

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT INITIATIVE FOR YOUNG LEADERS IN CLIMATE CHANGE

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to announce the *George Melendez Wright Initiative for Young Leaders in Climate Change* (YLCC) to provide a pathway for exemplary students in higher education (graduate students and advanced undergraduate students) to apply their skills and ideas to park-based challenges and solutions. The Initiative offers 12-week paid internships which allow students to gain valuable work experience, explore career options, and develop leadership skills through mentorship and guidance while helping to advance the NPS response to climate change. Successful students may be eligible for non-competitive hire into federal positions for which they qualify following completion of all academic requirements.

Climate Change Interpretation through Citizen Science

Grand Canyon National Park Interpretation – North Rim
North Rim, AZ

INTERNSHIP PROJECT BACKGROUND

The North Rim is a remote location within Grand Canyon National Park. It is seeing less snow in winter, warmer temperatures in summer, and earlier fall colors. We are experiencing pressure from surrounding communities to extend our shoulder season. This project will establish climate change interpretation programs with citizen science phenology monitoring on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The program will be complementary to the phenology monitoring program on the South Rim. The establishment of this program will complete the circle in collecting comprehensive data set to look at phenology park-wide. The Division of Interpretation would like to create a “brand” for citizen science programming in Grand Canyon and enhance public outreach on climate change through social media.

INTERNSHIP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goals of this internship project are: to establish a baseline of phenological data on the North Rim in order to have a comprehensive collection process throughout Grand Canyon National Park; to increase science literacy in park visitors through citizen science phenology monitoring; to create a training manual, formal training and interpretive program outline for North Rim Interpretive Staff; and to look for other citizen science data collection opportunities on the North Rim.

The intern will:

1. Collect phenological data a minimum of twice weekly.
2. Conduct a minimum of two citizen science phenology monitoring interpretive programs per week.
3. Deliver an interpretive slide show about Climate Change once a week.
4. Enter phenological data into park database and on Nature’s notebook.
5. Conduct research using the park library and other resources to create training materials for interpretive staff.

6. Rove North Rim trails and overlooks daily to make informal contacts with park visitors about climate change.
7. Staff visitor center information desk at least 1 hour per day.
8. Create a minimum of one social media post per week to introduce phenology, citizen science, and climate change.
9. Hold a conference call with South Rim Citizen Science staff to coordinate citizen science activities in Grand Canyon .

The intern will create the following:

- Training manual for interpreting phenology using citizen science.
- Annotated bibliography of phenology and ecology resources related to the project.
- Program outline, script and materials that can be used by North Rim Interpretive Park Ranger staff.
- A brand for citizen science at Grand Canyon that is clearly identifiable in program advertising and on social media.
- A list of future citizen science and climate change outreach opportunities on the North Rim.

QUALIFICATIONS

Ability to communicate orally and in writing to diverse groups in a variety of settings. Must possess strong interpersonal skills. Ability to research, develop, and present formal, structured and impromptu thematic interpretive programs. Ability to provide excellent customer service. Ability to gather data and input data into a database. Knowledge of computers and audio video equipment. Ability to work in all weather conditions at high elevations and in desert environments with hot temperatures and occasional severe thunderstorms. Ability to respond to emergencies to the level of training and call for assistance. CPR and 1st Aid certification preferred. Must have at least two years of college experience.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

This is a wonderful opportunity for a student to gain experience in applied interpretation. The intern will work with the District Interpretive Ranger to create an “interpreting climate change through citizen science” training program for North Rim staff. Intern will participate in the peer review program working to provide constructive feedback to the Interpretation team. Intern will gain real-world problem solving skills through every day interaction with park visitors. The intern will lead the charge in establishing a phenological data collection program for the North Rim and lead park visitors in citizen science activities. The skills used in these projects are desirable qualities for those seeking careers in interpretation and resource education.

DATES OF POSITION

Dates are flexible, starting no earlier than 4/17/2016 and ending no later than 10/20/2016. Ideally the intern will work 480 hours between June 1 and August 30.

COMPENSATION

This initiative supports one student at \$15/hour for 12 weeks, or 480 hours.

HOUSING

North Rim is a remote duty location, with limited cell service and no internet in the housing area. Government housing is limited and may be rustic in nature. Housing is usually furnished. Linens, towels, and dishes must be provided by the intern. Some quarters may be shared. Shared quarters may require sharing kitchen, bathroom, and living space; no pets, family members, or significant others are allowed in shared quarters. Housing is located within 1.5 miles of the North Rim Visitor Center and Administration Building. North Rim has a restaurant, post office, gas station, and small convenience store. Groceries, shopping, banks, a medical clinic, and professional services are located in Kanab, UT, 1.5 hours from the park.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Position is located on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park in northwest Arizona, approx. 80 miles southeast of Kanab, UT, elevation 8,200 ft.; temperatures range from 85 degrees to 17 degrees; work is performed both indoors and outdoors and may require standing, walking, or sitting for extended periods of time; outdoor terrain is rough and uneven. Work can be emotionally demanding due to varying levels of visitation, intensity of activity, shifting priorities, and the complex nature of visitor services. Schedules require working weekends, nights, and holidays. Incumbent is required to wear a uniform.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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