TRAINED OPPORTUNITY

JOB DESCRIPTION

*Job title:* Junior aquarist  
*Type of offer:* traineeship  
*Status:* part-time (30 hours/week)  
*Work Days:* Varies, may be required to work weekends and holidays.  
*Work Hours:* 8.30 am - 3:30 pm

COMPANY

*Name of enterprise:* Panaque srl  
*Place of work:* Aquarium of Cala Gonone – 08022 Cala Gonone (NU), Sardinia, Italy  
*Department at company:* Aquariological department

PLACEMENT OFFER DETAILS

*Contact Person/Tutor at placement:* Angela Pira  
*Role at the company:* Aquarium curator  
*Telephone:* 0039 3477705874  
*E.mail:* acquariologia@acquariocalagonone.it

DURATION

Minimum 60 days  
*Period:* any period of the year

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE TRAINEESHIP

*Description of host organization and place of work:*  
Panaque srl is a company with 20 years of experience in designing, supplying, start up and management of life support systems for aquatic organisms. The Aquarium of Cala Gonone, which is managed by Panaque srl since 2010, hosts several marine, freshwater and terrestrial species, both mediterranean and exotic. It is opened to the public from April to October and at Christmas (26/12-6/01). It is situated in the gulf of Orosei, in a beautiful setting very near to the sea.

*Trainee's tasks:*  
Assist the displays team with the management and oversight of all husbandry while ensuring a consistently high standard of animal care and displays presentation throughout all public and behind the scenes areas. Provide daily care of animal exhibits including diet preparation, feeding, zooplantiont culturing, animal observation and general care and maintenance of aquatic exhibits (cleaning and basic operations on life support systems) in accordance with
established protocols. Assist with specimen transports, water quality testing, quarantine, treatment of fish disease and general housekeeping.

**Knowledge, skills and competences to be acquired by the trainee at the end of the traineeship:**
The trainee will carry out the internship in the aquariological department of a public aquarium. He/she will develop practical skills on the management, feeding requirements, health and wellness of all the organisms held in the aquarium, learning to recognize emergency conditions related to animal health and safety and to implement an immediate response with a sense of urgency. He/She will be involved in all aspects of general care and maintenance of aquatic exhibits in accordance with established protocols, learning the basics of the work in a zoological garden. The trainee will be part of a team, which will improve his collaborative attitude, his organization capacities and boost his problem solving skills.

**Monitoring plan:**
The aquariological staff will work side by side and support the trainee in all the tasks he/she will be asked to carry out. A good autonomy in the fulfilment of the daily routine is expected to be acquired within the first two weeks of work. More complex issues will be approached as the trainingship proceeds. An accurate supervision of his work along with his feedbacks on the work experience will allow to meet both staff's and trainee's needs.

**Evaluation plan:**
At the end of the trainingship the supervisor will evaluate the competences acquired by the trainee: autonomy and organizational skills, problem solving capacities, integration in the team, eye for the detail, inclination to work with animals.

**CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:**
- Motivation and a real interest in the job
- English: level B2
- Enrollment in a Bachelor’s degree in biology, life Sciences or related fields
- Preferred: basic knowledge of systematics
- Preferred: Italian level A1
- Must be able to work on a team, as well as function individually with little supervision when necessary
- Must be able to lift and carry fifty (50) pounds, work on uneven and slippery surfaces, withstand temperatures of hot and cold, and stand for long periods of time when necessary

**TO APPLY**
Please send an email to acquariologia@acquariocalagonone.it