

Position/Title: Learning Gardens Educator; Seasonal/Part-Time (20-28 hrs/week)

Start Date: September 26, 2022

End Date: June 23, 2023

Salary: \$22 - \$25 per hour

Contact: Send resume and cover letter to education@cityparksfoundation.org

ABOUT CITY PARKS FOUNDATION

City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is to offer programs in public parks throughout the five boroughs of New York City. At CPF, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community development, and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs and community building initiatives -- located in more than 350 parks, recreation centers, and public schools across New York City -- reach 425,000 people each year.

- We present the largest free, outdoor performing arts festival in NYC through SummerStage, presenting artists of the highest quality across multiple disciplines and genres, and marionette puppet theater in all five boroughs with our Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre and the roving PuppetMobile.
- Partnerships for Parks, a public-private program of City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks, supports and champions a growing network of leaders who care and advocate for the transformation of their neighborhood parks.
- We connect youngsters to nature in the urban environment with education programs that provide learning experiences through classroom and hands-on activities in parks, urban forests, coastal areas, gardens, and recreation centers.
- Free golf, tennis, track & field, soccer, and fitness programs bring high-quality instruction and equipment into areas where few organized athletic opportunities exist. We offer leveled training, year-round scholarship coaching, and special pro events.

Our ethos is simple: *we believe thriving parks reflect thriving communities.*

POSITION SUMMARY

City Parks Foundation **Learning Gardens** brings year-round, field and school-based garden science learning to NYC school children and community members. Our gardens are outdoor classrooms that provide vibrant green space in some of New York City's most densely populated neighborhoods. We provide programming in various community gardens in four boroughs. Using our garden partner sites, CPF presents engaging interdisciplinary lessons to expand student learning around urban ecology, horticulture, soil science, and sustainable urban food systems. Students in 1st – 8th grade and their teachers receive resource materials, curricula, and tools to enhance their understanding of ecosystem services and address the unique challenges of growing food in an urban environment. High School interns are trained in garden instruction and horticultural techniques throughout the spring and then work alongside Learning Gardens staff throughout the summer.

City Parks Foundation seeks Part-Time Educators to work this upcoming Fall with our Learning Gardens School Day program. The Part-Time Educator would be in charge of implementing established lesson plans in CPFs current curricula as part of the school day program from October - June. This includes sessions in the classroom and outdoors as part of field experiences for elementary grades 1st-5th and/or middle school grades 6th-8th. The Part-Time Educator reports to the Associate Director of Environmental Education.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serve as a part-time educator for Learning Gardens school day elementary program spanning October - June with regularly scheduled classes in gardens and school classrooms
- Implement a curriculum in person, which includes indoor and outdoor sessions with hands-on activities including small animal handling, gardening activities, and food preparation
- Contribute to workshops and professional development sessions with Learning Gardens partners
- Contribute to our Learning Gardens google site and seasonal newsletter
- Work with the Associate Director of Environmental Education and other staff to help shape curricula by providing relevant feedback
- Continually investigate best practices through your own professional development in topics such as child development, environmental studies, and pedagogy
- Assist in maintaining education department resources including gardening tools, and supplies as well as animals
- Implement assessment tools and analyze data to measure the learning outcomes of the program
- Provide logistical support and complete general administrative duties as needed
- Assist with record-keeping and reporting requirements
- Assist with maintenance tasks in Learning Gardens growing spaces including weeding, transplanting, direct seeding, compost, etc

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in Education, Agriculture, Sustainability, Environmental Education/Science, Environmental Studies or equivalent direct experience in environmental science education in non-formal settings
- A minimum of two years of teaching experience with outdoor and experiential learning
- Strong/solid classroom management skills and the ability to instruct different types of learners
- Strong experience with elementary and/or middle school-age students
- Demonstrated success working with diverse students, especially youth from low-income communities
- Excellent written and verbal communication as well as problem-solving skills
- Strong proficiency in Google Drive and Office applications (docs, sheets, slides, sites)
- A strong interest in teaching culturally relevant gardening lessons and promoting sustainable eating
- Willingness to travel alone on public transportation to sites throughout New York City
- Willingness to work outdoors in sometimes uncomfortable weather conditions
- The ability to work both independently and as part of a team is essential
- Self-starter with a positive, can-do attitude and consistent follow-through
- Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination



City Parks Foundation
830 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10065
www.CityParksFoundation

CONTACT

Interested parties should email **cover letter, resume, and salary requirements:**
education[at]cityparksfoundation.org. Put title of position in subject header.

Thank you for your interest in City Parks Foundation, an equal opportunity employer. Only potential candidates will be contacted. No calls, please.