

JESSE VAIL

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OBJECTIVE

To offer my experience, motivation and talent toward the success of your company.

EXPERIENCE

American Musical Theatre San Jose San Jose, California
Prop Supervisor September 2006 to December 2006

- Created and updated prop lists and show plots.
- Assisted in providing actual or rehearsal props for use during rehearsals.
- Set up and organized prop storage for productions.
- Supervised and managed prop shifts during technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals and each performance.
- Assured all props were maintained or repaired if necessary.
- Accomplished other duties as assigned by Stage Management.

Prop Artisan for “Christmas Dreamland”

- Created three moving scenic props from provided designs.
- Designed and built three chestnut puppets.
- Provided training to the actors who used these puppets.

East Valley YMCA San Jose, California

Acting Teacher September 2006 to November 2006

- Responsible for producing an acting program appropriate for ages 5 to 17.
- Prepare descriptions of classes for newsletters, articles and brochures.
- Teach class participants in methods of acting through improvisation, theatre games, scene study and individual monologue presentations.
- Train participants in the basics of theatre production.
- Instruct and assist participants in construction of costumes, props and pieces.
- Coordinate and present performers at end of session recital.

Gottschalks Danville, California
Visual Manager November 2005 to August 2006

- Responsible for creating and maintaining storewide visual presentations.
- Set up mannequins, store signage, seasonal trim, cosmetics and gift promotions.
- Prepared and fabricated visual collateral.
- Executed quarterly Visual Merchandising Presentation programs.
- Ensured plan-o-grams, seasonal shops and strike points followed standards.
- Assisted with Associate training on standards and visual support tasks.

City of San Jose San Jose, California
Puppet Theatre Coordinator December 1997 to December 2004

- Successfully managed a six+ person team to implement an age appropriate community based puppet theatre program.
- Responsible for hiring puppeteers and contractors for theatre related programming.
- Supervised part-time recreation aides, scheduled work hours, resolved conflicts and helped determine salaries.
- Composed and delivered annual performance appraisals.
- Worked closely with other department coordinators to help plan and implement park programs.
- Studied and analyzed recreational needs and resources available to plan and execute recreation services.
- Scripted and produced ten new puppet shows.
- Refurbished and presented four older puppet shows.

- Recorded and edited these shows using high level computer software.
- Performed two to three shows per day.
- Co-creator and performer for Happy Hollow's television program "The Jack and Jill Show."
- Coordinated successful Puppetry Camp Program appropriate for ages 5 – 9.
- Initiated new Adventure Camp to expand camp programming.
- Expanded Puppetry Camp Program by introducing new Advanced Puppetry Class to accommodate ages 10 – 13.
- Collaborated closely with Zoo Education Program to maximize the experience of children and their parents.
- Created marketing materials for year round and summer camp programs.
- Scheduled maintenance and use of puppet theatre.
- Acted as a lead member of daily revenue processes.
- Responsible for daily safety checks of park play structures.
- Scheduled and coordinated breaks to other park positions.
- Revised park group season procedures to better accommodate our guests.
- Cultivated strong, lasting relationships with coworkers, students and parents.

The Greater Apes

Oakland, California

Writer/Chimp

December 2000 to

Present

- Voice talent for multiple projects.
- Co-writer of the comic book *SWIPER*.

Children's Fairyland

Oakland, California

Staff Member

May 1994 to November 1997

- Worked as a puppeteer, ride operator and cash handler.
- Parade Coordinator for Personalities Program.
- On-site Birthday Party Coordinator.
- Guest Service Coordinator for Children's Fairyland.
- Managed Carnival at the Jack o' Lantern Jamboree.
- Created new carnival game for Jack o' Lantern Jamboree.
- Co-creator of Children's Fairyland Summer Camp Program.
- Apprenticed as a puppeteer with Mr. Lewis Mahlmann.

The Lilliputian Players

Oakland, California

Puppeteer

September 1995 to Present

- The Soldier's Tale by Igor Stravinsky
- Mystery of Marple Manor
- Upset Boulevard
- Psychopath

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- City of San Jose sponsored Frontline Leadership Program graduate.
- Shadow puppeteer for City Lights Theatre production of "Iphigenia at Aulis".
- Built full sized "Jumbo the Elephant" and "Tom Thumb" puppets for Saratoga High School's production of "Barnum".
- Traveled to Los Angeles for four months to gain experience working for Bob Baker Marionettes.
- Accomplished balloon artist.

SUMMARY

My many years of experience have provided me with the opportunity to build a strong track record of success in program leadership, service delivery and community relation's development. Thus, I feel that I could benefit any company's desire for long-term development in several ways:

I have a proven track record of selecting the best practices to improve service delivery in the most efficient and effective manner;

As the Puppet Theatre Coordinator, I implemented a participative management style to revitalize and optimize staff performance levels and encourage collaboration toward the achievement of program goals and objectives;

I am a passionate and results-driven professional who builds strong networks and relationships with coworkers and guests alike.