

The one question people ask Kim Hannan the most is, “Doesn’t cooking chicken bother you?” Fortunately Kim is able to separate herself from the birds she prepares as food and the birds she prepares food *for*.

Kim is originally from Ohio, but came to Pennsylvania to go to school at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. She has a degree in Science of Culinary Arts and is

currently pursuing a degree in Culinary Arts Management. Kim is also one of the most dedicated volunteers at the National Aviary. Last year she worked more than any other volunteer — over 500 hours.

Kim stumbled into volunteering several years ago when she was taking a walk around West Park and decided

benefited from the time she has spent volunteering at the Aviary. The staff love to see Kim come through the door! Her incredibly positive attitude and strong work ethic in any situation make Kim an essential member of the Aviary team.

Kim is so upbeat that she even has fun doing one of our least desirable tasks, cutting frozen fish. Every month

volunteer profile: **Kim Hannan**

by **Erin Estell**, Co-Manager of Animal Programs

we receive a shipment of large blocks of frozen fish that have to



Kim is working; Stanley, the African Penguin, thinks she's playing!

to check out the Aviary. Volunteering seemed like something fun to do in her free time while finishing school. She loves how “energizing” it is to work with the staff, the visitors, and especially the animals. Her favorite birds are the African Penguins, Houdini, the American Crow, and Franco, the Harris’ Hawk. Her biggest “wow” experience was when she got the chance to help train Franco in a new flighted behavior. She was amazed that a bird of prey could become so comfortable with her that it would choose to fly to her glove for a piece of food.

Kim and the birds are not the only ones who have

be sawed into sections so that we can thaw the correct amount every day. We don raincoats, gloves and safety glasses to protect ourselves from the spray of frozen fish goo that comes off the reciprocating saw, but we always end up smelling kind of fishy anyway. Whenever Kim is asked to help with this, she just laughs because she never dreamed that sawing frozen fish for penguins would be one of the culinary skills she would learn while in Pittsburgh.

Thank you, Kim, for all of your hard work and for all of the happiness you bring with you to the National Aviary!

PHOENIX SOCIETY
the Legacy Society of the National Aviary

Please consider leaving a legacy to the National Aviary by becoming a member of the Phoenix Society.

Contact Patricia Rambasek, CFRE, Director of Development and Communications, at 412-323-7235, ext. 214 for more information.

Spread your wings as an Aviary Volunteer!

If you would like to volunteer at the National Aviary, see our website, www.aviary.org, for more information. Volunteers help in many ways — preparing diets, leading tours, assisting with bird encounters, horticulture or office work. Volunteers are an essential part of the National Aviary!