

# Astonished! Summer Arts and Recreation Leader Employment Opportunity Overview (2024)

**Background Information**

The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished Inc. (Astonished!) is a registered non-profit charity based in Regina, Saskatchewan. We work in an **inclusive community** to address barriers facing young adults with complex physical disAbilities (Core Members) by creating opportunities for teaching and learning; social, recreational and cultural engagement; and for employment and housing.

*Astonished Teaching and Learning Centre*

A!TLC is a place where young adults with complex physical disAbilities become Student Researchers. Unique opportunities are designed around their particular strengths, dreams (interests), and needs. Program content, consisting of individual and group activities, is fluid. Each semester we work together to identify common interests for group-based activities. Astonished! staff support each Student Researcher to determine and navigate a program PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope) unique to them. Individual program content is then designed around each Student Researcher’s PATH and identified strengths, dreams, and needs. Some examples of Student Researcher dreams include ‘becoming a fiction and non-fiction writer’, ‘learning new things to help me move forward in my life’, ‘being part of the university life’, ‘teaching others about the experience of disAbility’ and ‘increasing social and recreational opportunities’.

In addition, Student Researchers are leaders and work with the University community in research and teaching. They develop and deliver presentations and workshops about disAbility and inclusion. Student Researchers partner with University of Regina Academic Staff to conduct and participate in research. At the A! TLC we welcome University of Regina student volunteers and placement students. We seek out and welcome opportunities to teach others about disAbility.

The program runs 1:00pm-4:00pm at the University of Regina on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday September - June

*Astonished! Literacy Program Overview*

A summer program designed to explore and respond to the literacy strengths, dreams, and needs of Astonished! Core Members. Program content is shaped by the strengths, dreams, and needs of each participant. Example content includes traditional literacy as well as numeracy, technology (iPad skills, social media, apps etc.) financial literacy and health literacy.

Based on the strengths, dreams, and needs expressed, program participants will be offered individualized opportunities, group opportunities, or a combination of both. The program will be comprised of approximately 16 sessions with each session running from 1:00pm-4:00pm at the University of Regina (Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in July and August).

*Other*

In addition, summer staff will support the Big Sky Summer Adventure Program and the Social Club. Both programs consist of recreational/leisure based activities scheduled once a week (Big Sky Summer Adventure Program) or once a month (Social Club) in the evening and /or weekends.

Summer staff will also be expected to set up social visits with the Astonished Core Members, tend to the Astonished garden and participate in fundraising activities.

# Responsibilities

* Work collaboratively with the Astonished! Program Coordinator, summer staff, and key volunteers to plan, implement, and evaluate the summer literacy program, Big Sky Summer Adventure Program and the Social Club
* Research existing literacy programs/resources and report findings to the Astonished! Program Advisory Committee
* Assess local literacy resources available to Astonished! members
* Based on the tasks identified above, make future programming recommendations to the Astonished! Program Advisory Committee
* Attend planning and debriefing meetings as needed
* Seek out and apply to various funding sources and participate in summer fundraisers
* Plan and implement an end of program celebration to highlight and celebrate successes

# Requirements

* Be eligible for the Canada Summer Games Job Grant
* Preference will be given to candidates enrolled in education, social work, kinesiology, nursing or a speech language program
* Interest in and commitment to working in an inclusive community to address barriers facing young adults with complex physical disAbilities
* Commitment to build inclusive community
* Kind, compassionate, and caring
* Criminal record check
* First Aid / CPR
* Able to travel to a variety of locations in Regina
* Preference will be given to candidates who are familiar with functional literacy and program design/evaluation
* Previous experience working with young adults with complex physical disAbilities is an asset

# Terms and Conditions:

*Time Frame*:

June 3rd - August 23rd 2024

*Wage:*

$15.00/hr

The Board of The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished! Inc. is not liable for any injury to or loss suffered by the employee of this contract.

*Support, Mentoring and Supervision*

The employee will be mentored and supervised by the Executive Director and Program Coordinator. This employee will work closely with the Program Coordinator and key volunteers.