Valerie Bentivegna

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COMPLEXLY

Editorial Director

To whom it may concern,

If I would have to describe myself in one word, I'd pick "cool nerd." I admit that those are two words, and I also have to admit that I did not pick these words myself, friends have (lovingly) referred to me as their "cool nerd friend." Regardless, it is an accurate description. I am passionate about all that is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and even more passionate about spreading that enthusiasm and helping others spread theirs.

In recent years, I have been both a scientist and a science communicator, and have learned the importance of creating engaging content to inform and educate. As a Editorial Director for SciShow, I can further hone my skills as a science communicator and support others in developing theirs, all while bringing my unique experience as a bioengineer to the table.

Throughout my academic and work experience, I have obtained the skills that are crucial for this position. Specifically:

- I consider myself a science communicator, both professionally in my current role as a Science and Medical writer and in previous roles as an informal educator, as in my personal life, where I have used storytelling through stand-up comedy to communicate my research and my experiences as a researcher.
- I have been an informal teacher and a mentor for a variety of age groups and in a variety of situations. I've created and led science workshops for children, teens and adults, and have organized and moderated science communication panels and workshops for my Alumni Association. In addition, I organized both an in-person and a virtual science comedy workshop for Geek Girl Con in 2019 and 2020, respectively.
- I have been a freelance science writer for various different projects, including co-writing an Art-Science book about inspirational scientists (Inking Science), as a blogger for a decaffeination company (Decafino), and as script writer for a popular science YouTube channel (Physics Girl). In addition, I have also written for a satirical science news website (DNAtured) and regularly preform science-inspired stand-up comedy.

I am confident that experience in science communication and (informal) teaching, make me an excellent candidate for the role of Editorial Director for SciShow. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Valerie Bentivegna

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