



Hamilton Educational Fellowship – Available Spring 2013

General Description - Educational and Practical Experience Matching Career Goals

The purpose of the two Dorrance H. Hamilton Educational Fellowships is to provide a unique educational experience. Fellows will acquire specialized skills and practical knowledge that will help them as they pursue their career goals in the fields of horticulture, botany, biology, or environmental resource management.

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to work closely with the Executive Director and staff in all aspects of public garden administration. Jenkins Arboretum's size allows for a rich and rewarding educational experience not often found at institutions of this caliber. In addition to the practical experience of learning an ecological approach to horticulture as practiced at Jenkins Arboretum, the educational experience for each fellow will be significantly enhanced by learning plant propagation, scientific botanical nomenclature, plant collections database management, all facets of real estate management, and opportunities for public speaking by leading Arboretum guided tours and workshops.

Fellowship Candidates

Fellow candidates may be diverse in their educational backgrounds and future career goals. Candidates may apply if their career goals are in the fields of horticulture, botany, biology, or environmental resource management. All candidates will be considered, regardless of gender or educational background. An applicant graduating from a trade school or with a college degree will be given equal consideration. Previous education or practical experience in horticulture is desirable but not mandatory in order to apply for the Fellowship.

Fellowship Term

The term of the Fellowship will be for one or two years. After the first year, there will be an annual review and self-evaluation at which time the second half of the Fellowship may be granted. Completing two gardening seasons will help reinforce the educational experience. Fellows will have the opportunity to experience the full range of activities involved in maintaining a large public garden through all four seasons.

Fellowship Obligations and Duties

Residency at the Jenkins Arboretum is a requirement of this Fellowship and duties will be full-time. Fellows will be able to work closely with the Executive Director and staff by assisting in all of the numerous activities required to maintain the Arboretum on a year-round basis. Duties will not involve hazardous work, such as the use of chain saws or tree climbing. Good health and the ability to perform physical duties will be required. Routine grounds keeping and horticultural duties will include planting, pruning, and mowing as well as assisting with non-routine duties such as snow removal and general real estate maintenance.

Fellows will have an opportunity to develop leadership skills by assisting in the supervision of volunteers. Volunteerism is an active component of all communities and volunteer management skills will always be beneficial. Fellows will be encouraged to design, initiate, and develop their own special projects in the public garden in furtherance of the Arboretum's mission. Special research projects, garden planting design and similar projects may be proposed and executed.

Fellowship Housing Benefit and Compensation

Housing will be provided at no cost and is a condition of the Fellowship. Utility expenses will be the responsibility of the Fellow. Fellows will receive a financial stipend. Additional benefits include medical insurance, retirement benefits, and funds for off-site educational programs, courses and conferences.

Additional background Information

The environmental, horticultural, scientific, and educational emphasis at Jenkins Arboretum is primarily in the following two areas of specialization:

❖ **The promotion of naturalistic landscape design, emphasizing our regional native flora**
Fellows will learn the Arboretum's unique approach to gardening, which can be termed environmental horticulture. Gardening in this ecological context is the best long-term strategy for stewardship, conservation and sustainable landscape design.

❖ **Specialized scientific collections of rhododendrons, azaleas and related ericaceous plants**
As a newly created public garden in 1976, the original "Master Plan for Development" specified and emphasized ericaceous plants in the scientific collections because of ecological considerations. Related ericaceous plants include mountain laurel, pieris, enkianthus, leucothoe, blueberries, and many others. Also, Jenkins Arboretum makes a significant contribution in the Philadelphia region as a compliment to the many already established horticultural institutions.

Jenkins Arboretum is uniquely qualified to provide an exceptional educational opportunity in these areas of specialization.

Mission and Vision of the Jenkins Arboretum

The **VISION** of the Arboretum, as defined in the will of H. Lawrence Jenkins:

The Arboretum is to be developed as a "Public Park, Arboretum and Wild Life Sanctuary for use by the public and responsible organizations engaged in the study and promotion of arboriculture, horticulture and wild life for educational and scientific purposes..."

The **MISSION** of the Arboretum, as defined by the Board of Directors:

The mission of Jenkins Arboretum is to preserve natural tranquil woodlands for community enjoyment, to showcase native plants and a world class collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, and to promote environmental horticulture through learning, research and conservation.

Application Procedure and Deadline

Please print out a copy of the Hamilton Fellowship application from the website: <http://www.jenkinsarboretum.org> and return by March 15, 2013. Applications along with resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

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