

Farm Education and Volunteer Manager

About the Urban Creators and Life Do Grow: The Urban Creators is a North Philly based organization that uses food, art, education, and community organizing as the means to nurture resilience, self-determination, and equity in North Philadelphia. Since 2010, we have transformed 2 acres of land into Life Do Grow – an urban farm, neighborhood creative commons, and artistic venue for radical self-expression. In 2023 and beyond, our collective will deepen the impact of our public programs and projects while cultivating stronger ties with our surrounding community. We do this by supporting the emergence of a new generation of growers, artists, educators, healers, organizers, and entrepreneurs – roles that are essential to our mission and neighborhood, and values-aligned to our Six Pillars of Sovereignty.

Position Overview: We are excited to welcome a new Farm Education and Volunteer Manager into our Urban Creator and Life Do Grow community. The main responsibilities of this position will be to: 1) create and facilitate educational opportunities for youth and community members centered around food justice, environmental education, farming, and food/land sovereignty; 2) recruit, engage, and lead volunteers in work projects that meet the needs of Life Do Grow farm and our North Philadelphia neighbors; and 3) support our Farm Team with the production of seasonal crops and medicinal herbs. This role is foundational to our community impact and mission, and the successful candidate will have leadership experience – both collaborative and independent – in the creation and execution of programming related to one or more of the following fields: farming/environmental education, youth development, volunteer management, or land-based sovereignty, justice, and equity for BIPOC communities.

Roles & Responsibilities: The roles & responsibilities of our Farm Education and Volunteer Manager will include, but are not limited to:

- Facilitating educational opportunities, volunteer projects, and farm tours for groups of local youth, young adults, and community members
- Planning, structuring, recruiting, and running our Food Sovereignty Fellowship summer program for teen youth
- Building and maintaining relationships with local schools and organizations; coordinating educational and service-learning events/programs through these partnerships
- Managing our community garden at Dakota Street; building relationships with our neighbors and uplifting the leadership of community members of all ages
- Developing a strategy for volunteer recruitment and retention, with a priority on engaging local neighbors and community in and around Hartranft & North-Central Philadelphia (19133 / 19132 zip codes)
- Working with the Urban Creators collective to improve upon community food education at Life Do Grow;
 collaborating with partners to coordinate logistics and delivery of food education programs
- Collaborating with Farm Manager to execute, delegate, or supervise weekly farm tasks including planting, weeding, harvesting, washing, and preparing produce for our weekly markets
- Cultivating and harvesting culinary and medicinal herbs for drying and medicine-making
- Managing our produce stand during our markets and events
- Supporting community gardeners as needed
- Creating content for educational displays and signage throughout Life Do Grow farm

• Managing and leading the FarmEdu Team; stewarding the overall programming vision, budget, and program delivery

Required Knowledge & Experience

- Proven experience working with Black or BIPOC youth in an educational or programmatic capacity
- Experience working in and with Communities of Color
- Experience managing student and volunteer groups
- A collaborative approach to leadership, partnership development, and people management
- Comfortability with leading conversations & workshops about food justice, urban farming, and sustainability
- Minimum of 1½ years of organic gardening/farming experience
- Experience managing farm/produce stands
- Understanding of and commitment to community-based efforts to build a more just world
- Ability to successfully manage and support groups that come together across race, class, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, and ability.

Schedule & Compensation: This will be a salaried position of 40 hours/week with an annual salary between \$40,000-\$44,000, commensurate with experience. Urban Creators offers additional stipends to go towards transportation and healthcare/self-care, along with generous leave time allowances. We are also willing to discuss a part-time role (approx. 30 hours/week) for qualified candidates who have additional obligations, yet are dedicated and aligned to this work.

Application Process: Please submit application materials to <u>jobs@phillyurbancreators.org</u>. We will review applications and conduct interviews on a rolling basis with an anticipated start date in March/April 2023. Your application should include:

- 1. Your resume or CV;
- 2. A cover letter that speaks to who you are, what skills and experience you hope to bring to the Urban Creators team, why you are passionate about youth education, land/food sovereignty, and collaborative leadership, and why you think you would be a good fit for this position;
- 3. Contact information for 2 professional references, plus 2 people from communities or groups you have worked with while conducting education, youth development, volunteer management, or farming/gardening work;
- 4. Any relevant videos, art, reports, music, letters of recommendation, photos, etc. that speak to your experience and passion. We welcome creativity!

The Urban Creators is committed to building a team that reflects the diversity of our North Philadelphia Community, and to creating an inclusive environment for all employees and members of our collective. We are an equal opportunity employer, and as such, encourage women, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and individuals from other historically underrepresented or marginalized groups to apply. Urban Creators does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, veteran status or any other legally protected factor.