



Position Announcement - DRAFT

Sailing Internship 2010 –Summer Deckhand

North House Folk School, Grand Marais, MN

Updated: May 2009

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 craftspeople 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 three duties, all of which are directly connected to the daily affairs aboard the schooner Hjordis.

Deckhand (~50%) – assist with Hjordis' daily sailing program and sailing coursework. Follow the lead of the captain in all boat operations including sail/line handling, helming, educational programs, and fostering the mission of North House through hands-on participation. Participate in selected sailing courses and extended Sail Training trips (see individual course description).

Schooner Maintenance (~30%) – (as one can imagine, a sailboat does not maintain itself) Assist with boat maintenance projects and day-to-day upkeep. This will include cleaning, some marine diesel engine work, rigging, painting, and sanding, varnishing, rope work, and woodworking.

Campus Assistant (~20%) - work with other staff to complete campus projects, prepare for courses, promote sailing programs, manage office duties and host special events.

Ideal Qualifications:

Significant sailing experience preferred. A positive attitude, willingness to learn, good personal skills, self-motivation, and a high interest in sailing a traditional rigged Schooner are a must. Experience in public speaking, program development, and boat handling. Additionally, the deckhand should have familiarity with painting, sanding, woodworking and basic mechanical skills. Availability to work full time (40 hours/week, some evenings) and willingness to live aboard a schooner immersed in the rhythm of campus life. Position structured to enable applicants to work towards formal certification as a OUPV Coast Guard certification.

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Compensation:

\$400/month paid stipend plus participation in selected sailing courses. Logged sea service time toward obtaining a USCG Captain's License, and much sail-training experience. This position lives/sleeps aboard the schooner Hjordis. On-shore head with shower and indoor cooking facilities are also provided along with a shared work-space with internet access and local phone. As compensation is paid, North House's intern program is currently not open to international candidates.

Position Dates:

May 26 to September 29, 2010, duration 4 months, one position available. Occasional "time off" may be possible depending on the program schedule.

Inquiry & Application Timeline:

Info Available – December 1, 2009. Applications must be submitted by closing date - January 31, 2010. Interviews take place during the two weeks following the closing dates.

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