**Director of Collections, Exhibitions and Learning**

**Contract Type:** Permanent

**Hours:** 37.5 hours per week (flexible working arrangements and reduced hours will be considered)

**Salary:** Competitive based on experience

**Reporting to:** CEO

**Responsible for:**

Pre-opening- Archivist, Project Manager (Activities)

Post-opening- Head of Collections and Research, Head of Learning and Engagement, Exhibitions Officer

A new and exciting opportunity has arisen at Silverstone Heritage Limited to work towards the forthcoming opening of the Silverstone Heritage Experience in spring 2019.

**About Silverstone Heritage Experience**

Silverstone has been synonymous with motor racing since the mid-20th century and is now one of the most famous sporting venues in the world. However, Silverstone has a much wider story to tell and its place in history was established well before the circuit was constructed. In late 2016 we were delighted to have been successfully granted £9.1 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund to open the Silverstone Heritage Experience (SHE) to half a million visitor a year in 2019. The SHE will tell the whole Silverstone story through the creation of a Collections and Research Centre, Learning Studio and a series of site tours, programmes and activities. Like many modern attractions the SHE will defy conventional description, being part museum, part research centre, part visitor attraction, part tourist destination.

We are looking to appoint a Director of Exhibitions, Collections and Learning to support us on our journey to opening and beyond. We are seeking a highly skilled and knowledgeable individual with strong exhibitions and operational experience within a medium/large museum environment.

Our ambitions are high and include a permanent exhibition that will take visitors on an exciting two hour long journey through motor racing at Silverstone, a Collections and Research Centre offering museum and archive-accredited storage for the unique British Racing Drivers’ Club archive and other motorsport collections, a series of themed tours stopping off at iconic sites around the circuit, a programme of exciting motor sport events, talks and workshops and an extensive formal education programme focused on science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

Thus the role of Director of Collections, Exhibitions and Learning requires an individual who can lead the above teams while also providing museum operational strategy.

**Job Description**

**Job Purpose**

To provide strategic leadership for the Collections, Exhibitions and Learning services that deliver the Silverstone Heritage Experience’s strategic aims and enhance visitors’ experience and engagement with the collection.

**Main Responsibilities**

Management:

* To support the Chief Executive Officer to deliver the strategic aims of the Silverstone Heritage Experience
* To contribute to the development of the Experience’s Business Plan and ensure departmental strategies are in place
* Design strategies for audience development based on short and long term objectives of the Experience, championing best practice within the sector
* To provide inspirational strategic direction and leadership and ensure the effective management of the Head of Collections and Research, Head of Learning and Engagement and Exhibitions Officer
* To ensure Direct Reports regularly review the department’s strategic direction and priorities and to ensure supporting plans are updated and implemented taking remedial action as necessary
* To represent the Experience at external meetings where appropriate with a view to raising the public profile of the Experience
* Develop partnerships with related organisations in the region, nationally and internationally

Collections, Exhibitions and Learning:

* Lead and develop the collections and research, exhibitions and learning and engagement teams to ensure we deliver a world class visitor experience.
* Work with exhibitions and related consultants to ensure the strategic plans are implemented to the highest standards and the strategic aims of the SHE are achieved.
* To ensure a strategic approach to maintaining and maximising access to the collections to ensure that a deeper understanding of the collections is achieved.
* To lead the definition and development of a vibrant programme of high-profile, temporary exhibitions for a range of audiences with a longer-term plan to maintain and upgrade the permanent exhibition.
* To ensure a strategic approach to the Experience’s formal and informal learning and engagement programmes, ensuring programmes are sector-leading and delivered to the highest professional standard.

Operations:

* To lead the development of the operational strategy working with the CEO, the consultancy team and operations specialists from Silverstone Circuits Ltd prior to the appointment of the Operations Director in early 2018.
* To act as a Duty Manager to oversee the full SHE operations during scheduled weekends once open.
* To manage and delegate budgets effectively ensuring all financial procedures are met.

**Person Specification**

Required experience:

* Director level experience at a medium/large heritage attraction
* Experience in developing large exhibitions for a national museum/visitor attraction
* Evidenced track record of operational experience within a museum/visitor attraction
* Will have operated in a professional customer service orientated environment in strategic roles
* Proven track record of managing third party relationships
* Experience of leading a team and supporting their professional development

Essential skills/competencies:

* Excellent financial management and IT skills
* Excellent communication, leadership and people management skills
* Excellent organisation and planning skills, managing time effectively remaining focussed on priorities.
* Adapts well to changing demands, overcomes obstacles and remains calm under pressure
* Able to build relationships at all levels

**To apply please send a covering letter including your salary expectations and current notice period with your updated CV to** [**info@silverstoneheritageexperience.co.uk**](mailto:info@silverstoneheritageexperience.co.uk)**.**