

MEMPHIS



BOTANIC  
GARDEN

Home of the  
Goldsmith Civic Garden Center

### **Job Title: Children's Garden Horticulturist**

Memphis Botanic Garden is a 96-acre garden in the heart of urban Memphis featuring 30 display gardens and a wide array of educational programming and community events. The Garden is currently seeking applicants for the position of a horticulturist to work in My Big Backyard (MBBY), our children's garden.

The successful applicant should be a self-starter and comfortable working hands-on with other staff and volunteers. They would be comfortable working in immediate proximity to children and families and answering questions regarding the horticulture exhibits. They will work together with the Horticulture and Education teams to create a space that not only showcases the beauty of the plants but also allows guests to have a meaningful experience in the space.

**Type:** Full Time / Hourly

**Reports to:** Director of Horticulture

#### **Primary Responsibilities:**

- Maintenance and care of the garden space. This includes all aspects of landscape care including but not limited to: weeding, mulching, watering, pruning, planting, assessing plant health and needs, annual flower arrangements, seasonal garden design, and planting using creative elements and techniques while developing related visitor experiences.
- Ensuring the high standard of excellence for the visitor's experience in MBBY. This includes being able to understand and see the garden as a whole from the guest experience perspective and the ability to address safety issues, to maintain appearance, and to develop new and existing exhibits and hands-on experiences.
- Landscape/maintenance tasks important to the preservation, protection and transplanting of existing plants; including but not limited to soil preparation, planting, mulching, weeding, watering, fertilization, irrigation, and pesticide application.
- Collaborating with Education, Horticulture, and Event staff to expand and develop next level programming and install displays for seasonal exhibits, special events, and educational programming.
- Developing and executing hands-on experiences for guests visiting MBBY including increasing afterschool and weekend family programs.
- Coordinating and communicating with Garden Staff on any projects or repairs that need additional support.
- Assisting with a variety of Horticulture Department projects such as new installations, seasonal plant sales, and other events and educational programming.

**Education/Experience:**

- B.S. from an accredited institution in Horticulture or related discipline; OR A.A. in Horticulture or related field with at least two years related experience and/or training in a commercial nursery, greenhouse, or landscaping environment; OR equivalent experience
- Minimum three years of hands-on, relevant horticultural work experience required

**Knowledge:**

- Plant characteristics, light, water, growth environments, and temperature requirement
- Pest control
- Planting techniques
- Pruning techniques
- Classes of plant material (annuals, perennials, biennials, bulbs, woody, etc.)

**Skills/Abilities:**

- Ability to prepare soil and planting beds
- Ability to work effectively with staff and volunteers in the planting and maintenance of Garden displays
- Ability to use rototillers, weed eaters, push mowers, and other tools in the planting and maintenance of gardens
- Ability to plant various plants and maintain trees, shrubs, flowers, and other plants
- Ability to read, understand, and interpret planting directions, safety manuals, and simple correspondence and directions
- Ability to use math in simple calculations such as chemical proportions
- Ability to identify and resolve simple problems
- Adherence to all health and safety guidelines

**Attributes:**

- Customer service oriented
- Detail oriented
- Passionate about plants
- Willing to engage with visiting children and families
- Must be humble, teachable, and servant hearted.
- You will be part of a team and the ability to be positive, work ahead, and get along with co-workers is a must!

**Physical Requirements:**

- Ability to stand for long periods of time
- Ability to stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, climb, balance
- May be required to perform tasks at varying heights requiring ladders
- Hearing and visual acuity including close, distance, color, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus
- Ability to lift/move up to 10 pounds regularly, frequently up to 50 pounds

**Typical Working Conditions:**

- Regularly works outdoors in both hot and cold conditions
- Frequently exposed to wet and/or humid conditions
- Occasionally exposed to risk of fumes, airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals
- Often exposed to loud noise levels

**Special Requirements:**

- Must submit to and pass a background check and drug screening.
- Schedule would be either Tuesday – Saturday or Monday – Friday, with flexibility to change when needed including a seasonal change of hours. *You will be required to work some Saturdays for this position.*

Compensation is commensurate with education, skills, and experience. Full benefits package offered.

If interested, email resume and cover letter to [daniel.grose@membg.org](mailto:daniel.grose@membg.org)