Head Gardener
Chelsea Physic Garden

Founded in 1673 by The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London, to enable apprentices to learn to grow and identify medicinal plants and study their uses, Chelsea Physic Garden is the second oldest botanic garden in the country. Over 55,000 visitors enjoy the Grade I Listed 3.8 acre garden annually. The collection comprises around 5,000 different edible, useful and medicinal plants.

Within this career-defining role, we are looking to appoint an exceptional candidate to lead the horticultural team of staff, trainees and volunteers at an exciting time in the Garden’s development. The Garden is preparing for the next stage of a bold programme of renewal and refreshment, aiming to benefit a wide range of audiences and visitors, increasing engagement with and the care and protection of the Garden’s internationally important heritage. New and updated facilities for visitors, learners, volunteers and staff are envisaged in time to celebrate its 350th anniversary in 2023. The Head Gardener ensures that horticultural activities support income generation including venue hire and events.

Essentially the successful candidate will have a substantial practical experience in a management/supervisory capacity. You will have a minimum of HND/Foundation Degree in Horticulture/Kew/Edinburgh Diploma. Candidates will be able to demonstrate a high level of understanding of botanical classification and basic taxonomy. Demonstrable experience of managing a small team of high performing horticultural specialists is essential together with experience of mentoring trainees and volunteers.

Basic Terms and Conditions: This is a permanent post. Hours averaged at 37.5hrs per week over 5 days plus regular participation in the weekend duty rota. It includes working some unsocial hours to support events and activities. Salary £35,000-£38,000 dependent on experience. Pension 3% employee, 5% employer. 33 days leave including 8 days statutory holidays. Full job description and application form available on the website http://chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies. Completed application form and covering letter should be sent to: jobs@chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk

Closing date: 13 March 2017
Likely First Interviews: 31 March 2017