



Growing Gardens Position Description

Position: Youth Grow Educator at Lent Elementary

Reports to: Youth Grow Manager

Time: 15 hrs/week with possibility to expand to another school with additional hours

Application deadline: October 1

Schedule: Two days a week during school hours.

Term: 2019-2020 school year. Possible addition of summer programming and renewal for next year.

Hourly Wage Range: \$17.51

Location: Lent School with meetings and planning time at Growing Gardens office

Do you want to join a team of driven educators working to get kids excited about healthy food, building community and connecting with the natural environment? Are you ready to be challenged and gain new skills? If so, we want you to join our team and grow with us!

Growing Gardens uses the experience of growing food in schools, backyards and correctional facilities to cultivate healthy, equitable, communities. We believe that access to nourishing, culturally-appropriate food is a basic human right. We are working to become an anti-racist organization through our programs and internal operations.

Youth Grow is a program of Growing Gardens that collaborates with diverse school communities to develop sustainable garden education programs at 9 schools. We offer interdisciplinary, experiential learning opportunities aimed at helping children connect with nature, and grow and eat their garden harvests.

We are seeking to hire an educator who is enthusiastic and skilled at using gardens to teach children science, explore food, environmental studies and more.

What the job is:

- **Teach garden-based education at Lent school (70%)**
 - Coordinate with teachers and administrators to schedule lessons
 - Implement dynamic hands-on lessons for K-5 students -- may involve Next Generation Science Standards, cooking, gardening, nutrition, food justice, environmental education, and related themes
 - Teach multiple grade levels, 4-5 lessons per day
 - Invite students' parents to teach classes about food traditions
 - Work with teachers and Growing Gardens staff to refine, develop and evaluate curriculum and lessons

- Assist Garden Club instructor/Garden Coordinator and co-teach afterschool SUN Garden Club
- Potentially, teach summer programs and camps (if available and funding dependent)
- Track important data about programming on a monthly basis
- **Promote healthy eating in the cafeteria (10%)**
 - Harvest produce for the cafeteria
 - Facilitate children making signage for the cafeteria
 - Periodically eat lunch from the salad bar in the cafeteria to model healthy eating
 - Offer samples of fruits and vegetables in the cafeteria, 6 times per year.
- **Develop and support strong school and community partnerships (10%)**
 - Support school-based garden coordinator to work with school administrators, parents, teachers, nutrition services staff, custodians and others
 - Coordinate with the Garden Committee and attend meetings
 - Support school-based coordinator garden maintenance and space use (including help with organizing garden work parties)
 - Support outreach to families and teachers including attending select school events
 - Facilitate partnership between Growing Gardens Home Gardens and Youth Grow programs by helping school-based coordinator to coordinate community workshops, and recruit Home Garden participants
 - Conduct workshops, tastings, classroom activities and garden clubs as needed
 - Coordinate Youth Grow or school community volunteers and interns.
- **Youth Grow Program Support (10%)**
 - Assist YG Coordinator in volunteer and intern training, tracking and management
 - Implement evaluations and track program data for grant proposals and reports
 - Participate and occasionally support other Youth Grow programming such as library workshops and School Garden Coordinator Certificate Training
 - Attend and contribute ideas during staff meetings (schedule permitting)

Potential expansion

- We are developing new partnerships with other schools this year, and upon mutual agreement, this position may expand to offer similar programming at another school, and/or additional activities at Lent elementary.

What we're looking for:

- Experience of, and a love for teaching elementary school age children
- Basic knowledge of growing food in the Pacific Northwest (you do not need to be an expert)
- Well-organized and detail-oriented
- Experience working with diverse communities, and ability to adapt garden education to meet multicultural communities
- A passion for the mission of Growing Gardens
- Open and direct communicator, asks questions and works well with a team

Experience that we value but is not required:

- Existing connection to the Lent community

- Since we partner with schools in diverse low-income neighborhoods, we especially value candidates with life or work experience in similar neighborhoods
- Community organizing skill and ability to engage with a broad group of community members
- Ability to speak and write Spanish or other language prevalent in the Portland area
- Experience with anti-racism and social justice work

Other Requirements:

- Occasional availability for evening and weekend events
- Ability to pass background check

Salary and Benefits: 15 hrs/week from dates \$17.51/hour. Free attendance to the School Garden Coordinator Certificate Training in June 2019.

To Apply: Please send current resume/list of work experience and a one page cover letter detailing your interest in the position to apply@growing-gardens.org by **October 1st**. Please put “Youth Grow Educator” in the subject line. We will notify candidates regarding next steps and in-person interviews. If you do have questions please reach out to: Anna Garwood at anna@growing-gardens.org