

# 2025 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## PARKS & RECREATION-010

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### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks & Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City with facilities ranging from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and more than 14 miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as vital meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation – but also as an important tool in mitigating the effects of climate change, critical engines for economic growth and development.

NYC Parks' mission is to grow, maintain, and program a world-class park system prioritizing equity, access, safety, and nature.

Highlights of Parks' work over the last year include:

- Launching the Vital Parks for All plan, an initial investment of over \$3.2 billion across ten strategic initiatives to expand greenspace access, promote public safety, and engage New Yorkers in the stewardship of their local parks. Vital Parks for All delivers a plan to restore aging park facilities, bring new park resources where they are needed most, and empower New Yorkers with the data they need to advocate for their public greenspaces. This included the creation of the Vital Parks Explorer, a digital map that provides New Yorkers with data on park conditions to help them advocate for strategic investments and show how their parks compare to other communities across NYC.

- Joining Mayor Adams to launch “Let’s Swim NYC,” a more than \$1 billion capital investment in building, improving, and protecting New York City’s public pools over the course of five years. This funding marks the city’s highest investment in swimming infrastructure since the 1970s and includes two brand-new pools.

- Keeping New Yorkers healthy in the face of extreme heat by planting nearly 18,000 new trees, our highest tree planting total in the past six fiscal years — with a special focus on neighborhoods impacted by high heat vulnerability.

- Deploying additional “second shift” maintenance services to approximately 100 hot spots throughout the five boroughs, giving extra cleaning attention to the sites that most needed it. We also unveiled special trash receptacles designed specifically for pizza boxes, giving New Yorkers a place to dispose of their bulky boxes while limiting the food available to rodents.

- Helping visitors enjoy our greenspaces more comfortably by installing new baby changing tables in over 1,200 restrooms citywide, while also launching an ambitious initiative to build 46 new restrooms and renovate 36 existing restrooms throughout the five boroughs.

The work of our staff goes far beyond the maintenance of New York City’s nearly 30,000 acres and more than 2.5 million trees. Parks is the City’s leading programmer of cultural, athletic, and social activities, including nature walks, volunteer programs, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. In addition, Parks produces special events, concerts and movie premieres, and manages agreements with more than 300 businesses that operate on public parkland.

### UNIT DESCRIPTION

Shaped by the steep and irregular topography of northern Manhattan, Jackie Robinson Park, Marcus Garvey Park, Morningside Park, and St. Nicholas Park are collectively known as “Historic Harlem Parks.” Venerable members of the NYC parks system that range in age from 75 to 150 years old, the four parks total over 85 acres and make up more than 40% of the open space in Harlem. The parks are much needed public spaces and each unique for its vibrant history, spectacular natural landscapes, recreation facilities, and historic landmarks.

The Historic Parks Administration in collaboration with the Marcus Garvey Park Alliance, Friends of Morningside Park, Friends of St. Nicholas Park, and the Jackie Robinson Parks Conservancy strives to ensure that these parks are maintained, programmed, preserved and continually improved as important assets to the Harlem community.

### POSITION TITLE

Historic Harlem Parks Intern

### INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The intern will assist with volunteer coordination, data collection, and community outreach. The intern will have the opportunity to learn about event planning and community engagement.

- Assist with volunteer coordination by collecting data from volunteer groups, traveling to the four parks, and providing in-field assistance to program leads and more.
- Conduct outreach for programs and events in Historic Harlem Parks.
- Assist in the development and tracking of event and program supply inventories.
- Attend collaborative team meetings.
- Identify community stakeholders.
- Answer inquiries from the public and provide excellent customer service.

### **QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL SKILLS/AREAS OF INTEREST**

- Excellent writing, communication, and organizational skills.
- Ability to work independently and initiate projects.
- Proficiency in computer software including Outlook, Microsoft Teams, and Microsoft Office.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Please email cover letter and resume to [Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov)