

Middle-earth Studios

Corn Maze Job Description

What do we do?

We staff two different themed corn mazes (Robin Hood & Pumpkinland) at the Harbes' farm located on the North Fork of Long Island. (Website: <https://harbesfamilyfarm.com/>) Performers dress in costume, assist maze visitors, and facilitate activities in the maze, such as sword fights, archery lessons, and entrance introductions. This job is part customer service and part Ren-faire character acting. It should be noted that being able to de-escalate disgruntled visitors and make families happy is more important than executing an authentic English accent! The Robin Hood Corn Maze transforms into a haunted attraction every Saturday night in October. Performers will get the chance to become Scare-actors and terrify guests in the dark. This job is challenging, but fun!

Who are we looking for?

Middle-earth Studios is looking for folks with any range of experience in the dramatic arts and/or working with children. Applicants should be energetic, outgoing and comfortable engaging guests in character. Our costumed character work takes place outdoors in a variety of weather conditions during the Fall; the ability to adapt and perform in challenging situations is a must. If you love the idea of sword fighting families all day in a corn maze then this is the job for you!

Job Requirements

- Dressing up in costume and interacting with guests in character
- Engaging guests in swordplay
- Teaching guests how to operate archery equipment/other activities
- Spending 8+ hours speaking to guests
- Spending 8+ hours on your feet
- Working 8+ hours with 5 – 10 minute breaks throughout the day
- Improvising with guests
- Memorizing short sides and / or introductions
- Wearing masks or makeup for the Night Maze
- Being responsible for general housekeeping
- Living with up to 10 – 14 performers
- Commuting long distances to and from Long Island, NY

Pay Rates

Performers receive \$100 per performance day (travel days are excluded). Performers will receive an extra \$50 – 60 a day for performing in Night Maze Saturdays in October. Performers receive partial pay or no pay in the event of inclement weather that forces the mazes to close. Performers are considered independent contractors so no taxes will be withdrawn from their paychecks. Our pay periods are monthly. You will receive a paycheck at the end of September and at the end of October.

Scheduling

Corn Maze takes place Saturdays, Sundays and various Holidays in September and October. ***Check Calendar for details*** We arrive in the maze at 9 AM and finish work between 5 – 6 PM. Night maze begins at 7 PM and ends at 10 PM. Performers typically commute to and from Long Island, a 5-8 hour trip one-way. The commute requires performers to leave before noon on Friday to avoid rush hour, however, late rides can be arranged. Performers make the trip back home on either Sunday night or Monday morning. Leaving Sunday night means arriving between 12 and 2 AM on Monday. Leaving Monday morning means arriving between 2 – 3 PM Monday afternoon. Given the rigorous physical nature of the work it is recommended that performers leave Monday instead of Sunday. Only want to work two weekends – or possibly a holiday weekend? That’s fine! We can provide flexible scheduling throughout the season, but you must be able to commit to at least two consecutive days of work.

*SEPTEMBER

(Dates highlighted in **Blue** are Work Days)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

*OCTOBER

(Dates highlighted in **Green** are Work Days. **Red** days include Day Maze & Night Maze)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Traveling Logistics

Some performers will be asked to use their personal vehicles to assist in the carpool to Long Island. At one point in the season we could have up to 14 employees. The more people who like to drive, the better. Let us know if you would prefer to drive your own personal vehicle or if you would prefer to ride along with other performers. Arrangements can be made for midway pickup points to reduce travel times and drivers. All performers will be reimbursed for tolls and fuel expenses. We do not provide reimbursement for mileage or travel repairs.

Food and Housing

Free Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks will be provided from the time you arrive on site to the time you leave. We can accommodate any dietary needs and you are welcome to bring your own snacks. For the first half of the season performers will camp out in tents and inside an RV in the apple orchard near the Robin Hood maze. For the second half of the season performers will be housed in a small cottage on a private beach on Hog's Neck bay. This is a very close and intimate setting, much like summer camp, but with more beach! Space is limited so performers will be required to sleep in close quarters with each other. There will be two available bathrooms. The troupe will be responsible for maintaining a clean functional living space such as sweeping, food prep, dish washing, taking out the trash etc.

*** COVID-19 Precautions ***

We want to ensure the safety of all our performers, their friends, and families. Harbes farms require all guests to wear masks and all performers will be required to wear masks while working in the mazes. Maze passageways have been widened to allow for physical distancing and maze activities have been creatively redesigned to allow performers to distance themselves from guests. Hand sanitizer and extra masks will be provided to all performers throughout the season. Because we will be living in close quarters with other performers we prefer that everyone keep their outside "social bubbles" limited. We will request that all performers stay home if they feel ill or have a fever.

How do I apply?

Applications can be filled out online @

www.middleearthstudios.org/middleearthcornmaze

or

copy and paste the link to our online application

<https://form.jotform.com/middleearthstudios1/middleearthcornmaze>

Once you've submitted your application, expect to receive a phone call to set up an interview within 2-5 days.

Contact Information

For further questions and information contact us via phone or e-mail.

E-mail: middleearthstudios1@gmail.com

Phone: 484 – 903 – 2072

You can visit our website at: www.middleearthstudios.org