**Farm to Table Garden Program Internship**

**The Sylvia Center at Katchkie Farm**

**Kinderhook, NY**

**The Sylvia Center** (TSC) is a non-profit organization that addresses issues in children’s health by providing access to the experience of growing food and using it to create a healthy meal. TSC is transforming the way nutrition is taught. Our food literacy programs help children understand what food is, how it is grown, and, perhaps most importantly, that they themselves can learn and choose to make good food for their own bodies. In our Children’s Garden and outdoor kitchen on Katchkie Farm in Kinderhook, NY, we inspire young people to eat well through thoughtful, delicious experiences with healthful, seasonal fruits and vegetables.

**Internship Description**

The Sylvia Center at Katchkie Farm is offering a 6-month internship for our Farm to Table Garden Programfor the 2013 growing season. Working in collaboration with the Education Director and Farm-Based Culinary Instructor, the **Farm to Table Garden Program Intern** will learn to develop, prepare for, and eventually act as the lead instructor for the garden component of our farm to table educational programs. This individual will come to hold a leadership role in the management of the half-acre Children’s Garden, manage the care of animals on the farm, assist in leading volunteers in the field, help with the culinary portion of the program as needed, help conduct special on and off farm events and programs, and provide general operational and administrative support to the non-profit. Educational opportunity topics include: farm to table education for children, small scale organic gardening, basic culinary technique and meal creation, and building community around food. The Farm to Table Garden Program Intern will work directly with, and be supervised by, the Education Director.

**Internship Schedule**

The Garden Program Internship begins May 6, 2013 and ends October 25, 2013. The number of days and hours per week will vary over the course of the season. May and October will be 5 days/week at 40 hrs/week. June and September will be 5-6 days/week at 50-55 hrs/week. July and August will be 6 days/week at 55 hrs/week. Chores will be assigned for days off on a rotating basis.

**This work and learn experience is designed for someone who would like to:**

* Teach educational garden programs that emphasize food literacy, nutrition, and the importance of eating local, fresh, organic, seasonal produce.
* Take their beginner experience in organic farming to the next level by taking on managerial responsibilities for a large, highly diverse children’s garden and managing the care of chickens and small livestock.
* Learn basic culinary technique and creative seasonal cooking and work with children in this capacity.
* Do physically demanding farm work as well as challenging and creative program planning and office work.
* Be involved in all aspects of an organization working to build community around food.
* Learn new skills by actively shadowing, inquiring, and doing.

**Required Qualifications**

* Two full seasons of experience working on a small farm or an intensively managed vegetable garden.
* Degree or work experience in education, agriculture, natural sciences, environmental studies, horticulture, outdoor recreation, or other related field.
* Strong interest in the farm-to-table movement, children’s health issues, and participating in culinary work.
* Experience working with children, ideally in an outdoor setting.
* A strong and cooperative work ethic and communication skills, a good sense of humor, and the desire to work as part of a close-knit team.
* Positive attitude, ambitious, motivated, organized, patient, flexible, conscientious, and responsible.
* Ability to work independently and efficiently on assigned projects.
* Ability to rise to the occasion with a positive attitude when unexpected tasks need to be completed.
* Desire to be involved in all aspects of a small non-profit organization.
* Current CPR and First-Aid Certification, driver’s license, and ability to operate a commercial van.
* Ability to work long hours (including early mornings, late evenings, and weekends), lift up to 50 lbs, and perform physical, outdoor jobs in all weather.

**Compensation:** Educational experiences as noted above. Eggs and healthy portions of farm produce. Monthly stipend of $1600. (Please note that housing is not provided.)

**To Apply:** Please email your resume, cover letter, and three references (include name, relationship, phone number, and email address) to Julie Cerny, Education Director and Garden Manager, julie.cerny@sylviacenter.org. **To receive additional details about this opportunity, please request via email.**