Summer 2016 Internship
Childhood’s Gate Children’s Garden
H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens

Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Opportunity:
The Arboretum at Penn State is offering a paid ($12/hour) internship for undergraduate, graduate students, and recent graduates interested in career paths in environmental education.

   Summer Internship: Full-time (40 hour/week) position with a 14-week term from May 16–August 19, 2016. Exact start and end dates are negotiable.

Experience:
This internship provides a hands-on introduction to outdoor, place-based education in a children’s garden setting under the guidance of the coordinator of children’s educational programs as we develop nature-themed programs and activities related to central Pennsylvania geology, history, and culture. Learning about local wildlife and bird identification, pollination, gardening from seed to table, and the native people of our region, and planting and harvesting a vegetable, flower and herb garden are just some of the possible themes to develop in one summer season. It will be an outdoor learning experience that will also expose interns to the world of public gardens, integrating event planning, donor support and public relations skills with the educational mission of the children’s garden.

Responsibilities:

- Develop, facilitate, and evaluate outdoor learning experiences, educational activities, materials, and programs for children (ages 3-12).
- Research the history of our regional geographic landscape, native plants, and wildlife in order to share your learning with garden visitors.
- Teach about specific varieties of herbs, flowers and vegetables in our harvest gardens.
- Support tours and events held in the Arboretum and children’s garden for visiting school groups, community tours, and university functions.
- Act as a “garden guide” for informal visitors of all ages.

Qualifications:

Applicants should be a graduate of, or currently enrolled student in a B.S. and/or M.S. degree program in education, health and human development, recreation and parks' tourism management, environmental education or fields of study related to garden and outdoor education. Applicants
should have strong written and personal communication skills, a demonstrated willingness to work in a
team environment, and a strong work ethic. Highest preference will be given to candidates who have a
demonstrable interest in education and can explain how this opportunity will help them to reach their
career goals.

Requirements:

Current (within one year) Pennsylvania Child Abuse and Criminal History Clearance, FBI Fingerprint
Clearance, two letters of recommendation, health appraisal and TB test, completion of the PSU Building
Safe Penn State on line training. Information and guidance on clearance requirements can be provided.

Individuals must have the ability to work 40 hours across a seven-day week (Sunday-Saturday). Some
weekend and/or evening activity is anticipated and schedules will be adjusted according to the events
and programs of the garden. Work is primarily outdoors but will involve weekly planning and
evaluation meetings, material preparation, and some garden maintenance.

Application:
If interested, please mail or e-mail cover letter and resume in PDF format to:

Linda M. Duerr
Coordinator of Educational Programs
The Arboretum at Penn State
212 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802
lmd9@psu.edu

www.arboretum.psu.edu

Qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews to be scheduled in spring 2016.