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WAVE HILL FOREST PROJECT SUMMER COLLABORATIVE
*Successive STREET TREES, PLANT SCIENCE, GIS MAPPING, and LEADERSHIP
Programs Offered through High School Years*

Bronx, NY, March, 2007 – From **July 2 through August 17, 2007**, Wave Hill offers the Forest Project Summer Collaborative, a seven-week environmental internship program that empowers teenagers as citizens of an urban environment, and helps them pursue academic and personal fulfillment. **Earning wages from Wave Hill and college credits from CUNY's Lehman College**, students learn basic **forest restoration** in the context of an urban ecosystem, where woodland management connects directly with air and water quality, wildlife habitat and biodiversity.

Using Bronx natural areas and green spaces for **ecological study** and **job training**, the Forest Project Summer Collaborative (FPSC) offers four internship levels based on experience and high school grade: **Street Trees Internship, Plant Science Internship, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Internship** and the **Junior Crew Leader Internship**. Academically rigorous, the internships require applicants to have a minimum GPA and Regents performance. The 2007 Collaborative runs from **July 2 through August 17. The FPSC Application, as well as information about available Summer Crew Leader positions, is available at www.wavehill.org.**

- **Street Trees Internship**

Wave Hill collaborates with Trees New York to provide training and youth certification in street tree care, promoting knowledge of tree biology, classification, pit gardening, pruning, and pests. The Forest Project offers site visits to environmentally significant locations and oversees small work crews to prune or clear excess vegetation and plant native species. With successful completion of training pruning seminars, interns are licensed by the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and Trees New York to care for New York trees. Completion of 9th or 10th grade, and a cumulative C average or better is required. Street Trees Interns earn \$7.15/hour.

- **Plant Science Internship**

Wave Hill and Lehman College collaborate to provide a summer job opportunity combined with academic studies in Plant Science and Urban Forest Ecology. Wave Hill's Forest Project offers site visits to environmentally significant locations and oversees small work crews to prune or clear excess vegetation and plant native species. Lehman College's Department of Biological Sciences offers laboratory sessions and lectures by graduate students for four college credits, tuition-free. Open to students from the Bronx vicinity, who have completed 10th grade and two Regents science courses, with a grade of B or better. Plant Science Interns earn \$7.40/hour.

(Continued on reverse)

- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Internship**

In small group seminars, GIS interns review mapping basics (topography, coordinates, scale) and complete fieldwork. Interns learn the GIS and Global Positioning System (GPS) skills necessary to map the perimeter, trails and current restoration sites in the northern end of Riverdale Park. Lehman College's Department of Environmental, Geographic and Geological Sciences offers laboratory sessions and lectures by graduate students for three college credits, tuition-free. Participants must have completed the Plant Science Internship and be either in the 11th or 12th grade. GIS Interns earn \$7.65/hour.

- **Junior Crew Leader Internship**

Junior Crew Leaders are experienced high school students who assist the college-level Senior Crew Leaders in supervising field crews of 7-9 interns each. All crew leaders serve as role models by helping to impart successful work skills and ethics to newer interns while working alongside and supervising them in the field. Special projects and mentoring occur by working with managers on Mondays, participating in weekly crew leader meetings and rotating through fieldwork sites assisting crew leaders and observing leadership styles. Junior Crew Leaders earn \$8.10/hour.

The Forest Project continues working with its students throughout the school year by hosting intern reunions and extra-curricular trips that reinforce connections with peers and mentors. The Collaborative also brings these promising teens to college campuses during the year, familiarizing them with admission requirements and procedures, financial aid packages and course offerings.

The Forest Project Summer Collaborative is a program within Wave Hill's Forest Project. Now in its 27th year, the Forest Project is one of the oldest urban woodland rehabilitation programs in the nation, focusing on urban forest conservation, community education, and youth development.

Lehman College is an independent liberal arts college of the City University of New York. Located on a historic campus in the northwest Bronx, the college is a cultural and recreational center for the region with its Center for the Performing Arts, Lehman College Art Gallery, and the APEX, a major new center for sports and health education.

The Forest Project Summer Collaborative is made possible with support from the Barker Welfare Foundation, the Louis Calder Foundation, City Gardens Club of New York City, The Clark Foundation, The Fund for the City of New York, William T. Grant Foundation, Hudson River Foundation, The Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, New York City Environmental Fund, The New York Times Company Foundation, The Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation, and the Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquariums Grant Program administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Sustaining support for Wave Hill and its educational programming is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Sally and Gilbert Kerlin Endowment Fund at Wave Hill for Environmental Science and Nature Education.

Wave Hill is a 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades in the Bronx. Award-winning gardens, greenhouses, and woodlands offer people of all ages the opportunity to explore their connections to the natural world. Programs are offered in horticulture, environmental education, woodland management and the visual and performing arts.