Sloop Volunteer on the Clearwater

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc., is a not for profit, membership-supported, environmental education and action organization working towards the restoration and protection of the Hudson River and adjoining waterways. Since 1969, Clearwater has operated the 106’ replica of a 19th century packet sloop, the Clearwater, offering education programs and waterfront festivals along the Hudson from Albany to New York Harbor, Northern New Jersey and Long Island Sound.

Each week of the sailing season (generally early April to late October), four to six volunteers augment the Clearwater’s permanent crew. During their weeklong stay, volunteer crewmembers live aboard the sloop. Prior experience in sailing or teaching is helpful, but not required, since we provide training. However, a love for the Hudson and a commitment to cleaner waterways and a more environmentally aware public are a must!

VOLUNTEER DUTIES:
- Volunteers teach students who sail with us about the ecology and history of the Hudson.
- Volunteers, like the rest of the crew, do chores regularly (i.e., doing dishes, mopping, etc.).
- A certain level of physical ability is required to volunteer onboard.
- Living spaces are cramped and amenities are very limited.

We welcome volunteers of all backgrounds and talents, ages 18 and older. The volume of applications is highest in summer, and lowest in early spring and late fall. An individual’s chances of being chosen vary accordingly. Please submit applications at least 8-10 weeks in advance of desired sailing dates. If you are under 18 and interested in sailing and teaching please look at our Youth Internships and Youth Empowerment Programs.

We require that all those accepted as volunteer educators be official, dues-paying members of the Clearwater organization, fostering a sense of ownership and involvement that goes deeper and lasts longer than a week on board. In addition, our volunteer fee of $125 provides you with sail training by our professional crew, education training on a variety of topics, three delicious meals a day, and the experience of a lifetime out on the Hudson River. Once acceptance is confirmed, we will provide volunteers with a guide of what to expect and what to bring.

Volunteers are absolutely essential to everything we do on board the sloop and we appreciate our members’ generous willingness to help. If you have any further questions please call the office at 845-265-8080.

To apply, please complete the following form and send it to:

Hudson River Sloop CLEARWATER
ATTN: Educator
724 Wolcott Ave
Beacon, NY 12508
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
Volunteer Educator Application

NAME_____________________________________________________
AGE_____________
ADDRESS_________________________________________________
PHONE (day) (_____)_____________
CITY______________________________STATE ____ ZIP_________
PHONE (eve) (_____)_____________
EMAIL _____________________________

Note: Completed applications should be received at least 8-10 weeks before the earliest date of availability in order to insure consideration for preferred dates. **Volunteers must be able to commit to a full week!** Due to the large number of applicants, we are often unable to respond in a timely fashion to those not selected.

1. Are you a Clearwater member? ______________When did you first join? ______________________
2. Have you applied to volunteer before? __________When____________________________________
3. Have you volunteered onboard before? _________When?____________________________________
4. Have you volunteered for Clearwater in other ways?_______When? __________________________
5. Are you willing to crew during maintenance weeks, which involve very little sailing and a lot of painting, carpentry, general hard work, learning, and fun in the upkeep of the sloop? 
   □ Yes □ No, thanks
6. Circle which of following topics do you feel most confident teaching about:
   - Navigation
   - History
   - Fish
   - Plankton
   - Chemistry
   - Environmental Issues
   - Knots
   - Art
   - Music
7. Do you have any teaching experience (schools, camps, recreation programs, etc.)?
   ____________________________________________________________________________________
8. What is your chief occupation and what special skills or interests can you share onboard (musical ability, carpentry, etc.)?
   ____________________________________________________________________________________
9. Do you have experience working and living in a tight community? 
   ____________________________________________________________________________________
10. Why do you want to volunteer on the *Clearwater*? 
    ___________________________________________________________________________________
11. Please indicate 3 choices of weeks you are available to volunteer
    (Check our website for volunteer training days which start the weeks onboard)
    1. ___________________________2. ____________________________ 3. ___________________________

Applicant's Signature: __________________________________________ DATE: _____________

Office use only
Date Rec'd_______________ Date Interviewed _________________ By:___________________