Job Opportunity: Orchard Manager and Horticulturist at Vala’s Pumpkin Patch

Vala’s Pumpkin Patch is a family-friendly fall festival in Gretna, NE open to the public mid-September through October 31st. We offer 50+ attractions, but the main draw for families is our 55 acres of pick-your-own pumpkins. We have a 20-acre high-density orchard and plan to develop our apple business further in the coming years, offering pick-your-own apples to the public, pressing apple cider and brewing hard cider.

Vala’s Pumpkin Patch is looking for a full-time, year round agricultural director with a passion for agriculture and a willingness to learn. This person will be training under skilled staff to take over the roll of Orchard Manager and Horticulturist. They will order seed and trees, plant crops, manage irrigation, set up a spray schedule, rotate crops, and perform many other related tasks, all to ensure there are pumpkins and apples to harvest in the fall. Additionally, they will be responsible for managing a crew of farm workers who help tend the crops. Some Spanish language skills and mechanical ability are preferred.

**Experience Required:** Applicants should have some experience and familiarity with farming. This person will train on the specific crops and needs of our farm with Tim Vala, the farm’s owner, and our current orchard manager. Spanish language skills and mechanical ability will be helpful in this position.

**Schooling Required:** Applicants should have a bachelor's degree. A specialization in agriculture or horticulture is preferred but not required. We are looking for a driven individual with a passion for trees and farming, and a willingness to learn.

**Time:** Full-Time, Year-Round

**Taking Applications:** January 2016 until position is filled

**Start Date:** April or May 2016

**How to Apply:** Please send a cover letter and resume to Kirsten Vala Fong at [valasjobs@gmail.com](mailto:valasjobs@gmail.com) She will be in touch to schedule an interview.