

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

FUTURE PARK LEADERS of EMERGING CHANGE

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to support the *Future Park Leaders of Emerging Change* (FPL) program as a pathway for exemplary students in higher education (advanced undergraduate students, and graduate 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 NPS efforts on emerging management issues. Successful students may be eligible for non-competitive hire into federal positions for which they qualify following completion of all academic requirements.

COASTAL CULTURAL LANDSCAPE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

Northeast Regional Office/Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
Boston, MA

INTERNSHIP PROJECT BACKGROUND

Building on the cultural landscape vulnerability assessment methodology developed by the 2018 Future Park Leader, this project uses baseline Cultural Landscape Inventory data in conjunction with coastal vulnerability indices to analyze the vulnerability of National Park Service cultural landscape assets to eleven adverse impacts and to develop adaptation measures to minimize the impacts identified as most threatening.

INTERNSHIP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In executing this joint natural/cultural resources analysis project, the Future Park Leaders intern will work closely with experienced Olmsted Center staff, park-based partners in natural/cultural resources, and the National Park Service Cultural Resources GIS Program to prepare Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data and refine metrics for analyzing vulnerability. This work involves aggregating complex scientific and cultural datasets, using GIS and other analytical tools to conduct analysis, and generating a summary of findings that articulates patterns and trends across large landscapes over time.

GIS data resulting from this project will be permanently stored in the NPS Cultural Resources GIS Database and findings added to the Cultural Landscape Inventory database. In turn, parks and regional office staff will use this information to make informed management decisions about cultural landscape assets, focusing future investments in care, protection, research, and documentation in the face of climate change.

This innovative work is a long-standing, yet recently initiated goal of the cultural landscapes program. It presents opportunities to apply analytical and creative thinking skills to explore new approaches to a challenging and emergent real-world problem: the damage to and loss of coastal cultural landscape assets to adverse environmental impacts, including flooding, coastal erosion, sea level rise, storm surge,

water table depth, precipitation event, fire event, wind event, temperature increase, species shift, and pests and diseases.

The National Park Service Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation promotes the stewardship of significant landscapes through research, planning, and preservation maintenance. Based in Boston, the Center provides cultural landscape technical assistance to parks and historic properties. The Center accomplishes its mission in collaboration with a network of partners, including national parks, universities, and nonprofit organizations.

The Olmsted Center hosts the “Designing the Parks” internship program annually, offering students and young professionals from different backgrounds hand-on opportunities to learn about cultural landscape planning while contributing to substantive projects side-by-side with seasoned professionals and their peers.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will be:

- Currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program or graduating between December 2018 and August 2019
- In good academic standing, studying natural resources management, engineering, landscape architecture, or a related field
- A U.S. citizen/national/permanent resident
- Able to pass a Federal background check

The successful candidate will also demonstrate:

- An interest in learning or improving skills in graphic mapping and cultural landscape management
- Proficiency with Microsoft Excel and ArcGIS, including mapping complex datasets
- Ability to communicate and write effectively
- Ability to work independently and on multiple complex tasks
- Experience or willingness to work in a multicultural environment where diversity is an institutional value

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Future Park Leaders intern will gain unique perspectives on the NPS Northeast. The intern will develop new skills in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and a familiarity with the NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) program. Training opportunities will include a mapping and graphics workshop (GIS, AutoCAD and Adobe Illustrator) and a CLI orientation workshop at the start of the summer. Other professional development opportunities include improving leadership, creative thinking, meeting/discussion facilitation, and problem-solving skills through completion of the project. The intern will encounter a variety of professional disciplines within NPS. The intern will actively participate in organizational meetings with Olmsted Center leadership and NPS support office staff. The intern will be involved in new and ongoing research related to cultural landscapes. Other interns in the office will provide a sense of community and informal networking throughout the internship.

DATES OF POSITION

Approximate position start date is Tuesday, May 28. This position can start within two weeks of the proposed start date.

COMPENSATION

This initiative supports one student at \$16/hour for 12 weeks, or 480 hours.

HOUSING

Housing is not available through the Olmsted Center. Shared apartment sublets are generally available as college students leave the greater Boston area for the summer. A housing stipend is available to support rent for a sublet.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation is based in a historic office building in the financial district of downtown Boston, Massachusetts. The workplace is not unlike that of a design office, with approximately 10-20 percent fieldwork and 80-90 percent office work. The Future Park Leaders intern will be provided desk space and computer/phone in the Olmsted Center's office, working alongside program staff. During fieldwork, s/he will always be accompanied by Olmsted Center staff. A driver's license is not required. Boston is a major metropolitan city, with public transit, a vibrant academic culture, shopping, and the arts.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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