



Organization Overview

Founded in 2000, Calypso Farm and Ecology Center is a non-profit, educational farm in Fairbanks, Alaska offering hands-on education programs for all ages and growing fresh food for the community. We encourage local food production and environmental awareness through hands-on education in natural and farming ecosystems.



Farm Educator

Open Until Filled

Hours: Part and Full-time (20 - 40 hrs/week) - varies through the season

Dates: May 1 - October 4, 2021

Compensation:

- \$15-17/hour, depending on experience
- CSA vegetable share through the growing season (mid June through late September)

Calypso Farm is committed to fostering equity and inclusivity in our work, and providing opportunities for all members of our community, especially those with backgrounds and identities that are currently underrepresented in our dominant food systems and community leadership roles. Applicants of Color and persons who identify as Black or Indigenous are particularly encouraged to apply.

Position Overview

The Farm Educator is an education focused position at Calypso Farm. There are three primary responsibilities: **1)** Being an instructor for Calypso's youth summer camps. **2)** Assisting with Farm-Based Field Trips and other youth and family education programs. **3)** Being an instructor with Calypso's Fall Farm School in late August - early October. In all these duties this position works closely with Calypso's Lead Educator.

What is Farm Camp?

Farm Camps are week long day camps held at Calypso Farm. There are sessions for children 5-7 years old, children 8-12 years old, and a new session this year for youth ages 12-15. Teens aged 13-17 assist with the camps as Junior Counselors. Farm Camps offer children a farm immersion experience, exposing them to all aspects of farm life and boreal forest ecology through hands-on learning and exploration.

What are Calypso's Field Trips and other farm-based education programs?

Calypso offers field trips to youth aged pre-K through 12th grade as well as families and community groups. Field trips are a fun, hands-on way for kids to explore the farm, guided by Calypso educators. In 2021, Calypso will be offering small group field trips throughout the season from May-September. Calypso also offers other educational programs like school garden work days and family workshops on topics like gardening, ecology, and farm-based crafts.

What is the Fall Farm School?

Farm School is a new program launching this year aimed at providing kids with in-depth, hands-on learning opportunities on the Farm over the course of the school year. The program will consist of a few once-a-week sessions geared towards different age groups where students will spend the day at Calypso Farm, learning all about life on the farm and the surrounding boreal forest. Our pilot session will run late August - early October 2021.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Be a primary educator and instructor at all Farm Camp and Fall Farm School sessions
- Develop age appropriate program plans and lessons for Farm Camps, field trips, and Fall Farm School with the assistance of Calypso's Lead Educator
- Assist with the training and supervision of Farm Camp Junior Counselors and any other education program volunteers
- Assist with Farm Field Trips—including scheduling and teaching
- Conduct outreach to families and community groups about field trips and other education programs
- Assist with the implementation of all Safety Policies for Camps and other education programs, including Calypso's 2021 COVID-19 safety protocols
- Assist with end of season evaluation of all education programs

Qualifications

- Outdoor and/or environmental education experience, or other relevant experience working with children
- Experience in creating outdoor education activities or other hands-on lessons
- Comfortable working with youth and children of all ages
- Able to adhere to CDC guidelines and Calypso's protocols for COVID-19 safety throughout the season
- Good communication and organizational skills
- Belief in Calypso's mission (see at the top of the first page)
- Knowledgeable about the ecology of the boreal forest or excited to learn
- Gardening or farming experience is a bonus (not required)
- First Aid & CPR certified (training provided)
- Able to pass a Background Check to work with children



Additionally, applicants must have a reliable vehicle or other form of transportation for getting to and from work each day. Calypso Farm is located 5 miles up the Old Nenana Highway in Ester, outside of Fairbanks.

To Apply

Please send a copy of your resume, 3 work related references and a cover letter that addresses the following questions to Leila Pyle, Calypso's Lead Educator, at leila@calypsofarm.org. We will then contact you about an interview!

1. Describe why you are interested in being the Farm Educator.
2. Describe any outdoor/environmental education experience that you have, or other experience working with children.
3. Describe any farm, garden, or ecology related experience that you have (preferred but not required).
4. Give a brief overview of a garden-based lesson appropriate for 7-10 year olds that you'd be excited to teach.
5. If you were a vegetable, what would you be and why?
6. How did you hear about the position?

Calypso Farm is committed to fostering a safe and healthy work environment for all its employees. Discrimination against ANY individual (staff, program participant, volunteer, general public, etc.) on the basis of sexual orientation, race, class, gender, disability, religion, political views or any aspect of a person that sets them apart is unacceptable.