PUBLIC GARDEN INTERNSHIP
Lurie Garden
Chicago, IL

The Lurie Garden in Millennium Park is a 5-acre urban oasis in downtown Chicago showcasing a harmonious blend of symbolism, landscape design, and ecological sensitivity. The garden was designed by Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd. with perennial plant design leadership from Piet Oudolf. Its design pays homage to Chicago’s transformation from flat marshland to innovative green city. Lurie Garden offers free education programs, tours, membership events, and other activities for adults, children, and families throughout the year.

The Lurie Garden seeks a talented, inspired, and dedicated part-time Public Garden Intern for the 2016 season. The Public Garden Internship represents a rare and unique opportunity to gain first-hand experience in urban public horticulture, ecologically sensitive horticultural practices, and new wave perennial planting design. As the Public Garden Intern, you will have the chance to work at one of the country’s top public gardens, collaborate with some of the best horticulturalists and perennial plant growers in the country, and experience public gardening in downtown Chicago.

Salary Range:
$12.00 per hour

Work Schedule:
- April-October 2016
- Part-time, seasonal (some weekends and evenings required)
- Up to 32 hours per week
- 25-30 weeks total

Position Description:
The goal of the Public Garden Intern is to provide hands-on support to both Lurie Garden horticulture and education program/event staff. The position will also interact with volunteers, Lurie Garden members, and the public.

The Intern reports to the Lurie Garden Head Horticulturalist or Program Manager as determined by assigned duties/tasks.

The Lurie Garden is willing to coordinate with accredited colleges and universities for class or special project credit.
Responsibilities:
- Assist with planting, weeding, watering, pruning, and other general gardening tasks to the standard set for Lurie Garden planting areas.
- Assist in the organization, work planning, and direction of weekly hands-on garden volunteers.
- Plan and deliver tours of the Lurie Garden, including weekly “Ask Me” tour programs, with or without the assistance of garden staff and/or volunteers.
- Assist in the organization, planning, and delivery of education programs, workshops, and lectures for all demographic groups, including Family Fun Festival.
- Assist in the organization, planning, and execution of special activities, including, but not limited to, Spring Plant Sale, fall Urban Wild, summer member exclusive tour(s).
- Upon and prior to completion of employment, write and deliver to the Lurie Garden Director a synopsis, diary, and/or summary of experiences and knowledge gained as the Public Horticulture Intern.

Qualifications:
- Strong interest in public gardens, sustainable and ecologically sensitive horticulture, and nature education required.
- Demonstrated proficiency with industry standard horticultural practices, tools, and equipment required.
- Ability to work independently, effectively, and efficiently in a public garden and outdoor setting, independent of weather condition, required.
- Strong written and verbal communication skill required.
- Demonstrated ability to speak with public/visitors about public gardens/gardening preferred.
- Capable of lifting up to 25 pounds without assistance required.
- Capable of kneeling, standing, and bending for extended periods of time required.

Application Deadline:
17 February 2016

Application Procedure:
Email cover letter, resume, most recent academic transcript (if applicable), and two (2) letters of recommendation to: Dr. Scott Stewart, Director at info@luriegarden.org.