

Yurt Coordinator (Summer 2023)

Inspire visitors to connect with the nature of Kachemak Bay. The Yurt Coordinator will work out of the CACS Yurt on the Spit, located right next to the bustling Homer Harbor. They will coordinate a staff of 3-4 educators, interns, and volunteers. Guests for daily Creatures of the Dock Tours range from families to senior citizens, and they are guided in hands-on exploration of the unique invertebrates and fish that live on and around the sides of the floating dock. Ocean Connection tours are 3-4 hour tours based on a small boat and include seabird watching, collection of plankton samples and basic oceanographic data, and a visit to a local oyster farm. In addition to in-person communication with travelers, the Yurt Coordinator will work closely with other CACS staff to develop social media posts and marketing products to share information about the organization and tours, activities, and events.



Training & Mentorship

- Participate in paid master naturalist training at the Peterson Bay Field Station at the start of the summer, which will include training on natural sciences, Alaska Native cultures, and nature interpretation.
- Opportunities throughout the summer for paid professional development.

Core Duties

- Supervise and mentor a team of 3-4 educators, interns, and volunteers, including scheduling of daily tasks and providing feedback and evaluation for team members.
- Plan and lead Creatures of the Dock Tours for adults, youth, and families. Adjust each tour to fit the interests, needs, abilities, and energy-level of the group and the day's weather.
- Assist with Ocean Connection Tours for adults and families. Work with the Marine Educator to ensure there is clear communication with boat captains, oyster farmers, Peterson Bay Field Station staff, and guests to build the schedule for each tour.
- Greet visitors, introduce them to our organization, collect tour and program fees, answer questions, and sell promotional items.
- Ensure safety of visitors of all ages while on tours and set group guidelines that are respectful of the other individuals working in the Homer Harbor.
- Assist with youth programs as needed, including SPIT Kids and CACS Day Camp (both ages 6-10) and Dock Tours or Ocean Connection trips for organized youth groups such as Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc.
- Model positive interactions with human communities and the natural world, lead planned stewardship activities, and use 'teachable moments' to communicate the importance of stewardship and respect.
- Maintain CACS program supplies and perform daily/weekly cleaning of the Yurt.
- Provide photos and text for social media and advertising, conduct participant evaluations of programs, and complete basic administrative tasks such as collection of forms, taking of attendance, and program data entry.

Qualifications

- Creativity, curiosity, compassion, patience, and enthusiasm.
- Experience leading small teams of educators, volunteers, or interns.
- Ability to work both independently and in a highly collaborative work environment. Good organizational skills and ability to keep track of multiple tasks and responsibilities. Comfort living in shared housing with co-workers.
- Experience or demonstrated desire to work with families, youth, and adults in outdoor settings.
- Commitment to facilitating experiential, place-based, fun, and inclusive learning experiences for families, youth and adults.
- Willingness to learn on the job and to adjust and adapt readily to changing circumstances (such as weather, group needs, etc.)
- Knowledge of or strong interest in learning more about basic intertidal and marine ecology, oceanography, and history and culture of the Homer area.
- Strong communication skills, with the ability to provide concise and easy-to-follow directions, communicate science concepts in an age-appropriate way, and make people feel welcome. Some background in social media and community outreach/networking skills preferred.
- Commitment to CACS's work towards justice, equity, diversity and inclusion in our programs, and dedication to our vision of healthy ecosystems, engaged and connected communities, and inspired environmental stewards.
- Ability to receive and give direction and feedback on a variety of topics.
- Demonstrated good judgment, commitment to visitor safety, and first aid and CPR certification.

Equal Opportunity Employer & Equity Statement

The Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies recruits, employs, trains, compensates and promotes regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, class, veteran status and other protected status as required by law.

We recognize that the field of environmental education has long excluded Black, Indigenous, and people of color as well as people from working class backgrounds, people with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. We also recognize that environmental injustice and climate change disproportionately impact the most marginalized people in society- including people of color, Indigenous people, people from working class backgrounds, women, and LGBTQ+ people. We believe that these communities must be centered in the work we do and that environmental education will be stronger and richer with more diverse perspectives. Hence, we strongly encourage people with these identities or who are members of other marginalized communities to apply for positions with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. You are encouraged to self-identify in your cover letter, if you feel comfortable doing so. Please contact Katie Gavenus (katieg@akcoastalstudies.org, 907-235-1974) with any questions or concerns.

Position runs from May 29 – September 4, 2023 \$14.50-\$15.50/hour DOE with shared housing provided (valued at over \$350/month)

To Apply: Please submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 references to jobs@akcoastalstudies.org by January 11, 2023.

In your 1-page cover letter, please explain why you are interested in this position and describe the relevant work, academic, and/or life experience that you will bring to this position. Please indicate in both the cover letter and email subject line the position for which you are applying.