



Position Announcement

Sailing & Program Internship 2011 –

Campus Host/Craft Immersion/Office Assistant/Sailing Deckhand

North House Folk School, Grand Marais, MN

Updated: July 2010

Overview:

North House Folk School is a dynamic, young, educational nonprofit committed to teaching traditional northern crafts while fostering lifelong learning. The school's curriculum emphasizes hands-on learning and includes courses ranging from timber framing to northern ecology, birch bark weaving to artisan bread baking. The North House campus is located in northeastern Minnesota on the shore of Lake Superior and includes two historic timbered workshops (formally warehouses), two recently-built rustic timbered classroom buildings, a small house, and a 50' gaff-rigged schooner. During a typical year, over 100 regional artisans and crafts-people are featured as instructors. Interns play an active role in day-to-day campus coordination while also participating in a thematically-focused craft study immersion.

Duties:

Support and participate in the mission/vision of the North House Folk School: "enriching lives and building community by teaching traditional northern crafts in a student-centered learning environment that inspires the hands, the heart and the mind." The schooner Hjordis is a key part of North House's campus - her presence on the water is an extension of the school's community. The Sailing Intern work schedule and time commitments are divided between four duties, all of which are directly connected to the daily affairs on campus or the schooner Hjordis. **The mix of duties varies from season to season, with an emphasis on general programs Feb-May and Oct-Nov season and an emphasis on sailing June-Sept.**

Campus Host - hands-on role welcoming visitors and students, ensure program success by preparing and maintaining classrooms, participate hosting multiple seasonal special events, host wood-fired pizza potlucks for students, engage campus improvement/maintenance projects.

Traditional Craft Immersion – explore the world of traditional northern crafts via North House's curriculum, expanding individual skills, participating in courses, cooperating with instructors, presenting public demonstrations (i.e. knot tying) and improving campus resources through individual projects.

Office Assistant - assist with front office projects, school store operations and curriculum marketing, answering phones and registering students, preparing press releases, distributing catalogs and providing administrative support.

Summer Sailing Deckhand – during the primary sailing season (June-Sept) assist with Hjordis' daily sailing program and sailing coursework during a majority of the work week. Follow the lead of the captains in all boat operations including sail/line handling, helming, educational programs, and fostering the mission of North House through hands-on participation. Assist with day-to-day scheduling of captains and deckhands. Assist with boat maintenance projects and day-to-day upkeep, including cleaning, some marine diesel engine work, rigging, painting, and sanding, varnishing, rope work, and woodworking.

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Ideal Qualifications:

General - exposure to/interest in traditional northern crafts, hands-on learning and community-focused programs. Experience facilitating small-group learning & public speaking. Background engaging office projects that support education programs. Confidence developing working relationships with instructors and volunteers. Ability to maintain motivation while working independently. Sailing specific - significant sailing experience, familiarity with painting, sanding, woodworking and basic mechanical skills. Exposure to sailboats of various sizes and formats.

Documented success managing multi-stage projects. Multiple years of college-level course work or similar post-high school life experience with exposure to appropriate topics. Excellent verbal/written communications, organizational and computer skills essential. Availability to work full time (40 hours/week, Wed-Sun, some evenings, some rotating Monday duties) and willingness to live on campus immersed in the rhythm of campus life. Position structured to enable applicants to work towards formal certification as a OUPV Coast Guard certification including logged sea service time.

Compensation:

\$400/month paid stipend plus \$300/month tuition credit towards participation in selected courses. Housing in harbor-side, timber-framed, solar-hot-water heated intern loft (with two other interns – shared living space, private bedrooms). Includes utilities, local phone, internet. As compensation is paid, North House's intern program is currently not open to international candidates (as defined by US Labor laws).

Position Dates:

February 2 to November 23, 2011, duration 10 months, one position available. Five days of paid "time off" available depending on the program schedule.

Inquiry & Application Timeline:

Info packets available – August 1, 2010. Applications must be submitted by closing date – September 30, 2010. Interviews take place during the two weeks following the closing date.

Physical Requirements:

Position requires an ability to lift and carry 50 pounds, move around easily on the deck of a moving sailboat, utilize hand and power tools, climb ladders, and stand upright for a number of hours every day. Interns who sail aboard the schooner Hjordis are also required to participate in a Coast Guard mandated drug testing program. Initial drug tests are administered at the start of the sailing season and random testing is done throughout the season.

Contact us:

Please request an information packet before applying. Send your cover letter, resume, and references to: North House Folk School, PO Box 759, Grand Marais, MN 55604 (218) 387-9762, info@northhouse.org , www.northhouse.org.