

ALANNA CAPPELLI

Relevant Work Experience

ANIMAL CARE PROFESSIONAL

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Animal Trainer, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, CA, 5/2018-present

- Knowledge and appropriate use of operant conditioning techniques of both protected and free contact settings within animal training programs to maintain desired behaviors and accomplish new training goals
- Designing various training plans intended for husbandry of collection animals as well as public presentations
- Training of young, naïve animals to be accustomed to various stimuli experienced as an animal ambassador
- Responsible for training of animal handlers and interns on various animal care duties and public interactions
- Accountable for sufficient knowledge of individual animals' medical history and appropriate administration of current medications and treatment
- Ability to maintain efficient and thorough records for animal collection
- In addition to all responsibilities and duties of an animal handler, listed below

Animal Handler, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, CA, 7/2015-2018

- Responsible for daily animal care including cleaning, feeding and preparation of diets for a variety of species
- Deliver public presentations with knowledge of various species, species specific behaviors, conservation status and other relevant information
- Handle ambassador animals, in public and private settings, while managing appropriate guest interaction
- Maintain a clean, safe and professional workspace while also maintaining communication between staff
- Fulfill a variety of roles necessary to manage the Cheetah Run presentation daily including public speaking, operation of motorized equipment, operation of technical equipment, and management of animal training sessions
- Operate motorized equipment and vehicles in a safe manner on a variety of terrains
- Competence with various computer software and resources
- Appropriately cross-trained in Frequent Flyers bird show area for various animal care needs as well as show performances

Animal Care and Education Staff, Wild Wonders, Bonsall, CA, 6/2015-10/2015

- Assisted with daily cleaning, feeding and general husbandry care of a variety of species
- Oversaw work of volunteers and interns while maintaining consistent communication with staff
- Worked hands on with animal ambassadors for public interaction and educational presentations

Animal Care Staff, The Wildlife Company, Vista, CA, 10/2012-8/2013

- Provided compound maintenance/cleaning, husbandry, and public interaction during shows
- Trained volunteers in basic animal care, instructed on proper animal handling techniques, and applications of behavioral enrichment for a variety of species

Education

A.S. in Exotic Animal Training and Management, Moorpark College, CA

- Learned reinforcement techniques in husbandry and training
- Provided behavioral enrichment to stimulate species specific behaviors
- Practiced safety and awareness while working and cleaning in a variety of animal housing settings
- Observing and analyzing animal behavior in addition to public animal presentations and guest interactions
- Responsible for assisting veterinary staff with procedures and tasks as a medical manager such as taking vitals, providing restraint, administering intramuscular and subcutaneous injections, taking and processing radiographs, maintaining organized and updated medical records and filling medical prescriptions for entire collection of animals

B.S. in Psychology, University of California San Diego, CA

- Emphasis on behavioral psychology, behavioral theory and analysis, evolution, learning, motivation, and animal behavior. Secondary concentrations in math, physics and chemistry.

Affiliations

Founding President, America's Teaching Zoo Student Chapter of AAZK

Member, American Association of Zoo Keepers

Attendee, ABMA National Conference April 2017, Cincinnati, OH

Attendee, AZA National Conference September 2014, Orlando, FL

References available upon request