Community Outreach Academic Internship
Golden Gate National Parks, San Francisco
Part Time, Spring Semester 2016 (possible summer extension)
Available only to students currently enrolled at SFSU and CCSF

OVERVIEW

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is a destination for both locals and international visitors with its sweeping vistas, immense biological diversity, and unique cultural resources. With over 15 million visitors annually and over 80,000 acres of land, the GGNRA is the largest urban national park in the country.

The mission of the GGNRA’s interpretive and education programs is to share our national parks with an increasingly diverse America and to build a sense of ownership, civic engagement in the care of our parks, communities and environment.

Crissy Field Center is a partnership between the National Park Service (GGNRA), the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and the Presidio Trust. Crissy Field Center programs encourage new generations to become bold leaders for thriving parks, healthy communities, and a more environmentally just society. Since 2001, it has served as a dynamic hub of youth engagement and has become a model program of the National Park Service, with a focus on engaging diverse audiences and serving as a park gateway for schools and community centers in underserved areas.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Are you passionate about conducting educational/recreational programming, working with local community groups and introducing urban youth to our national parks?

We are currently seeking a Community Outreach Intern to work with the Crissy Field Center’s NPS based Community Programs Team in engaging communities that traditionally have had little, if any access to their National Parks. Community Programs focuses on providing opportunities for youth and families to access park resources through engaging activities that promote the building of a healthy, strong, and more sustainable community. Our program menu options are tailored towards after-school and community youth groups of mixed ages. Multi-touch programming experiences highlight the natural and cultural history of the park while also showcasing the vital linkages between the park and its surrounding communities. At the same time, we show participants how to have a great time visiting their national parks and empower them to return on their own with their families!
The intern will be supervised by the NPS ranger of the Crissy Field Center, and will be based at building 223 located in the Presidio of San Francisco. Working as part of a multi-agency team (including both NPS and Conservancy staff of the Crissy Field Center), the intern will develop, lead, revise, and help evaluate educational and recreational outreach programming for community groups of youth, many of whom are new visitors to the park. This involves working in partnership with the Camping at the Presidio (CAP) program, the Presidio Trust, the Park Stewardship team at the Conservancy, and many nonprofit community-based organizations. The intern will also conduct outreach efforts for GGNRA by representing the park at both on- and off-site events.

**DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES**

Present recreational and educational programs for after-school and community youth group participants.

- Assist NPS rangers and CFC staff with “Healthy Parks, Healthy People hikes” by leading fitness-themed hikes, preparing program supplies before program and helping with clean up after the program.
- Help conduct campfire trainings for 5-6 CAP Leadership Trainings for youth group leaders.
- Assist CFC Community Programs staff in conducting on- and off-site multi-touch community programs for groups; lead programs independently by the start of the summer season.
- Assist CFC Community Programs staff in conducting one-time park programs for groups, including large group (100+) experiences on Crissy Field and off-site community campfire programs.
- Assist CFC Community Programs staff in conducting specialized ‘People-To-Park Stewards’ project-based service learning programs, involving both on- and off-site field experiences.
- Participate in revision, updating, and evaluation/assessment of CAP and community group programming.
- Create and prepare materials and props for upcoming programs; keep inventory of program props and materials up to date.
- Lead Camping at the Presidio (CAP) day hikes.
- Assist NPS rangers and CFC staff with “Healthy Parks, Healthy People hikes” by leading fitness-themed hikes, preparing program supplies before program and helping with clean up after the program.

Assist with conducting outreach for the GGNRA, especially promoting special events and programmatic opportunities throughout the park.

- Represent the park with an information/activity table at certain special events/activities taking place inside the park.
- Represent the park with an information/activity table at local community fairs, festivals, and other events that reach out to an underserved audience.
If time permits, assist other team members with tracking statistics and contacts, informal roving interpretation, and additional duties as appropriate.

**BENEFITS**

- Gain valuable experience conducting culturally relevant programming at a highly respected tri-agency partnership organization.
- Learn about how to apply outreach principles at the community level through engaging new visitors of all ages with the resources of our national parks.
- Gain many hours of experience developing, conducting, revising, and helping to evaluate educational and recreational programming for youth.
- Gain valuable experience in storytelling as well as many other interpretive, educational, and group management techniques; learn how to train others in these skills.
- Opportunity to pursue professional development interest, including training and education opportunities in various departments within the National Park Service, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and the Presidio Trust.
- Opportunity to enjoy working in a spectacular National Park site, with gorgeous scenery and impressive natural and cultural resources.
- Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue an interest, including training and education in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy.
- Fifty Dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend available, plus academic credit.

**DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Excellent oral communication skills.
- Ability to communicate effectively with diverse park visitors and park personnel.
- Ability to be calm and courteous during occasional hectic and stressful situations.
- Excellent written and verbal communication, strong editing skills.
- Energy, with a desire to come up with fresh ideas on how to grow our online presence.
- Ability to identify a target market and “speak” to that park visitor through social media.
- Ability to deal with uncertainty.
- Ability to contribute individually and participate in cross-functional teams as well as with diverse audiences.
- Must be detail oriented, team player, and technologically savvy.
- Cross platform user and fast learner.
- Ability to communicate effectively with diverse park visitors and park personnel.
- Ability to be calm and courteous during occasional hectic and stressful situations.
- Knowledge of local area and resources helpful.
- Desire to learn and try new things.
PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

- This is a field based position with sometimes only half-days of office time per week during the busy season. Must enjoy working outside in various weather conditions (cold, foggy and windy) while maintaining a sense of humor.
- Ability to stand for several hours and walk several miles.
- Ability to lift, carry and position objects weighing up to 25 pounds.

TERMS

- Desired Start Date: January 2017
- Up to 3 days per week, January through May. Summer extension possible.
- $50.00 daily taxable stipend plus academic credit available
- Summer (full time) extension possible based on funding, performance, and need
- Intern must have a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend
- Available only to students currently enrolled in SF State, City College of San Francisco, and College of Marin

To apply for this position, please submit an application and send a resume and a thoughtful cover letter to AcademicIntern@parksconservancy.org. Please indicate the position(s) that you are applying for in your cover letter. No phone calls please.

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The Parks Conservancy and National Park Service seek to increase diversity in the workplace and reflect our Bay Area community. People of color and of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.