

Internship: Community Engagement & Food Access

Zenger Farm, Portland, Oregon
Position closes: Open until filled
Position Type: Unpaid Internship



ZENGER FARM is a working urban farm that models, promotes, and educates about sustainable food systems, environmental stewardship, community development, and access to good food for all.

Community Engagement & Food Access Interns will work with a team of staff, volunteers and community leaders to facilitate community engagement and educational activities focused on improving equitable access to nutritious foods in East Portland. Activities utilize our Community Kitchen in our Urban Grange facility, with adjacent classroom and gardens, which provide opportunities for education, community building, empowerment, and food entrepreneurship, such as cooking, gardening, business and leadership workshops. You will help extend these opportunities into the community as well, by supporting events like cooking demonstrations and workshops at Lents International Farmers Market, local schools and community venues.

This is an exciting opportunity that expands and strengthens Zenger Farm's community engagement efforts through our Cooking & Nutrition Education program, Community Chefs program and CSA Partnerships for Health Program. These programs create access to nutritious foods, strengthen community relationships, and create a more inclusive community through cross-cultural sharing. The Cooking & Nutrition Education program provides opportunities for participants to build community around food, learn and share cooking and gardening skills, and support one another to access healthy options. The Community Chef program supports participants from immigrant backgrounds and communities of color to be leaders in their communities by inspiring families to learn about and celebrate food and health traditions. In 2015 six Community Chefs from five countries of origin led cooking demonstrations and workshops celebrating their food traditions, while developing leadership and business skills.

This internship is highly collaborative and involves many professions and skills. Candidates interested in community development, public health, food access, nutrition or local food systems are strongly encouraged to apply. Bilingual candidates will receive special consideration (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Nepalese or other language represented in East Portland immigrant communities).

TIME COMMITMENT

- 4-8 months, starting August 1st or September 1st
- 9 to 16 hours per week, including one evening or weekend day per week
- Preference given to those who can commit to 8 months and/or 16 hours/week in order to develop strong community relationships and take on leadership roles
- **Required Trainings:** September 13th, 5:30-9pm and September 20th, 3-6pm

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work as a team to organize, prepare for and facilitate community outreach events and educational workshops focused on food access, cooking, healthy eating, and community building. Workshop topics are identified by and developed in partnership with community members and partners. All events are family friendly.
- Assist with curriculum development, program recordkeeping, and evaluation.

Zenger Farm provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, handicap, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity, in accordance with applicable federal laws.

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- Support participants and partners, connecting them to resources at Zenger Farm and in the broader community.
- Maintain clear and open communication with Zenger Farm staff and volunteers and community participants.
- Opportunity for leadership in a focus area such as education, outreach or Community Chefs.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Demonstrated interest, knowledge or experience in health, nutrition, food access, food justice, or community engagement
- Ability to travel to and within throughout the Portland Metro region (personal vehicle would be helpful, though not required)
- Ability to obtain Food Handlers Card
- Ability to lift and carry 50 lbs
- Enjoy working with children and adults
- Positive, can-do attitude
- Self-motivated with the ability to work both independently and reliably without supervision, as well as part of a team
- Prior experience with cooking, nutrition, teaching and/or working with diverse populations, desired
- Bilingual, desired (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Nepalese or other language represented in East Portland communities). *Small stipend available for native, bilingual speakers.*

BENEFITS

- Develop hands on skills and experience in community engagement, popular education, and cross-cultural communication
- Participate in skills trainings such as facilitation and popular education
- Farm fresh produce and delicious cooked meals
- Willing to coordinate for academic credit
- Work with a fun and dedicated team of staff, volunteers and community members in a collaborative environment
- Spend time at a beautiful urban farm and in a culturally diverse neighborhood
- This is an unpaid volunteer internship, room and board are not provided

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a completed Internship Application (included below), and contact information for two work or school references, and optional resume. Submit application materials to Program Assistant, Rob Cato at rob@zengerfarm.org or mail materials to Zenger Farm, Attn: Rob Cato, Community Engagement & Food Access Internship, 11741 SE Foster Rd. Portland, OR 97266. Interviews will be conducted as applications are received.

Community Engagement & Food Access Internship Application

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Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Address: _____

Interview Availability: ____ At Zenger Farm ____ Phone (**only** if you are out of the area)

Are you at least 18 years old? ____ Yes ____ No

Are licensed to drive an automobile? ____ Yes ____ No

Questions (Limit 2 pages):

1. Why do you want to participate in this internship at Zenger Farm?

2. How have you demonstrated your interest, knowledge or experience in health, nutrition, food access, food justice, or community engagement?

3. What prior experience do you have with diverse populations (age, race, religion, income, etc.)? Are you fluent in a second language?

5. What experience, if any, do you have in outer southeast Portland (Powellhurst Gilbert, Lents and other neighborhoods surrounding Zenger Farm)?

6. What three attributes would co-workers, friends, and family all agree that you possess?

List two references, at least one work-related (name, relationship, phone, email and mailing address):

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