Call for Applicants

The Wilderness Program at UWC-USA invites applications for our 2022 Fellowship Program, which will bring those starting out in a career in outdoor education to the UWC-USA campus in Montezuma, New Mexico. UWC-USA is a 2-year residential school with a diverse student population representing over 90 different countries. We are seeking a fellow who represents our diverse student body and strongly encourage applicants from under-represented communities in the outdoors. As a program we welcome individuals from every nation, racial and ethnic group, socioeconomic and political background. Our effectiveness as a program is based on building community in the wilderness that embodies diversity in all its forms.

Fellows will gain experience working directly with the expeditionary learning co-directors in logistical planning, risk management, and trip leading. Fellows will share from their areas of expertise both formally and informally, and work with students in small groups. Fellows will split their time between leading students in the field, administrative tasks, and preparing trip logistics.

As part of the fellowship program, Fellows will be expected to:

- Reside at UWC-USA
- Participate on all overnight backpacking trips throughout the fall as an instructor in training
- Lead day hikes to local trailheads
- Assist in logistical preparation for all trips (including paperwork, food and gear issue and de-issue, and driving to trailheads)
- Engage formally/informally with experiential education department and residential life
- Assist in the residential dorms
- Assist with wilderness experiential education program to introduce students to campus trails
- Plan and run an outdoor workshop series based on area of personal interest & skill
- Participate, as needed, in other initiatives of the wilderness program

Trips for Fall 2022
Pre-Orientation Backpacking Trip - 4 days
Orientation Backpacking Trips - two trips each 3 days in length
Develop and teach an experiential education class
- During the week, Fellow will teach a 2 hour class in an area of interest
Weekend day hikes
Grand Canyon backpacking
- Co-lead first year students on a 5 day backpacking trip during Southwest Studies

Preferred Qualifications
- A current WFR (Wilderness First Responder) certification and CPR/AED certification.
- Fluency with Leave No Trace principles and a strong wilderness preservation ethic.
- Experience traveling in the backcountry, including at elevations above 10,000 feet, and on trips of at least 5 days.
- Experience and a desire to develop expertise in assessing and managing backcountry terrain and hazards; backcountry risk-management, including lightning, rockfall, river crossings, and map & compass navigation on- and off-trail.
- Current drivers license and 23 years of age to be eligible to drive school vehicles

Applications for the 2022 academic year (August 2022 to October 2022) are accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Applications should include the following:

- A detailed resume
- A statement of interest that elaborates on:
  - experience or desire to work with diverse student populations and gain experience in pre-trip administrative support and leading novices in the backcountry
- The contact information for three references

Wilderness Fellows will be provided with a monthly $1500 stipend in addition to lodging and food.

Please send application materials and queries to rachel.fristedt@uwc-usa.org