

## ELSIE ELGIN

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To Name of the Hiring Manager:

I am writing to express my interest in the position of Senior Scientist (**competition file # OSC-C14-10**), as advertised on the Ontario Science Centre website. With my extensive scientific research experience and expertise in physics, astronomy, and mathematics, my natural ability to lead and coordinate teams and projects, and my exceptional problem-solving and scientific communication skills, I believe I would make a valuable contribution to the Ontario Science Centre in this position. As a former student of the Ontario Science Centre Science School and a student host, I have invaluable firsthand experience facilitating visitors' engagement with science exhibits, as well as an intimate understanding of the centre's mission to "delight, inform, and challenge visitors through engaging and thought-provoking experiences in science and technology." Ever since this experience, I have aspired to be a part of the OSC team.

I have recently completed my Master of Science degree in Astrophysics, which provided me with a wealth of research experience and scientific credibility. Over the course of that degree and my Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics, I have excelled in many courses in physics, astronomy, and mathematics. The research portion of my degree involved international collaboration and communication with teams of scientists; thus I developed an exceptional familiarity with the nature of scientific research and the language and terminology associated with it. Furthermore, over the course of my education I have developed and refined my abilities to make plans, adapt to changes and setbacks, set deadlines, and deliver results on time. Such skills are imperative to success in both coursework and research; my mastery of them, in conjunction with my well-honed problem-solving abilities and ability to learn very quickly, allowed me to succeed in both these areas.

My abilities as a natural leader who enjoys inspiring and engaging people through effective science communication are evidenced in my active involvement in outreach activities and the leadership role that I took within my research group. I led public open-house evenings at the campus observatory, where I gave presentations on astronomy to the general public, with crowds ranging in age from infants to the elderly. In these presentations, I took complex astrophysical ideas and explained them such that even young schoolchildren would be able to follow. Within my research group, I supervised, trained, and directed three undergraduate students completing summer research projects, and ensured that they understood the scientific concepts essential to their research. My management skills are also demonstrated in my duties as a teaching assistant, as I was required to ensure that my students knew what the course goals were and that I could provide them with the tools to needed achieve those goals. As president of the Physics & Astronomy Student Association, I managed a board of eight executive committee members in order to organize educational and social activities for over a hundred undergraduate students in the department.

I would be thrilled to bring my unique skill set and experience to the Ontario Science Centre. I have attached a copy of my resume with additional information about my qualifications. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to speaking with you soon about this exciting chance to become a part of the OSC team.

Sincerely,

Elsie Elgin