Program/Position Description:  www.christodora.org

Staff at the Manice Education Center work closely together in a supportive atmosphere teaching small, coed groups (10-12) of New York City (NYC) youth in a variety of outdoor classrooms and camp settings.

The Manice Education Center (MEC) is intentionally located in a unique outdoor setting within the heart of the Berkshire Mountains of Western Massachusetts. MEC operates several distinctly different seasonal programs that are experientially focused in high-quality environmental education, wilderness camping, and leadership training from May through October.

With a staff to student ratio averaging 1:6, outdoor education counselors and assistant counselors facilitate debates, science labs, cooperative games, group initiatives, and campfires for groups of approximately forty youth. Outdoor Education Counselors in the spring/fall programs will facilitate 3-day school chaperoned field trips at MEC for our partner NYC public schools. Outdoor Education Counselors in the summer programs will lead wilderness expeditions for campers & can expect to guide an average of 6 backpacking and/or canoeing trips, ranging from 2 to 5 days in length.

Position Availability:
Chaperoned School Spring Field Trip Program: 4-11 to 6-10-16
Seasonal Summer Camp Backcountry Expedition Program: 6-13 to 8-28-16
MEC offers on 6-11-16 a SOLO Wilderness First Aid and Red Cross CPR Certification Courses before the start of summer training.
Chaperoned School Fall Field Trip Program: 9-6 to 10-29-16
Preference given to applicants who can work more than one session.

Responsibilities:
• Develop and deliver experientially focused educational opportunities for youth ages 11-18 in environmental science and leadership training courses.
• Facilitate low ropes course elements and group initiatives.
• Facilitate 2-3 day, school chaperoned field trips (fall only)
• Safely lead groups on extended backcountry excursions (summer only)
• Overnight supervision of students or campers (max. 7) in cabin style tents
• Mentor, support, and empower Outdoor Education Assistant Counselors

Qualifications:
• Adventurous spirit, willingness to learn, passion for the outdoors, and enjoys connecting with urban youth.
• Experience in outdoor education & leadership training in a camp setting.
• Experience working with urban school groups (field trip program only)
• Experience with wilderness navigation (summer only)
• BA/BS in related discipline preferred. Significant professional experience considered.
• Field Trip Program Education Counselors: Current First Aid and CPR certifications
• Summer Camp Education Counselors:
  o Wilderness First Aid and CPR certifications or the ability & commitment to successfully obtain during certification courses offered at MEC in June.
• Waterfront Lifeguard Certification, or ability & commitment to successfully obtain during certification courses offered at MEC in June, is preferred.
• Spanish/English Bilingual a plus.
• Valid driver’s license preferred.
• Background clearances and medical physical required. Initial drug screening may be required.

Compensation:
• Weekly salary. Lodging (cabin tents), basic amenities, excellent food service, and outdoor equipment discounts.
• Enjoy living in a unique outdoor setting, and be a part of a one hundred-year tradition of developing a constructive, supportive community through hard work, play, and dedication to our mission.

TO APPLY:
Send cover letter, resume, and 3 reference contacts (feel free to add wilderness, leadership, and education portfolios) to Matthew Scholl, M.E.C. Director @ employment@christodora.org; or mail to: M.E.C. 68 Savoy Road, Florida, MA 01247; Fax: 413.663.5399.