



Greenmarket Youth Education – Volunteer Tour Guide Description

Greenmarket, a program of GrowNYC

51 Chambers Street Suite 1231, New York, NY 10007

Phone – 212.341.2321 Email – shill@grownyc.org

Greenmarket Organization Information

Greenmarket is a program of GrowNYC, formerly the Council on the Environment of NYC. Greenmarket's mission is to promote regional agriculture and ensure a continuing supply of fresh local produce for all New Yorkers.

Greenmarket supports farmers and preserves farmland for the future by providing regional, small family farmers with opportunities to sell their fruits, vegetables and other farm products to New Yorkers.

Greenmarket Youth Education connects thousands of New York City schoolchildren in grades K-12 with Greenmarkets and our farmers to help them gain an understanding of local agriculture and the importance of eating fresh, seasonal foods. Fun, interactive learning experiences allow children to build an understanding of how food choices impact their bodies, their environment and their communities. Our **School Tours at Greenmarket** program reaches over 6,000 children each year.

Volunteer Tour Guide Summary

We are seeking outgoing and enthusiastic individuals interested in local food, sustainable agriculture and education, for a hands-on, creative position with our School Tours at Greenmarket program. This unpaid position offers individuals an opportunity to help facilitate educational tours on-site at farmers markets this spring. A commitment to volunteering at the Union Square Greenmarket on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday at least once a week is necessary. Weekly office hours and the ability to travel and help facilitate tours at Greenmarket locations throughout New York City on other weekdays are also required.

- Set up and break down Union Square Education Station (includes some heavy lifting)
- Organize and maintain visual displays and hand out materials
- Lead and assist student discussions about local seasonal food and agriculture
- Guide groups of up to 35 students through Greenmarkets and conduct interviews with farmers
- Set up, perform and break down cooking demonstrations and tastings of local, seasonal foods
- Help develop child-friendly, nutritionally balanced recipes and educational hand-outs
- Assist Greenmarket outreach efforts outside in the community and in our offices

Benefits

- Gain firsthand experience educating New York City students in grades k-12
- Increase your understanding of local agriculture and the importance of eating fresh, seasonal foods
- Develop planning, organizational, time management, site management, and team-based work skills
- Cultivate skills in leadership and volunteer management

Ideal Qualifications

- High school graduate (over 18 years old)
- Interest in farmers markets and/or related issues – including education, urban planning, food systems, sustainable agriculture, event planning, small business administration, economic development
- Experience working with school children in grades k-12
- Basic computer skills. Familiarity with Microsoft Office, Google Documents and design programs a plus
- Excellent time management and organizational skills
- Strong communication skills, both written and verbal
- Ability to work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- Fluency in languages other than English a plus

This unpaid position is 7-10 hours per week from late-March through mid-June, with the potential for extending into the summer months. Please submit a resume and cover letter to shill@grownyc.org. Please be sure to include “Volunteer Tour Guide” in the subject line.