OAK SPRING GARDEN FOUNDATION

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

The Oak Spring Garden Foundation (OSGF) seeks applications for two internships for the summer of 2017 in 1) botanical art history, and 2) evolutionary/ecological plant science communication.

The Oak Spring Garden Foundation is a private operating foundation based in Upperville, Virginia with a mission to perpetuate and share Rachel Lambert Mellon’s home, garden, estate and Library to serve the public interest. The Foundation is dedicated to inspiring and facilitating scholarship and public dialogue on the history and future of plants, including the culture of gardens and landscapes and the importance of plants for human well-being. For additional information, please visit www.osgf.org.

Overview of Both Positions:

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<th>Schedule:</th>
<th>Up to three months, full-time beginning in mid-May.</th>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Upperville, VA; The Oak Spring estate is located in a beautiful part of rural northern Virginia, 15 minutes from the nearest town. Having access to a car is desirable, but not essential.</td>
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<td>Payment:</td>
<td>Interns will receive a monthly stipend of $1,200 (taxable) and will be provided with self-catering accommodation on the Oak Spring Estate. The four-bedroom, two-bath home will be shared with two interns from the New York Botanical Garden.</td>
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<td>To Apply:</td>
<td>Please send applications by email to <a href="mailto:info@osgf.org">info@osgf.org</a> with a resume and a brief letter outlining your interest in the position. Please include your availability/preferred start-date (if any). Review of applications will begin on Monday, February 20th and the internships will remain open until filled.</td>
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Successful applicants will be highly motivated and capable of independent research, both online and in the Oak Spring Library. We expect that most applicants will be rising junior or senior undergraduates, but we also welcome applicants who have completed their undergraduate degree. Excellent written communication skills are essential. A strong commitment to moving projects forward quickly, and in substantial and meaningful ways during their time at Oak Spring, will also be important. Excellent interpersonal skills, and an ability to work as part of a highly collegial team will be a key consideration in the selection process.
Position-Specific Information:

1) Botanical Art History.

OSGF is engaged in a major initiative to increase recognition of the role that women have played in the development of plant science through botanical art. The intern will participate in this project by assisting with the development of a new OSGF site within the Google Cultural Institute, and will also contribute to efforts to improve the representation of women artists on Wikipedia. The successful applicant will have the opportunity and responsibility to familiarize her/himself with materials by women botanical artists in the Oak Spring Garden Library, while also researching collections at other institutions.

In addition to the skills listed above, the Botanical Art History Intern will have a sound knowledge of art history and an interest in botanical art. An interest in pioneering women artists will also be beneficial.

2) Evolutionary/Ecological Plant Science Communication.

OSGF is engaged in a major initiative to prepare online educational materials relating to the evolution, ecology and conservation of the variety of plant life. This project is being undertaken in collaboration with colleagues at Yale University and other organizations. The intern will contribute to this project by researching and developing online materials on a variety of plant-related topics, including the identification of other online resources that can be incorporated into the electronic outreach strategy of OSGF.

In addition to the skills listed above, the Plant Science Communication Intern will have a sound background in evolutionary and ecological plant biology at the organismal level and an interest in communicating science to diverse audiences. Experience in science communication and writing for non-technical audiences will also be an asset.