

Director of Climate Programs

Department: Real Estate and Planning, Public Affairs

FT/PT: Full-Time

Job Status: Exempt

Reports to: Senior Vice President, Public Affairs and Senior Director for Real Estate and Planning

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trust for Governors Island is seeking a Director of Climate Programs to lead the Living Laboratory at the Center for Climate Solutions on Governors Island. The Living Laboratory is a new initiative dedicated to utilizing Governors Island's physical space and public platform to advance public education and awareness of climate change and its impacts, support advocacy and policy work happening in the City with a particular focus on environmental justice and demonstrate innovative and equitable climate solution-making.

In this new role, the Director will spearhead the design and launch of the Living Laboratory's four initial pillars: (i) managing and growing the Island's community of programmatic and strategic partners working on climate initiatives, (ii) designing and launching an annual Climate Solutions Challenge that will provide a platform for climate related research and pilot/demonstration projects on the Island including by offering financial support for such projects, (iii) procuring, advising, and managing a third-party consultant in the development and implementation of a climate solutions curriculum for K-12 students in NYC schools, and (iv) creating a business plan to inform the development and programming of a new convening space to support workshops and events related to climate change.

Strategic Partner Relationship Management and Growth

- Manage relationships with existing community of programmatic partners utilizing Governors Island for research, public education, and demonstration projects in the areas of climate and the environment;
- Lead outreach strategy to grow strategic and programmatic partnerships with climate-related NGOs, environmental justice organizations, cultural institutions, and private sector partners;
- Work with the Public Affairs team to develop a marketing, content strategy and signage plan for Living Laboratory activities and partner opportunities on Governors Island;
- Vet proposals for programmatic partnerships and research projects on an as-needed basis;
- Develop and analyze metrics for overall Living Laboratory program;
- Assist with funder communications and reporting; and
- Assist the Senior Director of Real Estate and Planning with Climate Center related procurements on an as-needed basis.

Design and Lead Climate Solutions Challenge

- Lead design of the Climate Solutions Challenge, which will offer private and non-profit partners the opportunity to develop and showcase climate solutions demonstration projects on Governors Island (including identifying selection criteria, call frequency and schedule, key themes, etc.);
- Identify focus areas for the Challenge for each call cycle (i.e. nature-based solutions,

- energy innovation, food systems, climate justice, etc.);
- Launch the Challenge's first call in early 2023;
- Oversee a grant fund to support selected participants' projects;
- Lead outreach and marketing for Challenge to stakeholders, including but not limited to small business accelerators, NGOs, university research centers, and other business and entrepreneurial networks;
- Assist with site selection and locating projects in coordination with the Trust's Real Estate and Operations teams; and
- Develop and analyze key metrics to measure program outcomes and successes.

Educational Programming

- Develop a Request for Proposals seeking a curriculum partner (i.e. educational consultant, cultural institution, or other qualifying entity) to design and manage a new educational field trip program to connect NYC K-12 students with Living Laboratory projects and Governors Island's climate and environmental programs;
- Manage the curriculum consultant contract on an ongoing basis and serve as the primary liaison between strategic climate partners working on Governors Island and curriculum partner, identifying opportunities to weave existing programs into field trip program;
- Work with curriculum partner and the Public Affairs team to identify outreach strategy; and
- Monitor program successes and areas of improvement on an ongoing basis.

Convening

- Work with the Trust's Capital and Events teams on the design and development of an interim convening center to support workshops and Living Laboratory related events;
- Develop a business and outreach plan, in consultation with the Trust's Events team, to assist with event bookings upon completion of the convening center; and
- Develop programming calendars and partnerships in support of the overall goals of the project.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

- Bachelor's degree is required. Master's degree in urban planning, environmental policy, public policy or related field preferred.

Experience:

- Minimum 6 years of experience in urban planning, economic development, business development, strategic partnerships, or related field is required. Experience in climate and sustainability efforts in New York City preferred.

Skills and Abilities:

- Competence in shaping and implementing new initiatives from the ground-up
- Entrepreneurial and results-oriented
- Ability to anticipate obstacles and maintain an optimistic and solutions-oriented perspective

- The ability to think on your feet and juggle multiple tasks in the moment
- Comfortable working independently and collaboratively across departments
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Strong attention to detail and well-organized
- Valid driver's license

TO APPLY

Please send a cover letter and resume as a single PDF document to jobs@govisland.org with "Director of Climate Programs" in the subject line. No phone calls please.

All new hires must be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus unless they have been granted a reasonable accommodation for religion or disability. If you are offered employment with the Trust, this requirement must be met by your date of hire, unless a reasonable accommodation for exemption is received and approved by the Trust.

The Trust for Governors Island does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, genetic information, marital status, membership in an employee organization, military service, national origin, parental status, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including gender identity), sexual orientation, sexual and other reproductive health decisions, or other non-merit factor.

ABOUT THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

The Trust for Governors Island (The Trust) is a nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York. It is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to realize the full potential of Governors Island, demonstrating a bold vision for public space. For more information, visit www.govisland.org