

The Bronx River Alliance seeks a Science Research Mentor for the Environmental Education and Leadership for Students (EELS) Program!

The Bronx River Alliance is proud to launch the 2022-2023 Academic Year Session of the EELS (Environmental Education and Leadership for Students) Internship! The mission of the EELS internship is to introduce students from environmental justice communities to careers in the environmental field. 13 students from New York City public high schools have spent a summer engaging in introductory hands-on field work with Bronx River Alliance staff. During the academic year, the EELS Interns will work in small groups with mentors who are performing research centered around the Bronx River, or who would like to support student ideas for research topics. EELS Interns will support the mentor with field work and data collection, and the mentor will provide the interns with access to peer-reviewed articles and professional, specialized field experience. We are recruiting local research scientists who are currently planning on completing research in and around the Bronx River, who need the majority of their field work completed in Spring 2023.

We are seeking 3-4 mentors who specialize in the below research topics and are able to guide and support a group of 3 students. Each group (1 mentor and 3 students) will be assigned a different topic.

1. Historic Ecology
2. Ecology
3. Urban Health
4. Edible Plant Science

Mentors must be:

- Currently in an accredited graduate or doctoral program, or working as a research scientist in Ecology, Urban Ecology, Environmental Science, Public Health, Geography, Marine Biology, or a related field.
- Planning to work, or currently working on a research project in which the Bronx River is an essential focus. This includes but is not limited to research taking place in the Bronx River itself, the Bronx River Forest, the Bronx River Watershed, the Bronx River Greenway, or the Bronx River Foodway in Concrete Plant Park. Citywide studies are appropriate, provided the Bronx River is included in the study.
- Capable of guiding a team of 3-4 high school students in research, field methods, and data collection.
- Willing to share resources such as peer-reviewed articles for background research.

- Assist in creating a final research poster to be completed in late June 2023.
- Available to commit to a Saturday morning (9:00AM - 1:00PM) schedule from October 22 - December 3, and then from February 25 - June 10.

Mentors are expected to meet in-person on mandatory site visit days. The Fall semester, October-December, will include the students meeting and choosing their mentors, then engaging in background reading and discussion. Field research and data analysis will begin in March 2023 and the sessions can be either in-person or virtual. However, the requirement is that at least one March session is in person, and one April session is in person as well.

Preference will be given to mentors who can commit to a full in-person schedule, but we will offer flexibility to qualified candidates.

For more detailed information about the schedule, please view Appendix A. Note that this calendar is subject to change.

- Committed to keeping in touch with interns via e-mail during scheduled Winter and Spring breaks.

The time commitment is approximately 11 hours total for the Fall semester, and 38 hours total for the Spring semester. Bronx River Alliance staff will handle administrative tasks and intern management. The mentor needs only to provide scientific resources and field work guidance.

An honorarium of \$1000 will be given to mentors who complete a total of 50 hours of engagement with their interns.

To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter to education@bronxriver.org by Monday, September 26, 2022. In your application, please indicate which of the following research topics you are specializing in: Historic Ecology, Ecology, Urban Health, or Edible Plant Science.

Appendix A: DRAFT Mentor Schedule:

Fall 2022		
Date	Virtual/in-Person /Either	Task
10/22	Virtual	Explain Your Work to Students
11/5	Either	Talk to students about your work and familiarize them with the topic. Assign them background reading.
11/12	Either	Meet with students to talk about the background reading. Alternatively, if a mentor is not available, they provide worksheet questions that the interns can answer.
11/19	In-Person	Site Visits - take students to where they will be working.
12/3	Either	Assign further background reading + provide a worksheet with questions
Spring 2022		
2/25	Virtual	Welcome Back Session - mentors chat with the students and revisit the topic
3/4	In-Person	Project Work
3/11	In-Person	Project Work
3/18	In-Person	Project Work
3/25	In-Person	Project Work
4/1	In-Person	Project Work/Data Analysis
4/22	In-Person	Project Work/Data Analysis
5/6	In-Person	Project Work/Data Analysis
6/3	Either	Poster Working Session
6/10	Either	Poster Working Session

*Subject to change