Internship Title: Sustainability and Environmental Education Intern

Internship Site: Star Island, Isles of Shoals, NH

This is a residential position on Star Island. Star Island is part of the Isles of Shoals, a small group of islands just off the coast of Maine and New Hampshire. The island is home to a seasonal conference center serving nearly 300 guests a week and operated by just over 100 staff members. Star Island is a great place to be a part of a dynamic community, experience island living, and enjoy a unique natural environment.

Sustainability on Star Island

The Green Gosport Initiative (GGI) is Star Island’s sustainability program. The GGI focuses on supporting the concepts of reduce, reuse, recycle across the island, but also describes the general approach to island energy, water, food, and waste systems.

Here are some highlights: After installing the largest off-grid solar array in New England, 2015 marked the first season in Star Island’s transition to solar. This array met 45.3 % of island power demand for the year, and reduced diesel usage by approximately 5,500 gallons. Since 2012 the island has reduced diesel usage by 70%, both through conversion to solar and through efficiency projects (updating or replacing equipment, changing practices). Island living highlights the importance of resource conservation and use and what to do with waste. Fresh water on island is very limited, and potable water is provided through reverse osmosis, rainwater filtration, and delivery of water by boat. The island is in the process of designing and receiving approval for a wastewater treatment facility upgrade, which will include water reuse in toilets. During the 2015 season Star re-designed a resource recovery center, the operations hub for managing food waste (all food waste is composted), on-island resource recovery (glass crushing and cardboard shredding), and recycling. For more information about Star Island see http://starisland.org/. For more information about Star Island sustainability see http://starisland.org/island/green/.

Description: The Sustainability and Environmental Education Intern will work to implement Star Island’s sustainability initiative (the Green Gosport Initiative) by engaging and educating staff and guests about environmental issues in order to increase awareness, inspire behavior change, foster a sense of environmental responsibility, promote the culture of reduce, reuse, recycle.

This will be accomplished by:

- Tracking parameters such as daily water use, waste separation efficiency, and power usage then communicating results and progress through a “dashboard”, daily updates, and announcements to guests and staff.
- Organizing sustainability programming (events, activities, and projects) for children’s groups, staff, and guests.
- Leading behind-the-scenes sustainability walks highlighting island systems and sustainable practices.
Offering periodic presentations to create an open and ongoing dialogue with guests and staff about island sustainability.

Developing informative and creative outreach materials: posters and displays about island sustainability and current projects (ex: green energy project).

Working with other interns and staff to identify projects related to energy use, waste management, and water conservation; working to implement these projects through systematic social marketing campaigns.

**Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:** Proven communication skills and ability to speak publicly in group settings; Ability to both work independently with limited supervision and work collaboratively in group settings; Safe, cooperative, respectful individuals who will thrive in the close working and living quarters of Star Island’s remote setting.

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

**Supervision:** Kristen Simard, Environmental Services Manager at Star Island.

**Start and End Dates:** May 30, 2016 – August 26, 2016 (exact start/end dates are flexible)

**Total Hours:** 36-42 hours/week, 12 weeks

**Compensation:** $3,000 for 12-week period. Room and board is provided, including all meals, and dormitory-style accommodations in staff quarters.

**How to apply:** Step by step application instructions are available on the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program website. Applications are due by 4pm, Friday, January 29th, 2016 through Blackboard.