

## Natural Science Museum Field Research Internship

### **Introduction**

The mission of the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association (MMA) is to help people experience Nantucket's land, sea and sky. Programs and facilities focus on environmental education, ecological research, astronomy, and historic preservation.

The MMA is offering a research internship through its Natural Science Museum during the 2012 summer. The research intern will gain valuable experience collecting data and organizing logistics for several research projects, assisting in the operation and programming of a small natural science museum, and learning about the plants, animals and geology of Nantucket Island. This position works closely and collaboratively with both the Collections intern and the Education staff and is fully immersed in the study of natural science and environmental education.

The ideal candidate has an interest and experience with entomology and ornithology. This internship is a unique work opportunity for students who are looking for experience with biological field research and environmental education.

### **Responsibilities and Tasks include**

- Available to work a flexible schedule: hours of operation are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM Monday – Saturday with evening and Sunday commitments as assigned. Research projects can require very early hours some days.
- Assist in planning logistics and carrying out field work for the following research projects: on-going American burying beetle reintroduction, snake biodiversity, invertebrate biodiversity, as-well-as preparing scientific specimens and assisting in the management of the invertebrate collections.
- Actively participate in the daily operations at the Natural Science Museum for 10 hours each week, including reception, leading guided tours of the facility, public programs, exhibit preparation, maintenance of the facilities and grounds, and gift shop sales.
- Help in leading and facilitating field trips and/or adult and children's summer courses offered by the MMA.
- Engage in MMA activities, field trips, and programs, including staffing special summer events.

### **Key Requirements and Qualifications**

- Educational background in biology/ecology or related field with at least 3 years of college experience.
- Interest and experience in field research, working in museums and with museum collections, and in the preparation of scientific specimens. Experience with insect specimen preparation is preferred.
- Experience working with and interacting with the public, both adults and children.
- Comfortable with live animals including non-venomous snakes, insects and spiders.

### **Skills**

- Self-motivated with the ability to work independently and with a team.
- Familiarity with basic ecological fieldwork methods (transects, quadrats, GPS, etc.)
- Ability to plan ahead, organize and prioritize with an attention to detail.
- Clear communicator both verbally and written.
- Teamwork and community leadership.

Internship compensation is \$2,700.00 for undergraduates or recent graduates and \$3,060.00 for graduate students, position **includes housing**. This program is scheduled from 29 May to 1 September 2012. There is a required orientation and training from 31 May to 5 June 2012. Possible internship extension is available through 11 Sept 2012. CPR and First Aid training is provided during orientation week.

To apply, please download the application at <http://www.mmo.org/about/internships.html> and return it along with a your resume, a detailed letter of interest and college transcripts to Andrew McKenna-Foster, Director of Natural Science Education and Programs, Maria Mitchell Association, 4 Vestal Street, Nantucket, MA 02554 no later than **15 February 2012**. Materials or inquiries may be sent by e-mail to [amckennafoster@mmo.org](mailto:amckennafoster@mmo.org) or by fax to 508-228-1031. For questions, call 508- 228-9198.

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/V/D.

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