



FRIENDS
of Birmingham
Botanical Gardens

2023 Native Plant Internship

The Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens (FBBG) is offering a Native Plant Internship in 2023 at Birmingham Botanical Gardens (BBG). The internship is an excellent opportunity for a full-time college student or recent graduate to study our native flora, to learn skills in applied horticulture, and to gain practical experience toward a career in public horticulture. The intern will work under the supervision of the Kaul Wildflower Garden horticulturist for the duration of the internship.

The internship is open to a junior or senior attending a four-year college or university full-time—or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year college. Preference will be given to students majoring in horticulture, landscape design, landscape architecture, biology, botany, ecology, plant science, environmental science, or a closely related discipline.

Starting and ending dates for this internship are flexible based on the availability of the intern; the program will last 12 consecutive weeks at 40 hours per week. Workdays will normally be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Compensation is \$15 per hour. The intern will participate in staff meetings, field trips, and paid holidays during the internship.

Work and instruction will center on the study and conservation of plants native to the Southeastern United States with emphasis on Alabama natives and may focus on disciplines central to public garden management and maintenance, including the principles of plant propagation, greenhouse and nursery production, planting, grounds maintenance, arboriculture, pest and weed management, as well as the curatorial aspects of plant collections.

The intern also will be given the opportunity to attend relevant local meetings, events, lectures, and field trips with staff—and may work on an ongoing project of his or her interest. Time will be provided each week for FBBG staff to instruct the intern on a tutorial basis.

Candidates must provide a one- to two-page resume, a statement of approximately 200 words outlining professional objectives regarding the internship, a reference from his or her academic advisor (who is knowledgeable of the candidate's scholastic standing toward graduation) and are required to have proof of a valid driver's license (exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis, for example, for disabled but otherwise qualified applicants). The internship is competitive, and candidates are encouraged to be thorough, detailed, grammatically accurate, and concise with their applications. All materials must be received by 5 p.m., on Friday, March 3, 2023. Materials may be submitted electronically or hard copy. It is the candidate's obligation to ensure the receipt of application materials by Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens by the deadline. Candidates may be asked to interview with representatives of Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens. A decision on the successful candidate will be made by 5 p.m., Monday, March 27, 2023. If a suitable candidate is not selected by that date, applications will be accepted until one is.

Contact Keith Turney, Horticulturist—Kaul Wildflower Garden, kturney@bbgardens.org