May 8, 2011

Nature Bridge

28 Geary Street - Suite 650   
San Francisco, CA 94108

Dear Nature Bridge Hiring Committee,

I am a certified Elementary Education teacher with a wide variety of teaching experience in a multitude of settings. Currently I am serving as an outdoor educator at YMCA Camp Thunderbird’s Environmental Education Center in South Carolina. My first experience in outdoor education was at Shaver’s Creek, Penn State’s Environmental Education Center, as a fall season intern.

I received my teaching certification in May 2010 upon my graduation from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. I double majored in Elementary Education and Interdisciplinary Studies while competing for my college’s basketball team. While my background is mostly in formal classroom education, I have recently changed the focus of my educational philosophy. I applied at Shaver’s Creek Environmental Center because I knew that there had to be more to teaching then standardized testing and sitting in a classroom all day. Within one month of work there, my entire educational outlook had been revamped. I began applying for outdoor education positions and landed upon Camp Thunderbird in Lake Wylie, South Carolina. This job has been a great experience for me in teaching a variety of classes and working with a broad range of ages and abilities. I wake up every day excited to go to work and it is this passion for teaching in the outdoors that has led me to your program at Nature Bridge.

I, like most people, still have much to learn about the natural world, but my wonder and excitement only fuels my desire to find out and share information with others. I believe that outdoor education is the most successful method in reaching students and am having a hard time imagining ever entering a formal classroom again. I have learned so much about science and history based lessons over the past year and am truly excited to soak up and share as much information as possible. I believe that I would be a great asset to your program because of my experience and love of teaching and tireless energy.

Please contact me if you desire any further information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Laura Silverman