



Volunteer Opportunities for Students 2010

The **Children's Garden Players! Service Learning Program** provides middle and high school age students with the chance to explore career opportunities in a non-profit work environment while accumulating community service hours. Through our program students develop a strong work ethic, learn valuable life skills, gain practical work experience, and are exposed to the human relationship with nature.

Students will realize the value of their experience and the importance of providing meaningful interactions with nature to children and their families. Relevant training will support the students' professional development and sense of accomplishment. High expectations of the students' work and commitment to the garden will give students a sense of accomplishment as they reach different levels of responsibility.

Apply today to become a volunteer in the Children's Garden by visiting the Garden's website at www.lewisginter.org/volunteers or call (804) 262-9887 ext. 335. All interested students must be 13 years of age or older to apply. Applications, essays, and references are due no later than January 15. Position descriptions, training requirements, expected commitments, and training dates are listed below.

Volunteer Opportunities

Level I (Entry Level)

Requirements

- The student must be at least 13 years old
- Complete an application, essay, and provide three references
- Write an end of season evaluation essay

Jobs Available

- **Garden Groomer** - helps keep the botanically rich and diverse garden environment safe and well-maintained
- **Tool Tender** - organizes tools, props, supplies, materials that support daily activities

Commitment

- Attend all relevant training opportunities
- Volunteer 3 hours per month on weekends, March through October
- 21 hours or more in a 12 month period

Training requirements

- Children's Garden Orientation: March 27, 9- 10 a.m.
- Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Orientation: March 27, 10 - 11 a.m.
- Children's Garden Tour and Schedule Confirmation 11a.m. - 12p.m.

Level II (Trainees)

Requirements

- 15 - 18 years old
- One year experience, including Level I training
- Write an end of season evaluation essay

Jobs Available

- **Horticulture Trainee:** Assists staff with seasonal garden work on weekends, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, helps Level I Garden Groomers effectively perform horticulture tasks
- **Group Program Trainee:** Assists Educators on weekday mornings with Young Buds (Preschool aged students) programs and camps, Discovery (Kindergarten through Fifth Grade) programs and Green Adventure summer camps, helps Level I Tool Tenders set up materials for school groups
- **Family Program Trainee:** Assists Manager on Duty on weekends with daily programs and activities on weekends, for special events and Tuesday evenings for Families After 5, helps Level I Tool Tenders set up and maintain daily activities
- **Garden Fest of Lights:** assists with GardenFest as assigned, November through January

Commitment

- Attend all relevant training opportunities
- Volunteer 6 hours per month on weekend or week days, April through October
- Volunteer 42 hours in a 12 month period.

Training Requirements

- **CG Orientation** on Saturday, March 27, 9a.m. - 12p.m.

Level III (Assistants)

Requirements

- 16 – 18 years old
- Two years experience
- Ability to work independently
- Write an end of season evaluation essay

Jobs Available

- **Horticulture Assistant-** Assists horticulturist with seasonal projects, helps Horticulture Trainees effectively perform horticulture tasks
- **Group Programs Assistant-** Assists Education staff with Young Buds (Preschool aged students) programs and camps, Discovery (Kindergarten through Fifth Grade) programs and camps, helps Group Program Trainees facilitate educational programs
- **Family Programs Assistant-** Assists family program staff with preparation of materials, development and implementation of family activities, helps Family Program Trainees engage families in the Garden activities.
- **Garden Fest of Lights-** Assist staff with seasonal jobs, November through January.

Commitment

- Attend all relevant training opportunities
- Volunteer 3 hours a week, April through October
- Volunteer 84 hours in a 12 month period

Training

These students will have been a Garden Player for at least three years fulfilling school requirements, so their training and staff support will be more individualized based on the students' interests as well as the opportunities available at the garden.

- **Level III Meeting** Wednesday March 10, 4 - 5 p.m.
- **CG Orientation** Saturday, March 27, 9 a.m. -12 p.m.