



Exhibit Coordinator Designer—Science Museum

SALARY RANGE (2018): \$60,000–\$85,00

As an exhibit designer I really like making things and seeing how ideas can come to life. I am responsible for creating displays that are meant to capture attention and direct focus; for example, as an exhibit designer working for a science museum, I may create an environment that helps a person understand how something works. I must stay up to date with relevant trends and techniques, as well as have a good understanding of how people learn things. At times, I may collaborate in meetings with peers and work with colleagues to share ideas. I may also work with consultants.

The Tip: Build a portfolio of diverse credentials. Together, these will make you both unique and valuable.

PRIORITY KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Management Skills

- Manage the design process
- Manage multiple workflows
- Develop and implement program schedules
- Manage budget and financial issues
- Act in a responsible manner with regard to the needs of people, their communities, and society as a whole

Research & Insights Skills

- Formulate focused and practical research questions
- Develop and execute qualitative research including observation, interviews and text analysis
- Develop and execute quantitative research including large data-set statistical analysis
- Apply a deep knowledge of human behaviour to understand usability

Communication Skills

- Translate content into meaningful information
- Apply content management strategy
- Conduct user testing
- Use specialized software to prepare, edit and distribute content across multiple

Design Skills

- Build prototypes out of variety of materials
- Critique and improve design artifacts.
- Use current digital design tools

Additional Job-Specific Skills

- Lead and manage exhibit design projects utilizing information design theories, practices and methods

Core Transferable Skills

Be an expert at all core transferable skills:

- Thinking skills
- Communications skills
- Organizational skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Technical literacy

BUILDING BLOCK EXPERIENCES:

<p>Education & Learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bachelor of Communications (information design) with a minor in anthropology ● Professional Project Management certification via the Project Management Institute 	<p>My love of science and engaging spaces made me think about the people who make those exhibits for a living. When I realized I could create these learning spaces, I started looking for the education I'd need to do it.</p>
<p>Employment Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summer job with tourism bureau while in university ● Did my work term with TELUS Spark science museum ● Recruited to lead all content curation at large science museum. 	<p>I needed to understand how stories are sourced and told, so I leveraged university to learn how to curate content to drive engagement. I then sought jobs in organizations to allow me to apply my skills in experience design, user experience and wayfinding. What I do every day is the intersection of what I'm good at, what I love to do and making a living. My test for a job is simple—would I do what I do every day for free?</p>
<p>Community Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I'm involved in the university and program alumni associations at my alma mater. I organized our 10-year reunion and post news from my graduating class on our Facebook page. 	<p>Learn by rolling up your sleeves and doing. You'll make a lot of mistakes. Value the mistakes as much as you value your successes.</p>
<p>Contextual Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In university I took part in an exchange program in Austria. I learned loads doing display work and learning in a new cultural context. 	<p>It's rewarding to be able to do something I love and help people learn new things in an engaging environment.</p>
<p>Relationships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I seek mentors who are community leaders and have unique experiences; often very different than mine. 	<p>Value those who are different. The magic and learning is at the intersection of this diversity.</p>