

## Greenway Volunteer Program

### *Play Ambassador*

#### Position Overview

The Greenway's seven water features, outstanding organic spaces and one-of-a-kind carousel make the parks an ideal location to promote and create playful experiences. Through youth group visits, open-ended play sessions, unique play equipment and the inherent fun of our parks, the play program welcomes and engages visitors of all ages. This volunteer role is a unique opportunity to support and learn from a cutting-edge, urban, outdoor play program.

Play Ambassadors interact with children and adult visitors, providing guidance, activities, and information about The Greenway. We are looking for people who are passionate about playability and public spaces, and are willing to work with a team to create meaningful experiences for park patrons. This position is moderately structured with set shifts and responsibilities, and includes a range of opportunities and experiences.



#### Responsibilities

Play Ambassador responsibilities include:

- Acting as a friendly, knowledgeable and approachable presence at our play sessions and events
- Engaging visitors with on-site activities and general Greenway information
- Completing measureable observations and visual reporting for inclusion in play reports
- Prompt and professional communication with the Play Coordinator, attendance at trainings, and understanding of the provided information about The Greenway and our programs
- Occasional opportunity to design and implement activities
- Working with Art Ambassadors and the Curatorial Assistant to provide information about our public art pieces and art-related activities

#### Qualifications

- Interest in playable cities, community engagement, public spaces, informal education, childhood development, pop-up play, visitor communication, urban livability, and related fields
- Excellent communication skills and a willingness to engage with park visitors, especially children
- Friendly, approachable, and professional demeanor and commitment to providing a positive experience for our park guests
- Knowledge of other languages a plus, especially Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Spanish as languages we frequently encounter at our play sessions
- Ability to work outside in a variety of weather types, to move equipment including a rolling kiosk and program materials, and to stand for a period of time
- Ability to commit to a set schedule of shifts; we can accommodate longer-term commitments (3+ months) with a minimum of six hours per month or shorter-term commitments (2-3 months) with a weekly commitment of hours

- All volunteers must complete a general orientation as well as specialized and periodic training, and must follow our volunteer policies at all times
- Must have email and internet access, as this will be the primary means of scheduling and communication

### **Benefits**

- Further develop public education skills as part of an innovative, urban and outdoor play program
- Gain education knowledge and experience to support career development
- Be a part of a great team of Play Ambassadors and interact with Greenway staff and partners
- Participate in the benefits of the Greenway volunteer program, including a summer Volunteer and Member picnic, a t-shirt, and other training and event opportunities depending on accumulated volunteer hours
- Opportunity to gain college credit and/or fulfill community service requirements, when applicable

### **Details**

This position reports to Katherine Levesque, the Play Coordinator and works closely with Keelin Purcell, Volunteer and Education Manager. We will rely primarily on set shift schedules that provide volunteer coverage during busy times of the week and allow us to consistently advertise the times when we have play activities available. There will also be some special shifts that will support a range of activities and performances.

Play Ambassadors will primarily be needed from May through early October and assignments may shift throughout this season as weather changes and new opportunities arise. We can accommodate longer-term commitments (3+ months) with a minimum of six hours per month or shorter-term commitments (2-3 months) with a weekly commitment of hours. We are also willing to work with volunteers who would like to take on a larger number of shifts and create a professional experience suitable for college credit.

Volunteers will be provided with and asked to wear a t-shirt identifying them as a Play Ambassador. Otherwise we ask that volunteers wear casual but professional clothing appropriate for the outdoors.

### **About the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy**

The Conservancy is the designated steward of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, a mile-and-a-half of contemporary parks in the heart of Boston that connect people and the city with beauty and fun. The non-profit Conservancy maintains, programs, and improves the Greenway on behalf of the public and in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### **Application Process**

Recruitment for 2017 will open in January and volunteers will be interviewed on a rolling basis as volunteers are needed. Training sessions will happen several times in the spring and early summer and preference is given to volunteers that can commit to these. To apply, please fill out the online Play Ambassador application available on our website. [www.rfkgc.org/volunteer](http://www.rfkgc.org/volunteer)