

Responsibilities

The Director of Education, also known as the Director of Playful Learning and Inquiry, will report to the Deputy Director and will be a member of the Museum Leadership Team. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Providing inspirational leadership for a creative, dedicated team of educators including 9 full-time, 15 part-time professional staff, interns, and volunteers, and motivating them to create meaningful learning experiences that are aligned with the priorities and professional standards of the Museum
- Leading the development of educational policy for the Museum and delivering all aspects of education programming including day-to-day operations, curriculum development, outreach education, program assessment and grant writing
- Leading inter-disciplinary cross-departmental teams to create and deliver innovative STEM education programs and content for permanent and travelling exhibits that attract and engage a broad and diverse audience and inspire a desire to learn
- Working with the Marketing Department and the Science Museum of Virginia Foundation staff to raise awareness and funding
- Developing school programs and educational resources
- Cultivating strategic partnerships with educational and nonprofit communities
- Working as a member of the Leadership Team and actively participating in the decision making process for the Museum

**Ideal Candidate
Characteristics**

The ideal candidate will possess the following:

- Ability to provide a vision and inspiration for the Education Department
- A passion for and experience in creating leading edge STEM learning within a science museum
- Expert knowledge of new developments in STEM education
- Positive approach to team building and collaboration
- Experience in managing personnel, budgets, grants, and projects
- Excellent communication skills and diplomacy
- Ability to be proactive and a self-starter
- Playfulness, curiosity, and humility

Experience/Education

A minimum of three years of leadership and management experience in a science museum or center. Possession of a Master's degree in a related field or equivalent experience is required.

Compensation

Compensation is competitive and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. A benefits package will also be provided.

Application Procedure

Individuals applying for this position should send a letter of interest and resume to:

Museum Management Consultants, Inc.
mmc@museum-management.com

Position is open until filled.