

2016 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-060

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City. These assets range from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and more than 14 miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as vital meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation – but also as critical engines for economic growth and development.

NYC Parks' mission is to plan resilient and sustainable parks, public spaces, and recreational amenities, build a park system for present and future generations, and care for parks and public spaces to benefit New Yorkers across the five boroughs.

Through an effort to improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability of our city parks by increasing investment in underserved neighborhoods and expanding parkland: NYC Parks' **Community Parks Initiative**, at the center of the Mayor's plan, is completely redesigning and reconstructing dozens of parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs—35 of which are nearing the construction phase.

NYC Parks is also leading in innovative park design with **Parks Without Borders**, a new design approach that focuses on improving park entrances, edges, and spaces adjacent to parks. By extending parks into communities, Parks Without Borders will improve New Yorkers' access to quality parks.

Ongoing work to care for our parks has:

- Reconnected the City's two most northern boroughs, Manhattan and The Bronx, when NYC Parks' historic High Bridge was reopened.
- Re-energized Flushing Meadow Corona Park in Queens, one of New York's largest parks, drawing visitors from around the globe.
- Reinforced our commitment to growing greenspaces by meeting our goal to plant 1,000,000 trees.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City's nearly 30,000 acres. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic and social activities, including nature walks, concerts, learn-to-swim classes, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. Each year Parks hosts annual events such as WinterJam, Adventures NYC, and the Fall Field Day. In addition, Parks produces many special events, concerts and movie premieres, as well as providing free rental equipment for skating, baseball, and miniature golf.

The Parks Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor to oversee and direct the work of the agency. The Commissioner appoints Deputy Commissioners, Borough Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners who are responsible for managing the agency's divisions. These senior officials supervise the work of thousands of Parks employees. They work with elected officials to complete capital improvements for parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers. They work with the private sector to sponsor free public events. They get the community involved in Parks through volunteer initiatives and educational and athletic programming in recreation and nature centers. They prepare Parks' budget and monitor the work of Parks' ice-skating rinks, golf courses and other concessions.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Computer Resource Centers (CRC) provide internet and information access, state of the art technology tools, and digital learning opportunities in 32 DPR recreation centers city-wide to New York City residents. CRC workshops and training sessions are free to recreation center members of all ages and abilities and range from basic typing to video production and game design. Our teen programming, RecYouth, provides teens with multimedia project based learning and credit-bearing internships. Our adult program offers certification in Adobe CC and MS Office. Our afterschool and summer programs, for youth ages 6-14 throughout the city, focus on project-based learning in the areas of 21st century skills, media literacy and STEM enrichment. <http://www.nycgovparks.org/crc>

The SPARX program (<http://tinyurl.com/sparxplus>) is currently a pilot project, funded by the Butler Foundation, through June of this year, with the goal of serving girls, age 12-18, from the Bronx, of all abilities. We seek to provide our participants a safe environment where they are free to develop their own projects, using an inquiry-based model, as we encourage ste(a)m learning use engineering design principles as a model for inquiry and invention. Girls are creating and inventing tools and resources which have impact on their daily lives. Participants are encouraged and invited to return, term after term, as they evolve their capacities in computer science, engineering, math, industrial design, or science and exposed to external resources and field trips to inspire this development. Our end goal is to provide each participant with the opportunity to fully explore her potential next steps in these fields and support their academic capacity to perform well in these fields.

POSITION TITLE

CRC Youth Coding and Tech Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist with day-to-day operations of the SPARX program; build and implement a strategy to make SPARX successful and awesome.
- Guide young women in project based learning with focus on the mission described above.
- Support marketing and outreach to increase enrollment and participation in the program.
- Plan and lead excursions to STEAM based events and locations throughout NYC.

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

- Junior or senior in college, preferably with a major in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Industrial Design.
- Interest in Grade 6-12 STEM education
- Familiarity with the engineering and architectural design process.
- Experimental and entrepreneurial approach to learning and teaching.
- Ability to communicate creative ideas in written, verbal, and visual forms
- Desire to work and collaborate with supervisors, CRC staff and other interns
- Proficiency in the use of the following software preferred: Adobe CS3/4/5/CC (In-design, Photoshop, Illustrator), 3d modeling – Blender 3d, Sketchup, CAD, Microsoft PowerPoint, Word, Excel, and Google Docs.
- Desire to work and collaborate with Recreation Center and CRC staff

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2 positions available, 10-20 hours/week. College credit possible.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please email cover letter and resume to Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid