

2017 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-009

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City. These assets range from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and more than 14 miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as vital meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation – but also as critical engines for economic growth and development.

NYC Parks' mission is to plan resilient and sustainable parks, public spaces, and recreational amenities, build a park system for present and future generations, and care for parks and public spaces to benefit New Yorkers across the five boroughs.

Through an effort to improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability of our city parks, the Mayor's office has funded a number of equity initiatives including:

Community Parks Initiative

NYC Parks' Community Parks Initiative, at the center of the Mayor's plan, is completely redesigning and reconstructing nearly 60 parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs—35 of which are in construction.

Parks Without Borders

NYC Parks is also leading in innovative park design with Parks Without Borders, a new design approach that focuses on improving park entrances, edges, and spaces adjacent to parks. By extending parks into communities, Parks Without Borders will improve public realm.

Anchor Parks

Under Anchor Parks, the city selected eight parks that have historically received underinvestment, high surrounding population, and potential for park development. The Anchor Parks program is part of NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver's Framework for an Equitable Future, a commitment to create thriving public spaces for all New Yorkers.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City's nearly 30,000 acres. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic and social activities, including nature walks, concerts, learn-to-swim classes, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. Each year Parks hosts annual events such as WinterJam, Adventures NYC, and the Fall Field Day. In addition, Parks produces many special events, concerts and movie premieres, as well as providing free rental equipment for skating, baseball, and miniature golf.

The NYC Parks Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor to oversee and direct the work of the agency. The Commissioner appoints Deputy Commissioners, Borough Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners who are responsible for managing the agency's divisions. These senior officials supervise the work of thousands of Parks employees. They work with elected officials to complete capital improvements for parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers. They work with the private sector to sponsor free public events. They get the community involved in Parks through volunteer initiatives and educational and athletic programming in recreation and nature centers. They prepare Parks' budget and monitor the work of Parks' ice-skating rinks, golf courses and other concessions.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Education and Wildlife division falls within Public Programs and includes the Urban Park Rangers, the Wildlife Unit, and Programming and Development. The mission of the Urban Park Rangers is to foster stewardship for NYC Parks by connecting New Yorkers to the natural world through environmental education, outdoor adventure, wildlife management and active conservation. The role of the Wildlife Unit is to foster stewardship for NYC parks, support healthy urban wildlife populations and promote quality of life for all New Yorkers through education, programs, policies, procedures and management plans that encourage coexistence between people and wildlife in New York City. The role of Programming and Development is to ensure programmatic alignment with agency and City goals and initiatives; guarantee programmatic excellence, consistency and standardization across five boroughs, and establish and manage productive programmatic partnerships.

POSITION TITLE

Education and Wildlife/Programming and Development Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The Education and Wildlife/Programming and Development Intern will report directly to the Director of Programming and Development for the Education and Wildlife division and will assist with the development, implementation and coordination of environmental education and recreation programs. The intern will:

- Research grant opportunities;
- Write and submit grant applications;
- Research, write, and develop program curricula;
- Assist with staff trainings and paperwork;
- Attend and evaluate existing environmental programs.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Coursework and demonstrated experience and interest in environmental education, stewardship, recreation and/or management; curriculum development; public administration; urban affairs; ecology; sociology.

Research experience

Excellent writing skills

Strong communication and interpersonal skills

Demonstrated ability to work independently

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This position reports to Arsenal North (Manhattan), M-F, 9-5.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please email cover letter and resume to Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid