Walden Woods Project

Title of Project: Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read Assistant

Main Contact: Whitney Retallic, whitney.retallic@walden.org, 781-259-4721

Duration: Minimum of 180 hours

Deadline: April 1, 2017

Location: Lincoln, MA. The student will have ample workspace in the media center within our Thoreau Institute Library. For more information about the Library, go here: http://www.walden.org/Library

Additionally, much of the work can be accomplished remotely and we are open to a schedule that includes some time working from home.

Position Description:
2017 will mark the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau’s birth. For the bicentennial, the Walden Woods Project is working with the UMass Lowell Honors College, Mass Center for the Book, and Freedom’s Way National Heritage Area to sponsor the Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read. Our goal is for every town/city in Massachusetts to participate by coordinating a Read of some piece of Thoreau’s writing in their community at any point in 2017. This will be a significant undertaking and we are looking for an enthusiastic and organized Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read Assistant to help manage the project!

The work of the summer LEEP Project will be as the main point of contact between the Walden Woods Project and the Read planners in each town/city in Massachusetts. The LEEP student will keep track of event details and will support the Read planners in each city/town when they have questions about resources and planning. As each town/city will be conducting their Read in their own unique way, there will be opportunities to help communities with ideas about programming and, if desired, to even help facilitate discussions about Thoreau’s writings.

This is a great opportunity for someone interested in the public sector, non-profits and/or education to work with a wide variety of organizations (libraries, schools, cultural organizations) across the state.

For more information about the Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read, please visit: https://www.walden.org/bicentennial/read/

Qualifications:

Successful candidates will possess the following:
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal/customer service skills (Comfort with email and phone communication is necessary, as the majority of communication with the towns/cities across the state will be by these means)
- Organizational skills
• Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
• An interest in and desire to learn about Thoreau is highly desired, but extensive prior knowledge of Thoreau is not required.

As Thoreau’s work—and that of this position—covers a wide range of disciplines, we will review applications from students from all majors of study.

**Housing:** Housing will not be provided. Students are responsible for finding their own housing.

**For more info:** Please, visit: [www.walden.org](http://www.walden.org)

**Funding:** $2500 Available through the [LEEP Fellows Program](http://www.walden.org).

**How to Apply:**
Please send resume and cover letter to Whitney Retallic, Director of Education, at whitney.retallic@walden.org.

To apply for LEEP Funding and to be considered as a LEEP fellow, students must secure the position and complete the [LEEP Fellows Application Process](http://www.walden.org) by **March 3** (for early decision) or **April 14th**. Students will be required to submit a resume, cover letter, and a proposal outlining how they will complete their project.

Additional position information is available through Clark Recruiter. *(Recommendation letters should be emailed directly to rmaddox@clarku.edu)*

**About the Organization:** The Walden Woods Project is a nonprofit organization committed to preserving the land, literature, and legacy of Henry David Thoreau through conservation, education, research and advocacy. Founded by recording artist Don Henley, the Project uses the land it has protected in Walden Woods to foster an ethic of environmental stewardship and social responsibility, both cornerstones of Thoreau’s philosophy.