

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Department of Historic Trades at George Washington's Mount Vernon is currently accepting applications for its George Washington: Entrepreneur summer internship program. With focus on the Pioneer Farm and George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill, these internships provide an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to become immersed in 18th-century history, agriculture, and industry.

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association has maintained the home of George Washington since 1858. Located 16 miles south of Washington, DC, Mount Vernon is the most visited historic home in America and welcomes over one million visitors annually. Situated on the main estate, the Pioneer Farm is a four-acre working farm that interprets Washington's innovation in the promotion of sustainable agriculture. George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill highlights the industrial aspects of Mount Vernon. Located three miles from the main estate, the reconstructed gristmill utilizes water power to operate millstones grinding corn and wheat. The gristmill is equipped with an Oliver Evans automated milling system for processing flour. The site also is home to a fully functional reconstruction of Washington's whiskey distillery.

Historic Trades will select up to six students for its Summer 2013 internships. This program is open to active undergraduate students who have completed at least one year of college and will not have completed their undergraduate studies as of June 3, 2013. Candidates should have a background in history or agriculture, be comfortable with public speaking, and be available during the entire ten-week internship period of June 3-August 9, 2013.

All interns will complete a brief training program in interpretive methodology and historical content. Key topics will include 18th-century economics and agricultural methods, distilling and milling, and slavery. Upon completion of training, interns will work as full-time Historic Trades Interpreters under the direction of our professional interpretive staff. Interns will be expected to work a five-day, 40-hour week that will include every other weekend. Interns will be expected to wear period clothing whenever working on site. In addition, interns will participate in special field trips to other historic sites and museums in the region. Interns also will be required to complete a short research project on George Washington, agriculture, 18th-century trades, or related topics. Historic Trades will be happy to work with colleges and universities to ensure that, if applicable, course credit requirements are met.

Students accepted into the program will receive reimbursement for travel expenses to and from Mount Vernon, accommodations on the estate, and estimated biweekly wages of \$450 (based on hours worked, accommodations in addition, all before taxes). As representatives of Mount Vernon, interns are required to adhere to Mount Vernon's policies and principles.

To learn more about these internships and to download an application, students can visit our website at <http://www.mountvernon.org/more/careers/internships#interpretation>.

We are looking for highly motivated students who will enjoy the challenges and benefits of participating in this program. We will be happy to discuss the internship in more detail with you and any students who are interested in applying.

Completed applications must be returned to Mount Vernon by February 22, 2013 for consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact PFGMInterns@mountvernon.org; Donna Boulter, Interpretive Operations Coordinator (703)799-8611, or me (703)799-6805.

Sincerely,

Steven T. Bashore
Manager of Historic Trades