

Island Institute News and Press Release

Accepting Applications for 2012 Summer Internship Program

Wednesday November 30th, 2011

The Island Institute will begin accepting applications for the 2012 Summer Internship program on January 1, 2012. The program is open to college upperclassmen and recent college graduates who are year-round residents of Maine's island communities and who have received scholarship awards from the Institute in the past. Up to 10 internships will be awarded, and host sites will include island and coastal businesses, municipalities, schools and nonprofit organizations. In return for six weeks of service, interns will receive stipends of \$2,500, participate in leadership workshops, and have opportunities to share their knowledge within their own communities.

Applications will also be accepted from potential host sites along the Mainecoast. Organizations selected for internship placements will receive assistance from Institute staff to support and mentor an intern, and will benefit from having an energetic young island resident who is committed to gaining skills and experience.

The Summer Internship program was piloted in 2011 with four interns. Meagan Davidson and Kayla Conway of Vinalhaven coordinated SCAMP, a summer academic program at the Vinalhaven School. Caroline Summa of Chebeague learned about sustainable farm management at the Lone Goat Farm on the island, and Brenden Myers of Great Diamond gathered data about aging in place and presented his findings to island communities in Casco Bay.

For Meagan Davidson, the internship program was a life-changing experience – one that resulted in her being hired as the new 3rd grade teacher at the Vinalhaven School. “I've always wanted to come back to Vinalhaven...the Island Institute came me an opportunity to come back to my home island and be part of a learning community – it's what I want to do for the rest of my life.”

For additional information please contact Mary K. Terry, the Island Institute's director of community development at mterry@islandinstitute.org or 207-594-9209 x 298 or visit www.islandinstitute.org.