SOUTH AFRICA - SCI-BONO DISCOVERY CENTRE

Number of Placements: 2

Placement Site: Johannesburg, South Africa

URL: www.sci-bono.co.za

**Field/Subject Area:**

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria

**Position Description:**

Science Communicators promote awareness and understanding of mathematics, science, technology and engineering. They act as hosts and guides to school learners and other members of the public that visit the Centre. Science Communicators assist in developing and running various programs and activities in the centre or as part of the centre's school support outreach program. Science Communicators are sometimes also expected to run science shows and workshops and also assist in exhibit management and maintenance when a need arises.

**Tasks/Duties**

* Emasondosondo (High school and outreach program) - join the outreach team to teach mathematics and physical science
* Exhibitory (signs, development) - assist with developing new signage and exhibition guides based on the interactive exhibits
* Science communication - mediate or explain the science behind the centre exhibits as and when the visitors visit the centre on a daily basis

Expected work hours: 8 hours per day, 5 days a week (May include Saturdays and Sundays depending on the work scheduled and the centre program)

Preferred starting date: May 1

**Qualifications/skills required:**

* Interpersonal skills: must be able to work in a team / good communication ability / adaptable to various situations and circumstances
* Computer skills: Web design / Database development
* Scientific skills: must have a good knowledge of their scientific field
* Basic presentation skills
* Background in Science, Mathematics and ICT is important.
* Ability to teach and communicate science.
* Knowledge of the history and current affairs of South Africa, especially Johannesburg

**Language requirements:**

English

**Highlights of Organization/background information:**

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre, Gauteng’s exciting new Science Centre and the largest in Africa, is a uniquely crafted edutainment destination for learners, educators, families, companies, and tourists to interactively participate in exciting and fun-filled activities and structured learning programs in mathematics, science and technology. The underlying principle that governs our work is that our economy cannot grow sufficiently until we have developed the scientific, mathematical and technological capacity of the people we serve.

Initiated by the Gauteng Department of Education and private sector representatives, Sci-Bono aims to support education in mathematics, science and technology to improve public engagement with science, engineering and technology and to promote career education in these critical areas of the economy.

Located in the old Electric Workshop building in the cultural precinct of Newtown, Johannesburg, the Centre provides an accessible teaching and learning environment with “hands-on” exhibits, science stage shows and innovative workshops that demonstrate a variety of scientific and mathematical concepts. In addition, there are a range of structured learning programs that complement the school curriculum, teacher development programs, the development of educational resources and a career development project supported by a separate unit within the science centre. The primary aim is to significantly contribute to the improvement in performance, assist with career development and, generally, to develop greater proficiency in Maths, Science, Technology and Engineering (MSTE).