

# SCI-BONO DISCOVERY CENTRE

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**Number of Placements: 2**

**Location:** Johannesburg, South Africa

**URL:** <http://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 programme and activities in the centre or as part of the centre's school support outreach programme. Science Communicators are sometimes also expected to run science shows and workshops and also assist in exhibit management and maintenance when a need arises.

## **Specific tasks will include:**

- Emasondosondo (High school and outreach programme): joining the outreach team to teach mathematics and physical science
- Exhibitory (signs, development): assisting with developing new signage and exhibition guides based on the interactive exhibits
- Science communication: mediating or explaining the science behind the centre exhibits as and when the visitors visit the centre on a daily basis.

**Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.**

**Expected work hours:** 8 hours, Monday to Friday (this may include Saturdays and Sundays depending on and work scheduled and the centre's programmes)

**Preferred start date:** Beginning of May

## **Qualifications/skills required:**

- Interpersonal skills: must be able to work in a team with good communication skills and must be adaptable to situations and circumstances.
- Computer skills: Microsoft Office Suite, web design and database development (optional)
- Scientific skills: In-depth knowledge of your scientific field and a broad knowledge of other scientific disciplines
- Basic Presentation skills:
- Background in Science, Mathematics and ICT is an asset.
- Understanding of the history and current affairs of South Africa, especially Johannesburg.

## **Language requirements:**

Fluent English

## **Highlights of Organization/background information:**

Sci-Bono Discovery Centre is an interactive science centre situated in Johannesburg, South Africa. It is the largest of its kind in Africa and is a uniquely crafted destination for children, educators, families, companies, and tourists to interactively participate in exciting activities and structured learning programmes in mathematics, science and technology. We believe that it is important to develop the scientific, mathematical and technological capacity of South Africans in order to create a better life for all and to grow our economy.

The discovery centre was 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 shows and innovative workshops that demonstrate a variety of scientific and mathematical concepts. In addition, there are a range of structured learning programmes that complement the school curriculum, teacher development programmes, 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).