Temporary Historic Conservation Technician

Organizational Overview:

Fairmount Park Conservancy exists to champion Philadelphia's parks. We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 100 neighborhood parks around the city.

Fairmount Park Conservancy's Architectural Conservation Program has offered a full complement of building restoration and preservation maintenance services in the Philadelphia park system and throughout the Philadelphia metro region for over 25 years. Being part of the Fairmount Park Conservancy’s Architectural Conservation Program offers a chance to engage in the rewarding work of physically improving historic structures in the park while working collaboratively towards the greater organizational goal of facilitating better park experiences for Philadelphia residents. The Conservation Program at FPC is unique in the preservation world, as it operates as a program in which the contracting work, in addition to providing a necessary service for the assets in the park, supports and helps subsidize the overall programming at FPC, including natural lands conservation, arts programming, community engagement, support for park volunteer organizations, and more. The Conservation Program has and continues to support the preservation of built heritage within Philadelphia parks, and works to do so with a commitment to inclusion, diversity and equity.

Position Overview:

Fairmount Park Conservancy is seeking a Conservation Technician. The Conservation Technician will be responsible for executing work in historic preservation’s skilled trades (traditional building trades) including but not limited to preservation carpentry and preservation masonry repair. This position requires a display of competency in one or more preservation trades and the ability to work collaboratively in a supportive, team environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for implementing field work determined by the management team.

Responsibilities:

Duties broadly focus on contributing to the implementation of hands-on preservation treatments that preserve and restore the historic fabric of buildings, public art and monuments found throughout Philadelphia’s municipal park system, as well as the greater Philadelphia region.

Specific job responsibilities include:
• Perform work that maintains high company standards in the preservation of building materials
• Perform task assignments thoughtfully, balancing attention to detail and good time management
• Perform a variety of tasks in the workshop that require a self-driven nature and strong ability to engage senior staff when questions arise
• Effectively communicate new project information to co-workers and management staff
• Contribute to a collaborative and supportive environment with fellow conservation staff

Schedule and Salary:
The Conservation Technician position is a full-time (40 hour work week), temporary position (6 months). The hourly wage is $20 to $22/hr commensurate with experience. This position does not include employer-paid health insurance, paid holidays and vacation time. A transition to full time employment with benefits will be considered after the 6 month period has expired. Full time employment will be based on a number of factors, including employee performance and FPC’s capacity for additional staff at the time.

Job Requirements:
• Candidates with work experience of 3 years or more in the traditional building trades will be first considered. **Those with certification from a historic building trades program, preservation certificate program or bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation with AT LEAST one year of experience working within a historic preservation trade/hands-on conservation firm will also be considered** with preference given to candidates with higher levels of work experience in the historic building trades;
• Aptitude in effective work communication, both written and verbal;
• Ability to prioritize tasks while performing treatments requiring multi-step, methodical procedures;
• Must have effective personal time management skills and proficiency at multitasking;
• Must possess or willing to acquire a personal set of hand tools used for field work in the building trades;
• Must bring a positive, proactive, results-oriented approach to problem solving challenges uncovered in the field;
• Must be both highly self-motivated and work well in a team environment;
• Required to possess valid state driver's license; and personal transportation to job sites;

Physical Requirements:
• Must be able to repeatedly lift forty pounds;
• Must be able to endure repeated lifting, twisting and bending up to 90 degrees and any direction;
• Must be able work from ladders (up to 32’) and scaffolding and participate in their set up and disassembly;
• Must be able to work in unconditioned interior spaces and outdoors year round adhering to job safety protocols;
• Must be able to work in a building trades environment which may include exposure and handling of hazardous materials and products found in the conservation of historic structures. PPE (personal protective equipment) and job safety protocols will be provided to new staff and adherence to OSHA standards is required.
Anti-Discrimination Policy:

The Fairmount Park Conservancy does not discriminate based on ethnicity, race, gender or sexual orientation and encourages all qualified individuals to apply.

To Apply:

Thank you for your interest in the Fairmount Park Conservancy. Please prepare a formal letter of interest, resume, three work related references, and salary requirements as either PDF or Word documents and submit at https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/d250369117dd488baa22a899d5c26268.

Please, no phone calls or mailed applications. Deadline for application is August 15, 2021. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.