Grober Urban Farm Fall 2016 Internship Descriptions

Job Title:
We are looking for interns (graduate or undergraduate level) interested in focusing on one of the following areas:
- Marketing, Communications & Non-Profit Management Intern (including social entrepreneurship)
- Urban Agriculture & Sustainability Intern
- Education & Social Work Intern

Position Type & Compensation:
- Unpaid internship for graduate or undergraduate students.
- Grober Urban Farm is unable to pay interns at this time. However, we will happily work with you if you wish to apply for 1) academic credit for interning with us, or 2) a scholarship or program that would enable you to receive financial compensation for interning with us.

Location:
- 1110 Ridge Ave., Evanston IL 60201. (Corner of Ridge and Greenleaf).
- About a 12 minute drive from Loyola’s campus.
  - Free parking on-site.
- We are right on the bus lines that run on Ridge.

Internship Learning Goals:
- Our goal is to support your learning and growth as a responsible, capable, marketable professional. We will provide regular supervision, mentoring, and guidance, and will be readily available to answer questions. We will provide a 2 week, mid-point, and end of internship evaluations. For successful interns, we will provide a letter of recommendation.
- The specific learning outcomes will depend on the type of internship for which you are selected (Marketing, Communications & Non-Profit Management, Urban Agriculture & Sustainability, or Education & Social Work), and the specific project/s you are chosen to work on. Once we determine your project, we will set 3 top learning objectives, and review progress toward those learning objectives at your 2 week, mid-point, and end of internship evaluations.
- All interns will have the opportunity to further develop and refine:
  - Professional skills such as timeliness, clear, effective, professional-level oral and written communication, giving and receiving professional-level feedback, prioritization, and project management.
  - Skills related to starting and running a non-profit and social enterprise, including networking and outreach to build support for the organization.

About Grober Urban Farm:
- Grober Urban Farm is a new non-profit youth program founded in spring 2016. We partner with Evanston youth to grow the most healthful organic produce using the most ecologically sustainable methods. By providing our youth with jobs, entrepreneurship opportunities, and mentoring, we support them to develop their unique strengths, overcome their challenges, and become environmentally and socially responsible citizens.
- Our goal is to provide Evanston youth with a year-round program and supportive community of peers and mentors they can rely on starting in middle school and lasting up through high school graduation.
- We are building on best practices developed by successful youth farm programs around the country, including:

Chicago Botanic Gardens’ Youth Farm: http://www.chicagobotanic.org/urbanagriculture/youthfarm

Gary Comer Youth Center: http://www.gcychome.org/index.php/project/green-initiatives/

The Food Project: http://thefoodproject.org/about

Highlights from Summer 2016—Our Inaugural Season:

- 10 students (age 11-14) completed our 10 week program this summer!
  - Skills we offer our youth include: team leadership, public speaking, long-term planning, follow-through, how to give and receive constructive professional feedback, and how to give back to the community in effective ways.

- We partnered with Mayor Tisdahl’s Summer Youth Employment Program, which paid our age-eligible students.

- Each student took responsibility for growing a small section of the farm, and for tracking outcomes in his/her section, such as: pounds harvested, the effect of different watering methods, and plant health.

- Our students:
  - Grew over 200 pounds of produce!
  - Independently organized and executed their own entrepreneurial idea: painting and selling seedling pots.
  - Sold their produce at a farmer’s market.
  - Led garden tours for parents and community members.
  - Regularly took home produce they grew.
  - Engaged in two cooking classes, where they learned to healthfully prepare produce they had grown.
  - Practiced their workplace teamwork skills through two workshops.
  - Took a field trip to The Talking Farm, where they learned about the importance of urban agriculture, and careers in the field.

Job Description:
We are a new non-profit with opportunities for interns to take significant responsibility, take leadership roles on projects, take initiative to solve problems, and share innovative ideas for growing and improving our work.

- We are looking for interns (graduate or undergraduate level) interested in focusing on one of the following areas.
- We will work with you to tailor the internship to your areas of study and interest.
- We may consider proposals to focus on areas that fit with our mission but are not listed below.

- Marketing, Communications, & Non-Profit Management (including social entrepreneurship) - possible projects:
  - Help plan and execute a garden party fundraiser (scheduled for 9/24/16).
  - Help run a crowdfunding campaign for Grober Urban Farm. (May include working with Academy and Emmy Award-winning cinematographer (Grober Urban Farm co-founder David Grober) to create and edit video)).
  - Create a promotional video about Grober Urban Farm to help us recruit donors, volunteers, and youth. (May include work with an Academy and Emmy Award-winning cinematographer (Grober Urban Farm co-founder David Grober)).
• Help improve our new website: http://groberurbanfarm.org/.
  ▪ Help us communicate our mission and reach more donors, volunteers, and youth.
• Social media: create a social media presence for Grober Urban Farm.
  ▪ Help us reach and recruit more donors, volunteers, and youth.
• Identify funding opportunities (such as grants).
  ▪ If time allows, help apply for a grant.
• Help research and create a 1-year funding plan. May include:
  ▪ Research potential income-generating initiatives to support our non-profit work (such as selling micro-greens to restaurants or operating a bed and breakfast on-site).
• Secure donations of materials we need in order to offer our program again in spring, such as seeds, tools, and soil.

• **Urban Agriculture & Sustainability** – possible projects:
  o Help recruit, supervise, and coach youth and adult farm volunteers.
  o Research the best composting system for our farm.
    ▪ If time allows, implement/build composting system.
  o Help us grow our vegetables/fruit this fall, and then help us close down the farm for the winter. May include:
    ▪ Researching and planting cover crops.
  o Help create a crop plan for 2017. May include:
    ▪ Researching the best mushrooms (or other crops) to grow in our shady areas.
  o Help set up a new drip irrigation system.
  o Help research and set up chickens at the farm (for eggs, youth learning, and soil fertility).

• **Education & Social Work** – possible projects:
  o Develop a workshop for middle and high school students on a topic such as: sustainability and the food system, careers related to urban-farming, employment skills (like teamwork), entrepreneurship, or service.
    ▪ If time allows: Deliver workshop to middle school students.
  o Research and report on the impact of farm and nature-based youth programs on youth development.
  o Help recruit middle and high-school youth for our 2017 youth team.

**Supervisor:**
• Katharine Egan will supervise all interns.
  • Katharine is the co-founder of Grober Urban Farm. She has 10 years of experience supporting youth and crime survivors to overcome extraordinary challenges and achieve their goals. Her work empowering youth through organic farming includes: starting and running a garden for 3 seasons at Heartland Alliance’s International Children’s Center, writing multi-season curricula and leading gardening courses at Youth & Opportunity United, leading a series of youth farming activities at The Talking Farm, and writing curricula/teaching gardening and nature exploration to children at the Wilmette Park District.
  • She holds a B.A. in political science from Illinois Wesleyan University, and has completed organic farming internships at both The Talking Farm and Uncommon Ground Organic Rooftop Farm, as well as 860 hours of additional related training, including: The GRuB Institute, where she learned strategies for implementing GRuB’s successful farm-based youth development model, Stateline Farm Beginnings, a year-long farmer-led entrepreneurship and business skills course designed to
help each student start & run a small sustainable farm, a Permaculture Design Certificate from The Resiliency Institute, 10 days of study with large-scale permaculture farmer Mark Shepard, an Herbal Apprenticeship Program with Moonwise Herbs, The School for International Training’s full-time semester-long Environmental Studies & Sustainability Program, and four working organic farm-stays. Her lifelong passion is offering youth the concrete skills and supportive environment they need to reach their potential.

- **David Grober**, Co-Founder of Grober Urban Farm, will provide limited supervision for any internship that includes creating/editing video.

**Qualifications:**

- Responsible, reliable, and dependable are a must. We are looking for interns who are able to follow through on plans, projects, and commitments with minimal coaching.
- Highly organized, with the ability to meet deadlines.
- Interest in accepting feedback thoughtfully, and further developing/refining professional skills (e.g. effective workplace communication, teamwork, prioritization, and time-management).
- Ability to communicate clearly both orally and in writing, with sound judgement regarding what needs to be communicated, when, and to whom.
- **Must be able to successfully pass a criminal background check.**
- Preferred but not required:
  - Spanish fluency.
  - Experience working with non-profits or social enterprises.
  - Youth development, teaching, or mentoring experience.
  - Strong commitment to service and social justice.
  - Strong commitment to environmental sustainability.

**Hours per week/Days/Times:**

- We request at least 8 hours/week, and can accommodate interns working for up to 15 hours/week.
  - If you are unable to intern at least 8 hours/week, please contact us; we may still have an opportunity for you.
  - If you are interested in earning course credit through ENVS 395 (Environmental Internship), at least 10 hours/week are required. See the Institute of Environmental Sustainability website for more information about requirements: http://www.luc.edu/sustainability/academics/envs395internshipcourse/
- We are flexible on the times of day/days of the week. These will depend on your internship’s area/s of focus.
- For interns doing farm work, it is helpful but not required for you to be available Wednesdays between 3:30-5:30pm and Saturdays between 10:30-1:30pm.

**Number of Openings & Duration:**

- We are looking for a total of 2-3 interns for the fall 2016 semester (15 weeks).
- For successful interns, there may be opportunities to apply to return in Spring 2017. Returning interns will be offered the opportunity to design their own internship based on their area/s of greatest interest, and will be given greater responsibility and autonomy.

**To Apply:**

- Please email a resume and cover letter to Katharine Egan at katharinee@gmail.com. Please feel free to call with questions: (224) 392-2275.
  - Cover letters must be tailored to interning with Grober Urban Farm. (Boiler-plate cover letters will not be accepted.) In your cover letter (and/or resume), explain: the type of internship you
are applying for (Marketing, Communications & Non-Profit Management, Urban Agriculture & Sustainability, or Education & Social Work), the project you are most interested in working on, why you are interested in this project, the skills you can bring to the project, your major/minor areas of study, the degree you are pursuing, and the year of your degree you are entering in fall 2016.

Thank you for taking the time to apply to intern with Grober Urban Farm! We look forward to the opportunity to work with you!