MISSISSIPPI RIVER ADVENTURE (MRA) 2015

JOB DESCRIPTION: CAMP COUNSELOR

ABOUT MRA:
Mississippi River Adventure is an enrichment program that is designed to motivate students for success at the secondary and post-secondary level. Your participation as residence hall staff and activities aide is to help motivate students and help them develop skills and attitudes that will serve them well in high school and college. You will be a friend, guide, and teacher, but most of all a model for the students.

Important to the success of the program is the development of the students both intellectually and emotionally. Your position demands a personal response to the individual, day-to-day needs of the students. You will be personally and professionally involved in the lives of the students and staff. In the residence hall, during activities and while camping you will be interacting with students and staff 24-7! This will require care, concern, and respect for yourself and others.

It is your responsibility to maintain the rules, structures, and objectives of the program. You will do this by modeling respect for them and in part by talking privately with a student about any specific behavior that is dangerous, disruptive, or disrespectful. Guide a student to analyze the effect of his/her behavior, to look for options, and to choose his/her subsequent behavior based on the analysis. The discipline committee or the entire staff will decide consequences for serious or recurring behavior, when necessary, during a scheduled staff meeting.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
1) Attend and participate in ALL scheduled staff meetings, training sessions, and camp activities.
2) Develop rapport and be understanding of students, especially those in your own residence hall area.
3) Serve as aide in classroom and activities as assigned. You are expected to be proactive (see, and then do, what needs to be done) and a leader and role model regarding all activities and especially camping “choirs”, set-up, pick-up, meals, lights-out/quiet hours, morning wake-up, etc.
4) Provide discipline and direction for individual students or groups of students consistent with program rules and guidelines.
5) Provide support and encouragement to students by being aware and empathetic to their personal needs and concerns.
6) Report any infraction of the rules regarding: drugs, alcohol, or aggressive behavior to the director orally and in a written incident report.
7) Attend meals and supervise students during waking hours--including meal times and their optional times as assigned.
8) Prepare, organize, and lead small group meetings.
9) Maintain observation notes on students assigned to you.
10) Participate in the program evaluation after the program ends.

ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS

As with any job, there are certain responsibilities and expectations. Please realize that:

1) The Mississippi River Adventure is a physically demanding program. You will be camping, canoeing, hiking, participating in group initiatives and the ropes course, and will be outside in summer temperatures. You must be willing to lead by example and participate in all activities to your ability and encourage the students to do the same.
2) Participation is not a choice, but rather is **required**. We believe in “challenge by choice” for pre-college participants. This means that students will have input and, ultimately, veto power over the level they choose to challenge themselves. However, **everyone is required to participate on some level**.

**RENUMERATION**

Staff for the Mississippi River Summer Adventure are paid a lump sum of $800 for five training/preparation days (July 13-17) and the two weeks of camp (July 20 – August 1). Staff will be provided room, or camping amenities, and board between July 13th and August 2.

**Application deadline:** March 12, 2015 by 5 pm

**Apply Online**

**Questions can be directed to:** Monica Yang, (608) 785-8225, myang@uwlax.edu