**Job Description: High School Intern - Education and Outreach Department**

**Position Overview:** The Education and Outreach Department at the Coastal Studies Institute is seeking a motivated and enthusiastic high school intern. This internship offers a unique opportunity for students interested in marine science and education to gain hands-on experience in developing and delivering educational programs, fostering public engagement, and supporting outreach initiatives. In addition, the intern will have an opportunity to gain experience in one of CSI’s research areas. The intern will collaborate with our experienced staff to create impactful experiences that promote marine conservation, scientific awareness, and environmental stewardship.

**Duties and Responsibilities may include:**

* Assist in the planning, coordination, and execution of educational programs and outreach events targeted at diverse audiences, including K-12 students, teachers, families, and community groups.
* Collaborate with the team to develop educational materials, interactive exhibits, and engaging activities that convey marine science concepts in an accessible manner.
* Participate in on-site and off-site outreach events, workshops, and presentations to inspire interest in marine science and conservation.
* Contribute to the maintenance of educational displays and resources within the facility to ensure they are current, accurate, and visually appealing.
* Conduct guided tours of the research facility, providing visitors with insights into ongoing research projects, marine ecosystems, and conservation efforts.
* Assist in gathering and organizing data related to program effectiveness, participant demographics, and feedback to inform future improvements.
* Support the team in managing social media platforms and online content to promote educational initiatives and engage with a broader audience.
* Collaborate with colleagues on special projects, which may include creating lesson plans, developing online educational content, or assisting with the creation of outreach materials.

**Qualifications:**

* Currently enrolled in a high school program with a strong interest in marine science, biology, education, environmental science, engineering or related fields.
* Passion for science communication, education, and environmental conservation.
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills with an ability to engage diverse audiences.
* Enthusiasm for working both independently and as part of a collaborative team.
* Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
* Basic computer skills, including familiarity with Microsoft Office and social media platforms.

**Time Commitment:** This internship will span one school semester with an expected commitment of 4-8 hours per week on average. The schedule can be negotiated to accommodate the intern's school commitments. There may also be opportunities for extension or continued involvement based on performance and availability.

**Research Experiences:** As a high school intern, you may have the chance to participate in a range of research experiences across multiple disciplines. These experiences may include, but are not limited to:

1. **Fisheries Ecology:** Assist researchers in studying fish populations, analyzing data on species abundance, size distribution, and reproductive patterns. Learn about the impact of fishing practices on marine ecosystems and contribute to assessments of sustainable fishing practices.
2. **Marine Biology:** Engage in fieldwork and laboratory studies focused on marine organisms, from microscopic plankton to charismatic megafauna. Gain insights into biodiversity, adaptation, and the interconnectedness of marine life.
3. **Oceanography:** Participate in data collection and analysis related to physical and chemical properties of the ocean, such as temperature, salinity, and nutrient concentrations.
4. **Coastal Processes:** Investigate the dynamic interactions between land and sea, including coastal erosion, sediment transport, and shoreline change.
5. **Remote Sensing:** Learn about satellite-based technology and unmanned aerial systems and their applications in monitoring coastal communities and ocean properties. Participate in data analysis and interpretation to understand coastal and marine dynamics.
6. **Coastal Engineering:** Explore the field of coastal infrastructure design and management. Learn how nature-based infrastructure can be used to protect coastlines while providing valuable habitat. Assist in collecting, analyzing and interpreting data on nature-based infrastructure research projects..
7. **Ecological Modeling:** Assist in creating computer models to simulate marine ecosystem dynamics, population interactions, and environmental responses. Learn how modeling contributes to predicting the effects of human activities and climate change on marine ecosystems.
8. **Renewable Ocean Energy:** Gain insights into harnessing the power of the ocean for renewable energy production. Explore technologies such as wave energy converters and underwater turbines while learning about their environmental implications.

**Benefits:**

* Gain valuable hands-on experience in marine science education, outreach and research.
* Work alongside experienced professionals in the field of marine science.
* Enhance communication, teamwork, and project management skills.
* Develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and research skills.
* Networking opportunities within the marine science and education communities.