

Warren Wilson
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February 6, 2018

Dear Search Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to apply to the NC Aquarium for a spring internship. I am extremely passionate about the environment and connecting people with it. I genuinely enjoy helping people discover and grow their curiosity for things such as conservation and sustainability. This is why I am very excited about the possibility of interning with the Aquarium, as I am extremely passionate about environmental stewardship and conservation, and I feel that your values really line up with that.

My experiences working for the Smithsonian Zoo Summer Safari Camp as a Senior Class Aide and as a short-term volunteer for the Duke Lemur Center strengthened my interest in environmental education, community engagement, and conservation. Through these positions, I gained skills in curriculum development and learned how to be an effective environmental educator. Spending two summers at the Smithsonian Zoo also helped me to learn more about conservation approaches. Because I worked with such a broad age range, ages 5-13, I had to be sure that lessons taught were comprehensible and interesting to everyone involved. It was also important that the lessons were also of interest to people adult aged as at the end of every week, the campers would present what they had learned to their parents. Through my recent work at Not Just Paper, a small stationery store, I have learned how to provide customer service and about collaborating with a team in a professional setting. These are skills that I feel would make me a great asset to your team.

Through intern work with the Sierra Club of DC, I gained an understanding of how to communicate scientific findings and information to the general public. I also learned, through tabling and lobbying with them, how to make people enthusiastic about environmental issues. They taught me how to create positive learning environments even in the most informal settings. I realized while working with Sierra Club how much I enjoyed planting seeds of curiosity in people who were ready to listen. In terms of education and communication, a large part of my job at Sierra was engagement with the public. I was essentially in charge of the Twitter and Facebook postings for the Sierra Club which posed many challenges for me. One of which was making sure that the content I created and the research I did was palatable for the general public but also truthful. I feel that working with you all would help me to really enrich the skills I began to cultivate with them.

I hope to build on my academic studies and professional experiences with an internship in at the NC Aquarium. I would like to learn more about connections between environmental issues and how to present them to visitors, as well as to enhance my skills in communication and education. I am eager to learn, hardworking, and happy to work on any projects. I would welcome the chance to talk with you about any opportunities at the Aquarium. I can be reached at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Warren Wilson

