



## BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

### Rotary Club of Shades Valley Internship

The Rotary Club of Shades Valley is funding a summer internship at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (The Gardens), a City of Birmingham facility. In its third year, the internship is an excellent opportunity for a full-time college student or recent graduate to learn skills in applied horticulture and to gain practical experience toward a career in public horticulture. The intern will be employed by the Birmingham Botanical Society, Inc., dba Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens (The Friends), an education-based non-profit organization that has partnered with the city for 45 years in the operation of The Gardens. The intern will work under the supervision of a number of The Gardens and The Friends staff throughout the summer.

The internship is open to a rising junior or senior attending a four-year college or university full-time or to a recent graduate (within the last twelve months) of a two- or four-year college. Preference will be given to students majoring in horticulture, landscape design, landscape architecture, biology, ecology, plant science, environmental science. The internship is highly competitive. Candidates are encouraged to be concise but thorough in the application process.

The program will begin the week of May 17 or May 24, depending on the availability of the intern, and will last for ten weeks at forty hours per week. Daily hours will be from 7 or 8 a.m. to 4 or 5 p.m. with a non-paid hour break for lunch. It will pay fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour, eight hours per day. Tools and rain and safety gear will be provided. Time will be provided each week by The Gardens and The Friends staff to instruct the intern on a tutorial basis in modern methods of botanical garden management and maintenance and in worker safety.

Work and instruction will focus on the principles of greenhouse production, planting, grounds maintenance, arboriculture, pest management and the curatorial aspects of plant collections and may include display design, library and archives, marketing, membership, development, public relations, education and visitor programs. The intern will work in the various gardens at Birmingham Botanical Gardens: the Kaul Wildflower Garden; Hulsey Woods and Japanese Garden; Alabama Woodlands; Fern Glade; Iris and Lily Gardens; Rose Garden; Conservatory and greenhouses; and in the administration building (Garden Center.) The intern also will be given time to attend relevant local meetings, events and lectures with staff. The intern also will work on an on-going research project of his or her interest. The 2009 intern, for example, developed a brochure on medicinal plants in the The Gardens.

Candidates must provide a 1-2 page resume; a statement in approximately 200 words of 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). All materials must be received by 5 p.m., Friday, April 30, 2010. Materials may be submitted electronically or in hard copy. It is the candidate's obligation to ensure the receipt of materials at Birmingham Botanical Gardens by the deadline.

Please send application materials or requests for more information to:

Henry Hughes  
Director of Education  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
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