Garden Educator Internship Position:
Science in the Learning Gardens (SciLG)
Portland State University
Graduate School of Education: Leadership for Sustainability Education
Open Immediately-June 2016 at Lent K-8

Science in the Learning Gardens: Factors that Support Racial and Ethnic Minority Students' Success in Low-Income Middle Schools

Science in the Learning Gardens (SciLG) is a National Science Foundation supported partnership project (2014-2017) between Portland State University and Portland Public Schools. SciLG utilizes school gardens as a rich context for teaching and learning science as a way to support all students, especially students who have been marginalized from traditional schooling. This internship opportunity will provide a qualified candidate with experience teaching science through experiential, hands-on approaches to middle school students at Lent K-8 School in outer Southeast Portland. Working as part of a collaborative team, candidate will work directly with 6th and 7th grade students, exploring the natural world outside the classroom walls.

Garden Educator Internship Description

Position is available at the start of winter term, and continues through Spring of 2016. Intern will be supervised by faculty or graduate program coordinator and will work together as part of a collaborative team of PSU graduate students, faculty, and staff, and teachers from Lent K-8. Primary responsibilities will be implementing weekly garden education sessions for middle school students that emphasize key scientific concepts and practices. Additional responsibilities include communicating with SciLG education team, participating in relevant professional development opportunities, and maintaining documentation of time and experiences in classroom and garden. Interns are expected to work 6-12 hours per week (one or two days) providing classroom and garden-based science teaching and support. **Interns who make a yearlong commitment to two days per week will be awarded an $800 stipend/bonus each term of the academic year.**

Intern qualifications:

Internship is open to upper-level undergraduate and graduate students. Candidates must be dependable and able to commit to at least one term (schedule to be determined based on availability/course schedule). Priority will be given to candidates willing/able to commit to the remainder of the academic year (now-Spring 2016).

Background in science, experience teaching or working with youth, and gardening experience highly desirable, but not required. Must have ability to work independently and to collaborate well with others. Additionally, ideal candidates will have strong communication skills.

To Apply:
Please send resume and cover letter to Claire Lagerwey at lagerwey@pdx.edu and Sybil Kelley at sybilkel@pdx.edu, and write: “SciLG Internship Application” in subject line. Please address above qualifications, including other relevant experience, passion, or expertise in cover letter. Internship credits available.