Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources

University of Vermont

Perennial Summer Internship Program - 2016

Internship Title: GROW! BURLINGTON Garden Manager

Internship Site: ArtsRiot and at all our partner garden sites

Description: ArtsRiot’s GROW! Urban Farming program is an excitingly large endeavor with near limitless impact. GROW! is a community building project, internship program, curriculum program, and research program. The benefit of urban farming is well accepted, but more research is needed to further document these benefits while also documenting the challenges and obstacles. GROW! will both research and practice. The research will be utilized to better the practice of the program.

Embedded in the community, university students will have direct experience with design, maintenance, practice, and research on a diverse set of urban agriculture projects. These university students will provide the necessary labor to keep the urban agriculture plots running. The community partners will have a vibrant urban agriculture plot that will be integrated into their landscape and their social fabric. The community partners will provide a diverse and busy context for the research of very distinct and different urban agriculture sites, while also providing the rich social context the urban agriculture projects will take part. The university will support the project with resources and students. With that support, the university will gain a unique, vibrant community based research program- a program that literally exists wholly off the hill and in the community.

The innovation of the urban agriculture program culminates in the creation of a collaborative urban farm made up of small urban plots, centrally managed as a whole farm. This new approach has huge impact on how urban agriculture is practiced. The synergies, benefits, and efficiencies of this collective disaggregated urban farm system will be researched and well documented.

INTERNSHIP PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

• Maintain the gardens- site prep, watering, weeding, tending, harvesting
• Be the main point of contact for all garden site partners- record all needs, wants, concerns; strategize to solve problems, engage in site planning.
• Coordinate all labor for garden sites- many parents, staff, volunteers, and interns will help with the garden sites, you will coordinate all this labor so it is effective and manageable.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:

• Experience gardening or farming
• Experience in food service or food production
• Strong organizational skills- especially time management and scheduling (personal and of others)
• Ability to work independently- especially to prioritize your own work, and the ability to envision next steps
• No coursework needed to qualify

*Rubenstein students currently in their first year, sophomore and junior year are eligible to apply.*

**Supervision:**

The intern will work directly under an ArtsRiot manager and Intern supervisor. The work will be heavily accountable to all partner sites/community partners. A dedicated weekly meeting will anchor the intern experience.

**Start and End Dates:** May 16 - September, 23 2016 (start & end dates may be negotiable)

**Total Hours:** 12 hours/week, 20 weeks

**Compensation:** $12.50/hour. Earning internship credit through the Rubenstein School Internship Program is required.

**How to apply:** Submit a resume, cover letter and an academic reference (professor name and contact information) by **Friday, January 29th, 2016** through Blackboard.