

2024 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-031

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks & Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City with facilities ranging 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 an important tool in mitigating the effects of climate change, critical engines for economic growth and development. NYC Parks' mission is to grow, maintain, and program a world-class park system prioritizing equity, access, safety, and nature. Highlights of Parks' work over the last year include:

- Opening the 21-acre [North Park section of Freshkills Park on Staten Island](#) — the first section inside the former Fresh Kills Landfill site to open to the public.
- Launching [Let's Green NYC](#), a new initiative to reach a record number of volunteers in City parks through the end of 2024. The campaign encourages New Yorkers to get outside and build social connection by giving back to their city.
- Breaking ground on two new recreation centers –the [Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center](#) in Brooklyn and the [Mary Cali Dalton Recreation Center](#) in Staten Island – the first new recreation centers built in nearly a decade.
- Helping to keep New Yorkers healthy in the face of extreme heat by [planting 14,900 trees in Fiscal Year 2023](#) -- the highest street and park tree planting total in the past six fiscal years.

The work of our staff goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City's nearly 30,000 acres and more than 2.5 million trees. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic, and social activities, including nature walks, volunteer programs, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. In addition, Parks produces special events, concerts and movie premieres, and manages agreements with more than 300 businesses that operate on public parkland.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre, programmed by the City Parks Foundation (CPF), presents original marionette productions throughout the year and is in Central Park. The touring CityParks PuppetMobile, brings free performances to parks and recreation centers year-round. The performing ensemble is comprised both of CPF and Parks employees. CPF is a non-profit organization that produces arts, sports and educational programs for kids and adults in parks throughout New York City in partnership with Parks & Recreation. Through the years and especially in recent years we have had to train our marionette theatre puppeteers. They are important to the future of this parks program that entertain thousands of children and their caretakers annually. As part of our community outreach, we also conduct one-session and comprehensive puppet workshops in City Parks and Recreation Centers.

POSITION TITLE

Marionette Theatre Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Interns will learn the art of Marionette Theatre with a focus on Marionette Manipulation
- Get hands on experience at the theatre and on the puppet mobile
- Front of house experience greeting and ushering
- Support the production team in the preparation, setup, and execution of marionette performances, including stage management and prop handling
- Assist in administrative tasks such as scheduling, correspondence, and inventory management as needed

QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL SKILLS/AREAS OF INTEREST

- Interns should be in college doing degree work or taking courses in the performing or fine arts
- Some puppetry experience or courses in puppetry is good but not a pre-requisite
- Clear and effective communication skills, both verbal and written, to engage with colleagues and audience members
- Strong collaborative skills and willingness to work closely with a diverse team of artists and technicians
- Meticulous attention to detail in puppet manipulation, performance execution, and stagecraft

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This internship offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the captivating world of marionette theater and gain hands-on experience under the mentorship of seasoned professionals. The Marionette Theater is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and encourages applications from individuals of all backgrounds and identities.

APPLICATION PROCESS

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