HORTICULTURE INTERNSHIPS

The Polly Hill Arboretum on the island of Martha’s Vineyard is seeking applicants who are students of horticulture or plant science at the college level to participate as horticulture interns. The Arboretum, a Martha’s Vineyard horticultural and botanical landmark, was developed by horticulturist, Polly Hill (1907-2007). In 1958, Polly began an arboretum by sowing a seed, eventually bringing 20 acres under cultivation while preserving 40 additional acres as native woodland. Established in 1998 as a not-for-profit institution, the Arboretum is devoted to horticulture, plant-based education, conservation and research, and the preservation of the character of this unique landscape. Please visit www.pollyhillarboretum.org for more information about our programs, activities and mission.

The Arboretum’s summer internship program offers two students a unique opportunity to improve their horticultural knowledge and skills through hands-on care and management of the Arboretum’s grounds and diverse living collection. Working alongside and learning from professional horticulture staff, interns will have the opportunity to gain experience through participation in activities such as pruning, arboriculture, plant propagation, greenhouse and nursery management, IPM, plant records, as well as basic horticultural tasks. Interns are also expected to work with the public and help staff the Visitor Center. Interns give occasional tours and assist with the education program in which they are encouraged to participate. Field trips to other public and private gardens are scheduled throughout the Summer.

The ideal candidates will be currently enrolled in a two- or four-year horticulture, botany, environmental studies or closely related college program. The successful candidates will be hard-working individuals with a sincere interest in further developing their horticultural knowledge and skills in a public garden setting, and are motivated to take full advantage of the opportunities provided.

Internships are full time positions and interns work 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. five days per week. Interns are encouraged to participate in special events and educational activities beyond this schedule, and are occasionally required to do so.

Internships are for 12 weeks. The start date is flexible, although mid-late May is ideal. Compensation is $10/hour for a 35 hour week, and housing is provided nearby at The Nature Conservancy’s Hotf Farm.

To apply for an internship for the summer of 2016 please send a cover letter, a résumé and a list of three references (at least one of which should be from a non-academic employer) by February 15th, 2016 to:

The Polly Hill Arboretum
Attention: Tom Clark
P.O. Box 561
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(508) 693-9426