



Latino Heritage Internship Program

# LATINO HERITAGE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## Diversity Internship Program



<b>NPS UNIT: BENT'S OLD FORT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE/INTERPRETATION DIVISION</b>		<b>PD#: 68</b>
<p><b>Position Title:</b> Interpretation and Education Outreach Intern  <b>Position Type:</b> LHIP Traditional Internship (Public Land Corps)  <b>Primary natural resource discipline:</b> Outreach/Public Affairs  <b>Location:</b> 35110 Highway 194 East, La Junta, CO 81050</p>		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>		
<p><b>Position Description:</b> The Interpretation and Education (I&amp;E) Outreach Intern at Bent’s Old Fort National Historic Site will serve as a liaison between the park and the local Latino community with a goal of establishing closer ties with the local Latino communities in the area and creating a more inclusive atmosphere in the park by increasing Latino visitation and participation in special events and day-to-day operations.</p> <p>The I&amp;E Outreach Intern will develop and present interpretive outreach programs in the local Latino communities. In preparation for these programs, the intern will receive training in National Park Service Interpretive techniques and Living History Interpretation. Under guidance from his/her supervisor, the intern will be provided research materials, access to other interpretive program examples, and will “shadow” other interpreters presenting programs. The supervisor will work with the intern during the entire process. The intern can draft social media posts for the park. The intern will also have the opportunity to make a presentation about his/her project to the park staff and community at the end of the internship.</p> <p>This position is offered through the National Park Service's Latino Heritage Internship Program in partnership with Environment for the Americas.</p>		
<b>COVID ACCOMMODATIONS</b>		
Yes		
<b>LEARNING GOALS</b>		
Skills gained by the intern will include: producing professional presentations using National Park Service interpretive techniques and Living History Interpretation methods, and professional writing for social media. The intern will have the opportunity to interact with park staff from all divisions and gain knowledge of different job opportunities in the National Park Service.		
<b>MENTORING</b>		
The intern will work closely with the park's Interpretation staff and will receive direct oversight from the park’s Interpretation Manager. Additional guidance on using primary historical documents as research materials will also be provided. The intern will be included in any seasonal orientations hosted during the time of the internship, in addition to an individual orientation provided by the Interpretation Manager. Additional training		

opportunities are available online through the National Park Service Common Learning Portal, the Epley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University and ProValens Learning.

### PROJECT RESULTS

LHIP Traditional Internship (not DHA Resource Assistant) - The intern will have the opportunity to make a presentation about his/her project to the park staff and community at the end of the internship. We will follow local, state, and federal guidelines for health and safety. We understand that projects may have to adjust to the realities of the pandemic.

### LEADERSHIP

LHIP Traditional Internship (not DHA Resource Assistant) - The intern will work closely with the park's Interpretation staff and will receive direct oversight and feedback from the park's Interpretation Manager. The Interpretation Manager will guide the intern in each step and help the intern to develop his/her skills in critical thinking, problem solving, project management and different ways to engage local stakeholders. Additional guidance on using primary historical documents as research materials will also be provided. The intern will be included in any seasonal orientations hosted during the time of the internship, in addition to an individual orientation provided by the Interpretation Manager. Additional training opportunities are available online through the National Park Service Common Learning Portal, the Epley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University and ProValens Learning.

### DHA-RAI OUTCOMES

Not a DHA-RAI.

### NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

**Physical Work Environment:** Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site is situated in the Arkansas River Valley at an elevation of 4,066 feet above sea level. The general area is characterized by abundant sunshine, low humidity, wide daily and seasonal temperature ranges, considerable wind and meager, but variable precipitation. The mean annual precipitation is 12 inches. The park's primary gateway communities are La Junta, CO (8 miles away), where 44% of the population identifies as Hispanic and Las Animas, CO (13 miles away), where 42% of the population identifies as Hispanic. La Junta, CO, has approximately 7,000 residents and is the largest city on U.S. Hwy 50 between Lamar (49 miles) and Pueblo (74 miles), CO. Grocery stores, Walmart, the Arkansas Regional Medical Center, churches, a movie theater and all major services are available in La Junta. The Comanche National Grassland and other outdoor recreational opportunities are within an hour's drive of La Junta.

**Work Environment:** A majority of the work will be indoors in a shared office space. The locations of presentations can vary. High temperatures in the summer are typically in the 90s and above (extremes have been up to 110 degrees F). The animal life at Bent's Old Fort NHS is typical of both semi-desert prairie and riparian habitat. There are 72 species of birds, 22 species of mammals, 7 species of reptiles and 3 species of amphibians in the park.

### VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Yes, the intern is required to have a valid driver's license and use his/her own vehicle to commute between housing and the park.