Summer 2010 Internship Opportunity

Position Title
Summer Science Communication Intern

Location
Schoodic Education and Research Center
Acadia National Park
Winter Harbor, Maine

Position Description
Acadia Partners for Science and Learning (a non-governmental organization supporting science and education at the Schoodic Education and Research Center in Acadia National Park) is looking for college students interested in a summer internship as roving science reporters covering research and other natural, cultural, and social science activities at parks within the Northeast Region of the National Park Service (NPS). Interns will work with staff from Acadia Partners and the NPS to create reports and summaries of research projects and science programs conducted at Acadia National Park and other parks in the region. This work will involve reading scientific reports, working with researchers and staff (including participating in fieldwork) to clarify details and focus, writing summaries, editing images, creating graphics, and designing layouts for online and print publications. Interns will also be asked to author and maintain a regular weblog about their observations and insights on science and nature in the parks they visit. The purpose of this work is to expand and increase the visibility of the various science activities taking place at Acadia National Park and the other New England park units. In addition, this work will provide the interns with the opportunity to work with professional scientists, researchers, and NPS staff, learn about science and nature in the northeast, and gain science writing, publication design, and journalistic experience.

The interns’ training and day-to-day work will be managed by an intern team leader, who will also review and edit interns’ writing. The Executive Director at Acadia Partners, Bill Zoellick, will supervise the intern team; David Manski, Chief of Resource Management at Acadia National Park, will also coordinate assignments and fieldwork.

Position Dates
The internship will run for 10 weeks, starting May 31 and running through August 6. If the interns would like to be on campus during the week before May 31 to get settled, arrangements can be made.

Payment
Acadia Partners will provide a living allowance of $360 per week. The workweek is 40 hours, with some flexibility in terms of scheduling.
Housing/Services

Apartment housing on the SERC campus (see www.acadiapartners.org/campus for more information) will be provided at no cost. The apartment is furnished with furniture, a television, bed and bath linens, and basic kitchenware. Laundry facilities are available on campus. A small lounge area with a television, computers, books, movies, and exercise equipment is also located on campus. Free wireless internet is available campus-wide; however, most cellular phones have limited service.

Physical/Natural Environment

Interns will live and work in Acadia National Park. Intern housing is located on the SERC campus in the Schoodic Section of the park in Winter Harbor, Maine. The Schoodic Section of Acadia National Park offers numerous hiking trails and a scenic loop road which offer stunning ocean vistas. The campus is nestled in the forests of the peninsula’s interior, a short walk from the coast. Although the campus is not "remote" in a wilderness sense, it would be helpful to have a bicycle or car, since the nearest grocery store is about 10 miles away. A personal bike or car is not absolutely necessary, since there is a park bus that makes a loop that includes Winter Harbor, where the grocery store is located.

Work Environment

Office space will also be located on the SERC campus, within walking distance from the apartments. (See www.acadiapartners.org/directions for a map.) Computers and other necessary office supplies will be provided. Fieldwork will primarily take place in the larger Mount Desert Island section of Acadia, in Bar Harbor, Maine, about 60 minutes drive from Winter Harbor. Interns will also make short trips to other parks in the northeast region.

Qualifications

Applicants must be college students with excellent writing skills in addition to a strong science background and basic computer proficiency. Candidates with coursework or field experience in the natural, physical, or environmental sciences will be more competitive. Comprehensive knowledge of Abode Creative Suite programs (In Design, Illustrator, and Photoshop) used to create briefs is not necessary; however, candidates with previous experience using these programs will be more competitive. All interns will be trained to use the software during the first week and guidance will be available for the duration of the internship. During fieldwork, hiking, boating, or other outdoor physical activity may be required. Applicants should also be capable of working safely, responsibly, and comfortably with researchers and park staff in the field and should have a valid driver’s license.

Application

To apply, please send cover letter, résumé, a short writing sample, and contact information to Bill Zoellick at bill@acadiapartners.org. Applications should be submitted before March 15. Selected applicants will be contacted by April 23.

For more information, contact Bill Zoellick
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