



MANICE EDUCATION CENTER

Environmental Educator / Outdoor Educator

Love the outdoors and teaching urban youth about ecology? Have a sense of adventure?

www.christodora.org

Christodora: Nature, Learning, Leadership since 1897 is seeking Environmental / Outdoor Educators to join our education team to teach inside of New York City public school classrooms this February and March. Educators could then join us at Christodora's Manice Education Center located in the heart of the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts for the spring season. This is a great opportunity to share your passion for nature with NYC youth and if you also join us at the Manice Education Center, you can enjoy a pristine wilderness playground, alongside music, arts, and festivities in nearby college towns in the Berkshires.

Position Availability:

Apply for only Jan-April in NYC or also apply to continue for any of the additional sessions at the Manice Education Center in spring/summer/fall as listed below.

NYC Winter Ecology Program: January 28 - April 3, 2019*

MEC Spring Session: April 10 - June 7, 2019

MEC Summer Programs: June 8 - August 24, 2019*

MEC Fall Session: September 4 - October 27, 2019*

NYC Winter Ecology Program: November 2019 to March 2020

**NOTE: When working all sessions, educators receive paid time off between sessions.*

Free Training Opportunities!

- All educators receive hands-on training in the delivery of an experientially driven curriculum, classroom management, lesson writing, challenge course training and facilitation, and ongoing professional development as an outdoor and environmental educator in a program using cutting edge techniques in youth development.
- Red Cross First Aid and CPR Certifications provided for spring and fall team members. Summer trainings include Wilderness First Aid, Waterfront Lifeguarding, Canoeing, and Backpacking.

Environmental Educator Responsibilities in New York City:

- Develop/present ecology based environmental lessons with experiential and inquiry based approaches to classrooms in our partner NYC public schools.
- Facilitate day trips to environmental/cultural institutions and natural areas in NYC.
- Attend Christodora-MEC reunions and occasionally participate in Christodora's afterschool programs.

Environmental Educators in New York City co-teach up to two semesters (Nov-Jan & Feb-March) providing a 7 week curriculum that brings hands on, experiential lessons in ecology, including owl pellet dissection, animal adaptations with animal furs and skulls, flower dissections, and more. For seven weeks you will travel to co-teach 4-5 classes in a partner school with another Christodora environmental educator, with different partner schools being served on each day of the week.

Outdoor Educator Responsibilities at the Manice Education Center:

The Manice Education Center operates several distinctly different seasonal programs focusing on highly engaging opportunities for junior and senior high school youth from New York City in environmental education, wilderness expeditions, and leadership training from May through October. The Center is located on a 200 acre forested campus, surrounded by thousands of acres in abutting Savoy Mountain State Forest, boasting mountain streams, rivers, ponds and diverse wildlife including moose!

Outdoor Educator Responsibilities at the Manice Education Center continued:

- Facilitate challenge course activities designed to focus on teamwork, communication, leadership skills, trust, and social development.
- Inspire curiosity about our natural world through discovery-based activities in forested ecosystems. Use our testing equipment & interact with live exhibits in our science lab. Introduce gardening, composting and small-scale farming with live chickens.
- Learn and teach wilderness survival skills including primitive fire making, shelter building, and foraging for wild edibles.
- Lead nighttime hikes to see the stars and the magic of bioluminescence.
- Supervise 6-7 youth overnight in canvas, cabin style tents on platforms.
- Celebrate with skits, drumming, and s'mores at our campfire program—rain or shine in a gazebo surrounded by forest—that can seat the entire campus.
- Mentor outdoor educator assistants as part of a small co-teaching group working with 10-12 participants.

Outdoor Educators in the spring/fall school programs work as outdoor education resident camp counselors and will facilitate 3-day school chaperoned field trips at MEC for our partner NYC public schools. Staff work closely together in a supportive atmosphere and teach small, coed groups of 10-12 youth in a variety of outdoor settings. Each school trip will engage in hikes to a summit with a view of 4 states, an 80-foot cascading waterfall, a unique bog ecosystem, and a llama farm.

Qualifications:*Required:*

- Adventurous spirit, willingness to learn, passion for the outdoors, and enjoys connecting with urban youth.
- Ability to be flexible across many different classroom settings and school cultures, and provide sensitive caring approaches to the diverse needs of students.
- BA/BS in related discipline preferred. Significant professional experience considered.
- At least 4 weeks experience in a role responsible for children.
- Background clearances and medical physical required.

Preferred:

- Experience in outdoor / environmental education
- Experience working with urban school groups
- Spanish/English Bilingual a plus.
- Valid driver's license.

Stipend:

- Competitive weekly salary.
- Apartment (internet and utilities included), MTA transportation pass, cell phone provided while in NYC.
- Lodging & basic amenities, excellent food service provided while at the Manice Education Center.
- Access to wilderness equipment, and outdoor equipment discounts.
- *Enjoy living in both urban and outdoor settings, and be a part of a 122-year-old tradition of developing a constructive, supportive community through hard work, play, and dedication to our mission.*

TO APPLY:

Send cover letter & resume (feel free to include wilderness, leadership, and/or education portfolios) to Matthew Scholl, M.E.C. Director @ employment@christodora.org

Christodora is committed to making a difference within a culturally diverse, educational environment. Applicants are requested to include in their cover letter information about how they will further this goal. Three professional references will be required.

Christodora is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.