



Organization Overview

Founded in 2000, Calypso Farm and Ecology Center's mission is to promote local agriculture and environmental awareness through hands-on education in natural and farming ecosystems. We do this through a variety of educational programs – for young and old – both on the farm and in the community. In all of our programs, we strive to increase access to and awareness of the benefits of purchasing and eating local foods.

EATinG Program Youth Leader

Terms: Part time ~ 15 hours per week

Dates: May 20th —August 2nd

Wage: \$10.00/hour + weekly share of school garden vegetables

Number of Positions: 3

To be filled by: Open until filled

Additional Info: This position is perfect for high school students! Preference will be given to applicants who have participated in the EATinG program in the past. Calypso encourages, Alaska Natives and other people of color to apply.



What is the EATinG Program?

The EATinG Program - Engaging Alaskan Teens in Gardening - is a hands-on, leadership-focused gardening program for youth ages 11-16. Students apply to participate in the EATinG program, which is offered at no cost. The program is offered in two five-week sessions at each of the Hunter, Pearl Creek & Woodriver Elementary School Gardens. Student Gardeners work in a team to prepare, plant, harvest vegetables and run weekly farm stands. They also cook and eat from the garden on a regular basis. For each week in the EATinG Program, Student Gardeners receive “Veggie Bucks” which they can use to bring home vegetables from the Farm Stand Each week.

Position Overview

As an EATinG Youth Leader, you will assist the Program Leader at one of the three school gardens (Hunter, Pearl Creek or Woodriver) where you will work with a group of up to 12 EATinG Student Gardeners to help plant, harvest and care for the gardens. Youth Leaders will help create a positive team environment as Student Gardeners work on garden tasks, do team building and leadership activities and run the weekly Farm Stand, selling garden grown produce to the public. During the first week of the position, Youth Leaders will get acquainted with the gardens and their Program Leaders and be trained on all aspects of the summer program!

Roles and Responsibilities

- Assist with providing a safe and enriching environment for Student Gardeners
- Assist Student Gardeners in garden care, including planting and harvesting
- Help facilitate leadership and team-building activities
- Follow all policies, especially regarding safety
- Assist with garden maintenance activities as directed

Qualifications

- Energetic, positive and excited to work with youth
- Gardening experience (preferred, not required)
- Experience working with youth (preferred, but not required)
- Reliable
- Excellent communication skills
- Respect for all people regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, etc.
- Belief in Calypso's mission (see overview above)
- Flexible and friendly
- Transportation - must be able to get to and from the school garden each workday

Application Guidelines:

Please send a copy of your resume, 3 work related (school related also accepted) references and answers to the following questions to Susan Willsrud, Calypso Co-Director—calypsosusan@gmail.com. We will then contact you about interviews!



1. Describe why you are interested in being an EATin Youth Leader:
2. Describe any experience you have working with youth (preferred, but not required):
3. Give two reasons why you'd like to work with youth in a school garden setting:
4. Do you have a preference of the garden you would like to work in? (Hunter, Woodriver or Pearl Creek)
5. Describe any farm or garden experience that you have (preferred but not required):
6. If you were a vegetable, what would you be and why?
7. How did you hear about the position?

We are accepting applications on a rolling basis—so apply now! Feel free to contact Susan at calypsosusan@gmail.com with any questions.

