



2024 Public Horticulture Internship

ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

Guided by its mission---to protect, nurture, and share the Gardens' countless wonders---the Friends is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the Gardens; serving the community; visitors; and inspiring a passion for plants, gardens, and the environment.

QUALIFICATIONS

The Friends of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (FBBG) is excited to announce our 2024 Summer Internship program. This 12-week opportunity is available to two rising juniors or seniors attending a four-year college or university full-time or recent graduates of a two or four-year college seeking experience in horticulture or related fields. 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. The interns will work under the supervision of horticulture and education staff and will study our native flora, learn skills in applied horticulture, and gain practical experience toward a career in public horticulture.

INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT PREFERENCE

The 2024 areas of concentration are 1) native plants and 2) ornamental horticulture. The Native Plant internship will include the study and conservation of plants native to the Southeastern United States with emphasis on Alabama natives and will include general landscape maintenance as well. The Ornamental Horticulture internship will focus on general landscape maintenance including planting, pruning, propagation, pest and weed management. In the interest of providing a broader public gardens experience, both internships will include hands on landscape maintenance along with exposure to the functions of the Education, Development, Marketing and Communications and Membership departments.

Starting and ending dates for the internships 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. Interns will be compensated at a rate of \$15 per hour.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

The interns will be given the opportunity to attend relevant local meetings, events, lectures,

field trips with staff, and the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference. Each intern will work on a project of his or her interest that benefits the Gardens and will be required to present their project to an audience. Time will be provided each week for FBBG staff to instruct the intern on a tutorial basis.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The internships are competitive, and candidates are encouraged to be thorough, detailed, grammatically accurate, and concise with their applications.

Candidates must provide the following:

- Resume (not to exceed two pages)
- Statement of approximately 200 words outlining professional objectives regarding the internship
- A reference from an academic advisor knowledgeable of your scholastic standing toward graduation
- Proof of a valid driver's license

Materials may be submitted electronically to: info@bbgardens.org

It is the candidate's obligation to ensure the receipt of application materials by FBBG by the deadline. Qualified candidates will be asked to interview with representatives of Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All materials must be received no later than **5 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024**, or until qualified candidates have been selected.

These internships are made possible by generous support from the Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens Jr. Board and the Rotary Club of Shades Valley.