

PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME

Student Intern Job Description

Nebraska's *Prime Time Family Reading Time*® is an innovative family reading program designed for low-income families in communities where student reading scores do not meet Nebraska state standards. The six-week program is led by a storyteller and a discussion leader. The storyteller begins each week by reading aloud from award-winning children's books. Storytelling is followed by a facilitated discussion among parents and children with questions that encourage critical thinking and develop connections between storybooks and real-life situations. *Prime Time* is offered in two formats: monolingual for English-speaking and bilingual for Spanish-speaking families. In the bilingual format, all books are presented and discussed in Spanish and English.

The goal of *Prime Time* is to encourage parents and children to bond around the activity of reading rather than passively watching television during prime time hours. It teaches parents and children to read and discuss important topics such as fairness, greed, and honor. It helps parents and children learn how to select books and become active users of their libraries, encouraging families to view reading and education as a fun and important part of their lives. *Prime Time* fosters high academic expectations and achievement for children in low-literacy, low-income families. It also encourages parents to continue their own education, which subsequently enhances their employment opportunities.

Since April 2002, the Nebraska Humanities Council, along with other organizations, has sponsored Nebraska's *Prime Time* program.

Position Description: 55-60 hour student internship, \$500 stipend provided through the grant.

- Under general supervision, the intern will assist with the implementation of the six-week program and the delivery of the weekly sessions. The intern may serve as a language interpreter.
- Assist program presenters in evaluating the program by gathering narrative reports (individual or family stories) from program participants.
- Perform a range of routine tasks in the library to gain general knowledge of library work.
- Perform related duties as assigned.

Examples of other library work to be performed include:

- Check out books to library customers.
- Assist customers in locating books, other media, and information.
- Assist customers in using the library and its resources.
- Assist library personnel with programming, for example, children's story hours.
- Assist library personnel with library public relations; for example, distribute informational materials.
- Shelve books.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills Required:

- Language skills in English and one other language specific to the target clientele preferred. It is anticipated that Spanish will be the second language in some of the Nebraska programs.
- Interest and familiarity in using the library and its resources.
- Ability to communicate effectively and complete tasks.