Paid Student Natural History Interpretation Internship

The Ken Norris Center for Natural History is seeking one or two undergraduates for the upcoming 2020 spring/summer or spring/fall quarters to participate in a project to develop an interactive public natural history museum exhibit focused on the past, present, and future naturalists of Santa Cruz County. The exhibit will include the contributions of past notable Santa Cruz naturalists, including Fred McPherson, Randall Morgan, and others, as well as a diversity of contemporary and upcoming naturalists. The exhibit will be displayed from November 2020 through January 2021 at the San Lorenzo Valley Museum in Felton.

While working under the guidance of one graduate student and Norris Center staff, each student should expect to devote approximately 15 hours a week for 2 quarters (20 weeks). Students are strongly encouraged to pursue this project as a senior internship through Environmental Studies. If students are not pursuing this as a senior internship they are required to enroll for at least one quarter for 5-units of credit. The selected student will receive a $3,000 stipend spread over two quarters.

The main responsibilities for this project include:

- Taking the lead on one part of the project, such as creating the exhibit materials for one of the main featured naturalists or designing and implementing one of the community outreach components of the exhibit.
- Working closely with Norris Center staff and volunteers to help curate the works of Fred McPherson and Randall Morgan held by the Norris Center and the San Lorenzo Valley Museum.
- Researching and incorporating effective environmental interpretation and science communication principles into the exhibit design.
- Developing and participating in a community outreach component to the exhibit.
- Helping to plan and organize the opening reception of the exhibit in late October 2020 through mid-January 2020.

Interested candidates should contact Norris Center director Chris Lay (cml@ucsc.edu, 459-4763) to learn more about the position. Past experience with environmental education, exhibit design, and/or curating written materials is desirable.

Your application packet should contain an electronic copy of the following:

- A cover letter explaining your interest and qualifications for this position
- A printout of your class list with grades from your student portal
- The names and contact information of at least two professional references

Applications should be emailed to cml@ucsc.edu with the email header “Norris Center Natural History Exhibit Internship Application “Student Last Name(s)”’. Please attach a single pdf document that includes all the requested materials (cover letter, references, and printout of grades). Please send in your application via email to cml@ucsc.edu by Thursday February 27 at 4pm.