POSITION AVAILABLE – High School Aged Advanced Intern/Focus Position

Discover Cayuga Lake Boat Tours & Floating Classroom is part of the not-for-profit Center for Transformative Action, based in Ithaca, NY. We are seeking outgoing individuals who wish to help us provide lake cruises and educational programs for Finger Lakes residents and visitors. Our programs emphasize the human and natural history of the region in a casual and engaging atmosphere.

This focused “internship-style” position is intended for upper-level high school students with relevant experience and an interest in specific aspects of our programs, such as aquatic systems studies, education or eco-tourism. Advanced interns will work the ships’ captain, adult crew, and other youth crew. Effective working relationships and attention to teamwork are extremely important in this environment. General responsibilities will include:

1. assist the adult crew in ensuring the safe operation of the vessel, including learning to handle the ship’s lines, emergency response and docking procedures.
2. learn to present information on the sights, human and natural history of the lake.
3. gain proficiency in basic water sampling techniques and assist in explaining and leading lake study activities for groups of 3-5 learners.
4. will have the opportunity to learn about tourism and marketing, via direct marketing techniques, community outreach and social media.

Junior crew will also design and complete an independent focus project, with support for the adult staff. This project may involve environmental topics such as climate change, microplastics or invasive species. It also may focus on marketing, education or public outreach.

Boat Safety & Condition: All interns will be expected to share responsibility for the condition and cleanliness of the boat when they are on-duty. Training will be provided prior to the initiation of duties.

Experience: Candidates should be prepared to discuss prior experience that they feel will be strongly relevant to this position. Familiarity with boats and boat safety are helpful, but training will be provided. Please tell us if you have First Aid or Life Guard certifications.

Physical Requirements: Must be prepared to work outdoors on a boat, in a range of weather conditions. Minimum age 16.

Hours: Estimated average of 20 hours/week during July and August. Interns will attend weekly meetings and 2-4 cruise shifts each week, along with independent work. Some weekend availability required. Vacations OK with advance notice.

Compensation: Depending on available funding, we offer both paid and unpaid positions. Paid positions earn $11.10/hour (anticipated Tompkins County minimum wage.)

Application Process: Send us a letter telling about yourself, and why you are interested in working with us. If you have a resume or portfolio, we will be happy to review it, but that is not required. We will contact you to set up an interview. Please be aware that we receive more applications than we can place. Deadline for application is April 15, 2019.

Contact: Send questions to Bill Foster, Director. (607) 216-2238 or floatingclassroom@gmail.com