SMoVP Design Director Job Description

Job Title: Science Museum of Vedic Planetarium Design Director

Department: Design and Exhibits

Reports To: Project Director

Job Summary: The Design Director at the Science Museum of Vedic Planetarium holds a key leadership role in the conceptualization and realization of the museum's design and exhibits. As the museum transitions from concept design to schematic and final design phases, the Design Director will ensure the integration of Vedic principles with state-of-the-art exhibition design. The Design Director will collaborate closely with both the Science & Content and Art Committees to create engaging, educational, and immersive spaces that reflect the museum's unique identity.

Key Responsibilities: Lead the design team in developing schematic and final designs that align with the museum's vision and the project director's strategic direction.

Collaborate with the Science & Content Committee and the Art Committee to ensure the designs meet educational objectives while maintaining aesthetic integrity.

Supervise and mentor the Design Manager and other design staff, fostering creativity and innovation within the team.

Oversee the production of design documents, drawings, and specifications for new exhibits and installations.

Coordinate with external consultants, including architects, multimedia specialists, and lighting designers, to integrate their work into the museum's design.

Manage the design budget, ensuring resources are allocated effectively and costs are controlled.

Stay abreast of the latest trends and technologies in museum design to propose cutting-edge solutions for exhibits.

Ensure that all designs comply with accessibility standards and promote an inclusive visitor experience.

Lead the design review process with stakeholders, incorporating feedback to refine and enhance the final product.

Work with the Construction Manager to ensure that the designs are feasible and can be translated into physical spaces effectively and safely.

Qualifications: Bachelor's or Master's degree in Design, Architecture, Interior Design or Museum Design or related field.

Minimum of 8 years of experience in design leadership, preferably within a museum or similar cultural institution.

Ability to independently design the museum translating of science and vedic concepts into practical visitor experiences.

Must believe the Design Consultant to be an extended arm of his own team so that he can ride the consultant team to success.

Strong portfolio demonstrating expertise in exhibition design and a deep understanding of narrative and thematic development.

Proficient in design software such as AutoCAD, SketchUp, Adobe Creative Suite, and other relevant tools.

Excellent leadership, team management, and interpersonal skills. Exceptional visual, written, and verbal communication skills.

Knowledge of Vedic culture and aesthetics is highly desirable to ensure that designs reflect the museum's thematic core.

Experience in managing budgets and schedules in a design context. Key Acumen: Ability to bridge abstract theoretical theology ideas with tangible visitor experiences. Design problem solving. Must keen eye for detail and must not be satisfied unless the design reaches it level of world class excellence.

Working Conditions: Office-based role with regular visits to the museum site, workshops, and where the exhibits are being fabricated. Occasional travel may be required for research, vendor visits, or professional development.

Compensation: Competitive salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Benefits package including health insurance, retirement plans, and continuing education opportunities.