



SF Historic Landscape Preservation Academic Internship

Golden Gate National Parks; In-Person Internship

Full or Part-Time, Summer 2023

Available only to students currently enrolled at COM, SFSU or CCSF

Introduction

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 19 million visitors annually and over 80,000 acres of land, the GGNRA is the largest urban national park in the country.

The Fort Mason and Sutro Heights landscapes have long and intertwining histories—connected through war, labor, and horticulture. Both landscapes have their own unique cultural landscape that we work on to preserve and protect. Interns will have the opportunity to help manage, preserve, and protect these San Francisco's Landmarks, while cultivating a wide variety of Landscape management skills and taking in sprawling views of the bay.

Internship Overview

The Academic Internship Program runs May 30 - Friday August 4, 2023 (10 weeks total)

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to manage a Historic Landscape in a National Park setting? Join our team for the summer, learn a diverse set of skills, and connect San Francisco to its beautiful backyard!

The Fort Mason and Sutro Heights Park historic gardens are looking for an intern interested in learning about the daily operations of a landscape management program in a National Park, how to protect and maintain over 20 acres of parklands for our park visitors to enjoy. Learn sustainable gardening practices, how to engage with visitors, and engage with volunteers. Most importantly, we are looking for someone excited to learn and practice new skills, and to connect people with nature. Working as part of a team, the intern will work under the direction of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco Landscape Division Supervisor and Gardener Leader, and the Maintenance Stewards for San Francisco's Fort Mason and Sutro Heights Park Maintenance Division.

The intern will also participate in weekly virtual workshops and discussions on the topics of a large variety of topics. Large Lawn area maintenance programs, including irrigation systems and irrigation controllers management for water conservation purposes. Interns will work in concert with fellow Park interns to put what they learn into practice by completing a project to raise public awareness about said project.

Description of Duties

Garden Maintenance

- Assist in the care for all garden areas utilizing the best practices of horticulture; this includes weeding, efficient irrigation, fertilizing, planting, composting, pruning.
- Learn aspects of propagation and greenhouse management.
- Assist with maintaining a clean and orderly storage area. Report on any necessary replacements and repairs.

Volunteer Management and Outreach

- Introduction to volunteer management skills with emphasis on training, supervision, and leading volunteer groups in planned activities and safe garden practices.
- Develop communication skills to connect with visitors about park issues.
- Maintain database of volunteer hours
- Be able to engage with diverse audiences.

Workshop Series

- Participate in weekly workshops, discussions, and experiences with the larger intern cohort.

Desired Qualifications

- An interest in learning about National Parks
- Love of the outdoors and horticulture
- Desire to learn garden maintenance and become knowledgeable about native and historical plants
- Energetic and self-motivated; ability to work independently once provided with guidance
- Good communication skills, respect for others
- Ability to work with people with different backgrounds, ethnicity, races, genders, sexualities, ages, and viewpoints
- Reliable and punctual
- Ability to learn basic computer skills

Physical Requirements and Work Conditions

- Desire and ability to work outdoors and in inclement weather; at times can be a physically strenuous job - most days will require walking and performing site inspections to plan future projects
- Reliable transportation to Fort Mason in San Francisco
- Comfortable taking a drive to Sutro Heights Park with other staff
- Ability to lift up to 25 pounds
- Majority of the work will be outdoors with weekly office hours in Fort Mason San Francisco

Health and Safety

It is the policy of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to create and maintain a safe and healthful workplace free from recognized hazards that may cause harm to employees and interns, consistent with and in compliance with applicable state and federal laws. Employees and interns will play an active role in creating a safe and healthy workplace and will comply with all applicable health and safety rules. The Conservancy is committed to the goal of implementing an effective health and safety program and an injury prevention program.

Based on the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Parks Conservancy requires all employees, interns, and independent contractors to be vaccinated and to provide proof of such vaccination as a condition of employment, internship, or performing contract work.

Benefits

- Seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) per day taxable stipend plus academic credit available
- Understand how to manage a large-landscaped areas based on the Cultural Landscape Reports
- Learn to create and manage a personal and team work schedule
- Gain skills such as public speaking, time management, and organization
- Broaden knowledge of plants and sustainable gardening best practices
- Unique experience of working in award-winning gardens
- Opportunity to attend Workshop Series on a variety of topics including resume building and interview skills, park orientation and history, flora and fauna, mapping and monitoring, computer skills, and much more
- Opportunity to enjoy the scenery, wildlife and cultural resources of a spectacular National Park.
- Opportunity to work with staff and volunteers from diverse backgrounds that share a common interest in preserving and protecting our natural lands while engaging the next generation of park stewards
- Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue an interest, including training and education days in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy
- Uniform will be provided

Terms of Position

- The term for this Internship position is Tuesday May 30th and ends on Friday August 4th, 2023 (10 weeks)
- This internship will ideally be in-person, dependent on approval by leadership in alignment with state and local guidelines
 - Work sites: Fort Mason and Sutro Heights Park Historic Gardens – San Francisco, CA
- Intern must be able to work in half-day or full day increments
- Required attendance at orientation and onboarding sessions (three full days), as well as end of program celebration; Tuesday May 30, Wednesday May 31, Tuesday June 6, and Friday August 4.
- Intern must have a Social Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend
- Available only to students currently enrolled at College of Marin, SF State or City College of San Francisco (must be enrolled for spring, summer, or fall 2023 classes to be eligible, open to students in ALL majors)

Position Contact and How to Apply

To apply for this position, please submit an [application](#) and send a resume and a thoughtful cover letter to Internships@parksconservancy.org. Please indicate the position(s) that you are applying for in your cover letter. No phone calls please. **Application deadline is Thursday, March 30.**

Information Webinar: Thursday March 23rd, 2:30 - 4 pm, for more details and to register visit www.parksconservancy.org/academicinternships.

The Golden Gate National Parks strive to engage a workforce reflective of the community it serves. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, gender, national or ethnic origin religion, sexual orientation, or physical disability. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.