JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Gardener, Island Garden
Written By: Janet Heter and Tabitha Schmidt
Position Reports to (Title): Director of Horticulture
Effective Date: August 2017
Department: Horticulture

1. Position Summary

The Island Garden is the garden centerpiece located at the heart of Powell Gardens’ maintained property. The highest quality and execution should be focused on design, maintenance, development, installation and supervision of the various Island Garden areas, providing the visitor with impactful moments and positive first impressions at Powell Gardens. This position is responsible for overall horticultural display and maintenance of the Island Garden’s water garden, living wall plants, shrub beds, prairie, award-winning perennials, seasonal sunken garden beds, floral and aquatic container gardens and Goose Island.

2. Essential Functions

Island Garden and Goose Island

Display
- Design and implementation of innovative displays in the assigned beds and water garden areas.
- Implement thoughtful strategies for garden maintenance allowing for the least amount of impact to the visitor experience.

Collection Care
- Coordinate and communicate with the Horticulturalist, Collections on the care and maintenance of the aquatic collection.

Garden Maintenance
- Care of the display beds, living wall, shrub beds, prairie, aquatic pools, container gardens and Goose Island including weeding, mulching, watering, planting and general maintenance.

Pest and Disease Management
- Identify and manage any plant, pests and diseases
- Work with greenhouse staff to implement protocols to manage pests and diseases as required

Facilities Maintenance
- Working with the Director of Horticulture and maintenance staff, proactively assess structural integrity and equipment needs of the Island Garden specifically, but not solely
related to the irrigation, pump filtration, and structural elements of the Island Garden such as the wall, arbors, docks and bridges.

- Inspect and communicate concerns and needs in a timely manner allowing enough lead time to manage issues

Volunteers/Interns

- Provide direction and support for all volunteers and interns in your area
- Evaluate volunteers and interns as required
- Ensure volunteers/interns are properly trained and utilizing best practices in the Gardens

3. Sphere of Responsibility

Supervises:
- Interns
- Volunteers

4. Internal and External Contacts

Internal:
All levels of staff and volunteers

External:
Vendors, donors, Board members, visitors, members, contractors

5. Consequence of Error

In the center of Powell Gardens, the Island Garden and core Gardens are at the heart of the visitor experience. The overall quality and presentation of these gardens often provides the visitor with their first impression. The inability to maintain the quality of these Gardens and provide proper leadership to those who are maintaining them will affect the overall visitor experience, donor cultivation and community support. High standards must be upheld in all areas under this position. Advocacy and problem-solving are the key to success for this position.

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<tr>
<th>6. Experience/Education Education</th>
<th>Bachelor’s Degree in Horticulture, Plant Sciences or related field</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience</td>
<td>3-5 Years in a botanical garden or similar field; preferred experience with aquatic gardens</td>
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<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Operate necessary equipment such as tillers, other garden equipment and vehicles. Must obtain certified non-commercial applicator’s (pesticide license) and valid driver’s license</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
<td>Written and oral communication skills Public speaking and training as required Timely and organized</td>
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Core Competencies
7. Physical Requirements/Work Environment
Must be able to lift 50lbs; accomplish strenuous work on an ongoing basis in various conditions, including extreme heat and cold; willingness to don waders and enter the garden pools; must have dexterity and be able to groom plants and prune with speed and accuracy; ability to work evenings, holidays and weekends as required.

Disclaimer Statement:

Every effort has been made to make your job description as complete as possible. However, this position description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee occupying this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related instructions and to perform any other duties requested by their department supervisor.

Accepted
By: ________________________________ Date: _________________