



Butterfly House & Gardens Internship

CMBG Mission: The mission of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is to inspire meaningful connections among people, plants and nature through horticulture, education and research.

Internship Mission: This internship prepares students to enter the field of environmental science or science/museum education by providing hands-on experience with interpretation and informal education in a public garden setting as well as the experience of learning to raise butterflies and moths and provide the natural environment to help them flourish. In particular, the intern in this position will immerse themselves in the setting of our new Butterfly House, taking care of the gardens and butterflies, interacting with visitors and providing hands-on informal education to the public. This internship allows students to learn how the Education and Horticulture Departments leverage the incredible landscape and resources of the gardens for a wide variety of learning modes and settings to serve our diverse customer and visitor base. Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens is regarded as among the foremost public gardens in the country.

Academic/Experiential-Learning Nexus: Public programming and horticulture in relation to horticulture, botany, and natural history.

Position Summary: Under the supervision and mentorship of the Director of Horticulture and working closely with the Education department, the Butterfly House Intern will play a major role in providing horticulture assistance in the Butterfly Gardens and staffing the Gardens' new Butterfly House exhibit. Playing a key role helping to rear the butterflies and moths in all stages of their life cycle, including maintaining their food and environment will be half of this position. The other half will be working with the Education department and volunteers providing live interpretation for visitors and managing the volunteer schedule in the house for this fun and vibrant exhibit.

Butterfly House & Gardens

- Assist in rearing of the butterflies and moths from caterpillar to adult
- Assist in maintaining the gardens around the Butterfly House and other gardens as needed
- Learn the art and science of live interpretation while supporting the development of the Butterfly House interpretation
- Support volunteer docents in the Butterfly House by assisting with schedule management, volunteer training and development

Horticulture

- Ornamental gardening, including planting, mulching, weeding, staking, dead-heading, pruning, watering, pest identification and integrated pest management, plant identification, and developing knowledge of plant, design, and material needs
- General maintenance of gardens, horticulture buildings, and equipment, including raking, sweeping, cleaning, sharpening, and repairs as needed
- Propagation/Production, may include collection, storage, and sowing of seed, cuttings, transplanting, watering, additional plant care, and greenhouse management
- Plant curation, may include labeling, record-keeping, mapping, plant photography, and phenology
- Other departmental and/or organizational duties as needed (e.g., special events, etc.)

Qualifications: The successful candidate must be comfortable and enjoy interacting with the public. They should have solid organizational skills, an interest in plants, nature, and the outdoors, and a desire to learn more about the role of education in a public garden and museum setting. They should enjoy working outdoors in the garden. Some coursework/experience in the field of education or the natural sciences is also required.

Schedule: 40 hours/week, including Sundays, from approximately mid-May to late August. Flexible start and end date. There is an hourly wage for this internship. The successful candidate is responsible for his/her own transportation to and from the workplace. Assistance finding housing is available.

To Apply: Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter describing their interest in the position, a resume, and a list of references to: Sharmon Provan, Director of Horticulture at sprovan@mainegardens.org.

Application Deadline: February 28, 2019