



Latino Heritage Internship Program

# LATINO HERITAGE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## Diversity Internship Program



**NPS UNIT: CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE** **PD#: 3**

**Position Title:** Communications and Outreach Assistant  
**Position Type:** LHIP Direct Hire Authority Resource Assistance (DHA-RA)  
**Primary natural resource discipline:** Outreach/Public Affairs  
**Location:** 410 Severn Avenue, Suite 314, Annapolis, MD 21403

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**Position Description:** From its headquarters in Annapolis, Maryland, the National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office manages the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, a partnership-based entity that connect people to experiences of the region’s natural and cultural heritage, and also helps conserve important landscapes. This office also coordinates watershed-wide efforts to achieve land conservation, public access, and citizen stewardship goals established under Executive Order 13508 (Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed) and the Chesapeake Bay Program. It is a true 21st Century partnership park that brings together many stakeholders in caring for the largest estuary in the United States, the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

In a June 2019 survey of Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network partners, one of the needs most reported by respondents was help with fostering inclusive stewardship among diverse audiences, particularly Latino communities. The rise of Latino populations across the United States presents an important opportunity to connect with a historically excluded audience in meaningful, culturally relevant ways. The Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network seeks a DHA Resource Assistant to better engage Hispanic and Latino audiences as potential park stewards.

The Assistant will produce the following deliverables:

- 1) Survey or Observation Report of local parks
- 2) Community Based Social Marketing campaign
- 3) Presentation to NPS interpretive staff and leadership
- 4) Community profiles

These projects will inform interpretive planning and communications plans for NPS and partners.

This position is offered through the National Park Service's Latino Heritage Internship Program in partnership with Environment for the Americas.

### COVID ACCOMMODATIONS

Yes

## LEARNING GOALS

The intern will learn to implement best practices in science communication, public speaking, and interpretation. The assistant will practice applying social science research to promote cultural competency in science communications and public engagement. It will be an opportunity for professional development as the assistant will apply academic skills to real world issues.

## MENTORING

The intern will be supervised by Education Coordinator and paired with Communications Assistant. Intern will meet with partners core partners in the planning of Sandy Point's programming and interpretive initiatives, including Corazon Latino and MD Department of Natural Resources. Interns will be encouraged to attend outreach events with environmental educators on the mobile contact station and go on site visits to any of the over 300 Gateways Network sites to conduct informational interviews with counterparts in these locations.

## PROJECT RESULTS

The intern will present their present their project to NPS Superintendent Wendy O'Sullivan, the Chief of Interpretation and Communications (TBA), and Gateways partners, Chesapeake Conservancy, Corazon Latino, and MD Department of Natural Resources all actively a part of this program. Other Gateways partners will be invited.

## LEADERSHIP

The Supervisor will keep weekly meetings with intern to review independent work. They will practice communicating with various stakeholders within the park in addition visitors from diverse cultural backgrounds. The assistant will incorporate lessons learned from the field to their project. The Assistant will also have the opportunity to meet with various partners at differing levels of leadership within their respective organizations along with the Supervisor (park rangers, planners, superintendents, coordinators, law enforcement, naturalists, communications associates). The assistant is expected to practice conducting interviews and explaining project to a variety of audiences.

## DHA-RAI OUTCOMES

- 1) Survey or Observation Report of local parks
- 2) Community Based Social Marketing campaign
- 3) Presentation to NPS interpretive staff and leadership
- 4) Community profiles

## NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

**Physical Work Environment:** The NPS Chesapeake Bay Office is conveniently located in the historic Eastport neighborhood of Annapolis, MD, where we enjoy beautiful river views and a diversity of residents. We are located less than a mile from downtown Annapolis with shops, restaurants, and entertainment, and less than two miles from several grocery options, including large scale grocery stores, Latino/international markets, farmers markets, and convenience stores. The intern will find many outlets for socializing with several colleges, community centers, and houses of worship nearby. Plus, we're just a short bus or train ride to Baltimore or

Washington, DC or close to outlets for enjoying the natural environment. In every setting, the intern will be able to connect with Latinos and other people of color, including a colleague on staff.

**Work Environment:** The Assistant will have a mixture of field work (observations, offsite meeting and research, outreach events, and site visits) and office work (research and project development) wrapped into the internship. The assistant is expected to wear business casual attire when appropriate, but casual is completely fine since we are currently working from home. Students should be prepared to work outdoors in open areas, as well as indoors in office settings and research facilities. The office is handicap accessible, and will include a work station that is accessible as well. We have a small staff with a variety of backgrounds and provide an open, welcoming environment. The assistant can expect there to be at least 4 other youth summer interns on site, and many bilingual interpretive rangers as part of our growing initiative.

#### **VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

A driver's license is required, a government vehicle is available for project related work.