

# AJA EDWARDS

Detroit, Michigan | 313.575.2100 | AEdwards2@dzs.org

## Objective

To leverage my passion for urban environmental education to create sustainable and impactful educational programs that empower communities to understand, appreciate, and actively contribute to the health and well-being of urban ecosystems.

## Education

### *Fisheries and Wildlife / Spring 2023*

## Certifications and Trainings

- Interpretive techniques
- Cornell University - Environmental Education & Community Engagement
- Environmental Educator Certification – Associates
- First Aid/CPR/AED
- Project WILD
- Aquatic Wild
- Project WET
- Kulture City
- San Diego Global Academy modules
  - o Autism in the Community
  - o Zoonotic Disease

## Experience

### ***Braasch Zebrafish Lab***

*Lab Assistant / September 2018 - December 2018*

Lab assistant three to four days a week as a first semester freshman. Supported Zebrafish research by feeding the zebrafish, providing clean and fresh water for fish, clean tanks, and reproduction.

## **The Learning Experience**

*Assistant Preschool Teacher | April 2021-August 2021*

Assisted the lead teacher in teaching 2 and 3-year-old students fundamental educational building blocks such as the alphabet, numerical counting, and colors. As well as developing their emotional growth by encouraging conflict resolution and problem solving.

## **Zookambi – Potter Park Zoo**

*Intern | May 2022-August 2022*

Assisted the lead teacher with Zookambi summer camp, interacting with children, lead educational lessons on various topics related to animals and conservation. Completed other assignments as assigned such as conservation education carts, assisting overnights, and zoo events.

## **Michigan State University - REHS**

*Service Center Representative Lead (Level 3) | March 2020- Current*

Cultivated a positive and encouraging environment for a staff of 60+ by being a liaison for desk representatives and dorm residents. Responsible for new staff onboarding, creating training techniques, and all-staff meetings.

## **EGLE – Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

*Student Assistant | September 2022- June 2023*

Intern to Tracy Page the Aquatic Education Coordinator for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Responsible for assisting with Salmon in the Classroom, data organizing, engaging in environmental education with peers.

## **Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy**

*Student Assistant | January 2023 – May 2023*

Student assistant under the education and outreach division. Help support EGLE Classroom, organize MEECS (Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support) contain, as well as supervisor the EGLE Lending Stations.

## **Detroit Zoological Society**

*Education Coordinator | May 2023 – Current*

*I provide educational programs to students ranging from kindergarten through senior year of high school. I'm a co-lead of our teen volunteer program and several other programs relating to outreach and education.*

