~Canal Ambassador ~
2023

Work Title: Canal Ambassador
Duration Desired: All year round
Work Days: Flexible
Annual Hours Sought: Minimum of 20 hours/year
Compensation: $17.50/hour
Employment Status: Independent Contractor

Applicants must be at least 16 years old.

High Line Canal
An extraordinary feat of engineering now nearly 140 years old, the 71-mile-long Canal is outliving its historic function as an irrigation utility and has taken on new life as a recreational resource and green stormwater infrastructure. As the Canal transitions from its historic purpose, the High Line Canal Conservancy (Conservancy) is faced with an urgent need to move forward critical enhancements and stewardship that bolster community resiliency and environmental health.

High Line Canal Conservancy
The Conservancy is a nonprofit organization with the mission to preserve, protect and enhance the High Line Canal in partnership with the public. Since its formation in 2014, the Conservancy has partnered with the Canal’s owner, Denver Water, and the 11 jurisdictions it traverses to lead an unprecedented outreach and planning initiative that has led to the current focus to improve the Canal through capital projects and community programs. With engagement from over 5,000 stakeholders and invaluable initial support from GOCO, the Conservancy created the nationally award-winning Community Vision Plan for the High Line Canal (The Vision Plan, 2017) and The Plan for the High Line Canal (The Plan, 2019).

The Plan lays out clear guidance for re-purposing the historic Canal, improving the health of people and the environment, and increasing accessibility and enjoyment for generations to come. With over 100 recommended projects, The Plan is guiding the work of the Conservancy and the local governments along the Canal to prioritize work in under-resourced neighborhoods with less access to quality park space. In support of this work, the Conservancy also leads a series of volunteer, stewardship and environmental education programs that support the development of young and diverse environmental leaders with over 500 unique participants to date.

In order to implement relevant enhancements and foster community-driven programs, the Conservancy is committed to developing a deeper level of engagement within the communities along the northeast portion of the trail in NE Denver and Aurora where the Canal is underutilized and, historically, has lacked investment in the corridor. With funding from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) through their Resilient Communities program, the Conservancy has the opportunity to improve community vitality, advance equitable access and increase stewardship of the Canal in this challenging yet urgent time.

Learn more about the Canal and the Conservancy at www.highlinecanal.org.
Work Desired

A Canal Ambassador will work with the Conservancy staff, partners, volunteers, and community members to support our on-the-ground programs, events and community outreach and engagement. This person will serve as a liaison between the Conservancy and their community.

Community Outreach and Engagement Programs

- Attend and support staff at outreach engagements, including tabling on the Canal to help recruit event participants and spread awareness about the Conservancy.
  - Set up a table at multiple locations along the Canal to engage with Canal users and the local community
- Support recreational and educational community programs along the Canal, such as community walks
- Help coordinate and execute community events on the Canal
- Participate in COVID-19 safe jurisdictional and community events to engage with Canal communities and share project and program updates, and recruit supporters and volunteers
- Recruit community members to participate in all programs and provide input for trail projects
- Disseminate trail use and enhancements surveys to gather feedback for Neighborhood Canal Improvement projects
- Distribute flyers and install signs as needed to promote events or Canal happenings
- Assist with promoting the new Share the Trail campaign to encourage trail etiquette around various recreational uses.

Programs and Event Administration

- Meet in-person or virtually with Conservancy staff, volunteers and other partners as needed to coordinate logistics for programs and events
- Send emails and make phone calls to schools, local community organizations and community members
- Complete errands, such as food pick-up, deliveries, post office runs, and office supply purchases (Optional)

Qualifications

- A member of a Northeast Denver or North Aurora community, or deeply connected to these communities
- Demonstrates an understanding of and commitment to the long-term mission and value of the Conservancy
- A passion for connecting people in diverse communities to nature and to each other
- An understanding of or desire to learn about the importance of community involvement in designing and enhancing public open spaces
- Adaptability: Demonstrates a willingness to be flexible and versatile
- Ability to work independently and cooperatively with various partners
- Self-motivated and highly organized with the ability to multi-task
- Excellent communication skills
- Available to work during evenings and weekends as needed
- Spanish language skills (not required)
- Minimum 20 hours per year
- Must complete Corps Leader and Canal Ambassador Orientation and the Canal Ambassador Training

Application Instructions

Please complete this online Canal Ambassador Contract Work Application.

Application Deadline: None

The Conservancy is dedicated to the principles of equal opportunity for all employees, applicants, volunteers, program and event participants, trail users and visitors, partners, and other organizational stakeholders. We prohibit unlawful discrimination and harassment based on age, race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, disability, military status, genetic information, native language, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, gender, veteran status, political service, and affiliation or any other status protected by applicable state or local law. This prohibition includes unlawful harassment based on any of these protected classes. Unlawful harassment includes verbal or physical conduct which has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual’s work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. This policy applies to all employees, including managers, supervisors, co-workers and non-employees such as customers, clients, vendors, consultants, etc.