Title: Summer Assistant Teacher for the Arboretum Young Scientists Program

Status: Temporary

Term: 4.5 weeks to commence in June 2022

Summary: The Arnold Arboretum seeks two assistant teachers - educators who love hands-on outdoor education and working with 7th and 8th graders - to assist lead teachers in a 4-week summer pilot science-learning initiative called the Arboretum Young Scientists Program (AYS). The AYS program expands upon the Arboretum’s K-12 educational offerings from its successful program for elementary students, by including, for the first time, middle school, and later high school, students from Boston Public Schools (BPS), an age group that has been under-served in Boston and elsewhere in relation to inspired science programs.

The over-arching goal of AYS is to deepen student appreciation and mastery of science principles, with a focus on environmental and life science. Using exciting science curricula and based in the varied landscape of the Arnold Arboretum, the aim of AYS is to immerse our students in the wonders of science over the course of middle and high school, spark their enthusiasm, and open their horizons to future careers in related fields. Our students will be predominantly students of color, consistent with the student population of the BPS, and AYS will incorporate a culturally competent and anti-racist staff and curriculum. AYS aspires to the remedy the lack of diversity in STEM and science professions, by supporting the development of its students and exposing them to exciting futures in science professions.

The assistant teachers, who will work with the lead science teachers, will be core staff members of the new Pilot, expected to serve approximately 20-24 students. Two will be hired. Instructors will work with teams of 10-12 students and will work collaboratively to support the entire group of students. The summer program will be a 4-week program, starting July 5 and ending July 29. The equivalent of 3 days of professional development and training for the program will take place in advance, on dates to be determined.

Pay is $30/hour.

Job Duties & Activities

- Assist and support the science education activities of AYS, under the direction of the Lead Teachers and the Program Director.

- Support Lead Teachers with behavioral and group management.

- Work with small groups of students who need supportive attention to ensure their full engagement in learning science, using methods and exercises that are varied, lively and fun; empowering and mentoring students and sharing their own journeys into science.

- Enhance student engagement through one-on-one sessions, and small group lessons—as needed-- to improve performance, assure effectiveness of curriculum, and efficacy of program operations.

- Participate in creating and maintaining an anti-racist and trauma-sensitive learning climate, and a work environment that inspires and motivates all program participants.

- Join professional development and training opportunities to prepare for program, dates to be determined.

Key qualities sought:
• Initiative and enthusiasm for helping launch a pilot science program in its first year
• Commitment to innovative experiential outdoor science education with a focus on students 11-18 years old
• Love for middle school students and deep comfort in supporting them.

**Qualifications:**

• Successful completion of pre-employment screen including criminal background checks and proof of complete vaccination
• Bachelor’s degree, or current undergraduate science major, preferably with some teaching/youth leadership experience
• Significant experience working with diverse student populations
• Comfort with approaches to social emotional learning, and with the implications for students of the negative consequences of the pandemic
• Ability to follow all COVID – 19 safety protocols

**Additional Qualifications**

• Experience in outdoor education preferred

**Physical and Medical Standards**

• Ability to work actively outdoors during the hot summer months and in all weather conditions.
• Ability to work independently and in groups
• No allergy to plants, animals or chemicals that may be used on the job that may interfere with ability to perform work.
• No impairment of sight, smell, hearing, touch, balance or agility of movement (which cannot be corrected with appropriate devices) that may interfere with ability to perform work.

**Additional Information**

This is an approximate 4.5-week contract position for the program’s Pilot year.

Location: 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA. 02130.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Nancy Sableski, Manager of Children’s Education:
nancy_sableski@harvard.edu

**PLEASE NOTE:** Until our return to campus and full operational status, which is yet to-be-determined, the interview process and all position duties will be conducted remotely - including virtual interviews, remote onboarding, and remote work.