



24th Street Garden Educator

Position Summary

The 24th Street Garden Educator conducts GSF's Seed-to-Table education program at our flagship garden at 24th Street Elementary School in West Adams (2055 W 24th St, Los Angeles, CA 90018). Duties include: conduct garden based science and nutritional cooking classes in the outdoor classroom, following the GSF curriculum; cultivate a positive working relationship with our host school; help train and oversee interns and volunteers in day-to-day operations; co-organize and co-lead the monthly Community Garden Days; team teach Summer Camp; maintain the outdoor garden classroom areas and indoor storage/kitchen room and their contents; conduct tours of the garden and host an array of visitors; and other special assignments as needed. The 24th Street Garden Educator will work directly with the Garden Manager, school staff, Executive Director, and fellow GSF staff and volunteers.

About Garden School Foundation

[Garden School Foundation](#) provides in-depth garden-based education to youth at Title I schools in Los Angeles, strengthening connections between food justice, environmental awareness, and community health. By using the full transformative potential of school gardens as teaching sites, we nurture a healthy and mindful generation of children that care for their bodies, their communities, and the earth. We currently serve seven Title I elementary schools, reaching over 3,000 students and their families each year.

About the 24th Street Garden

In 2005, when a large expanse of blacktop at 24th Street Elementary was about to be resurfaced, a coalition of educators, neighbors, community organizations, and concerned citizens instead transformed the paved lot into a 1.5-acre garden classroom. The nonprofit Garden School Foundation was formed to support these efforts. Today, as one of the largest such gardens in LAUSD, 24th Street continues to thrive and have a profound effect on students. The garden has become a treasured resource, deeply embedded in the lives of students' families, neighbors, and like-minded people from across the city.

Roles and Responsibilities

Core Teaching, Sept. - June

- Plan and implement garden and cooking classes (currently 2 days/week) in the garden classroom using our standards aligned, K-5th Seed to Table curriculum.
- Purchase, prepare, and maintain all teaching and cooking supplies.
- Work with school leadership, staff, and classroom teachers to schedule the rotation of classes and align GSF lessons with classroom teachers' instructional priorities whenever possible.
- Conduct GSF's pre- and post-program surveys for students, parents, and teachers.
- Co-organize and co-lead with the Garden Manager the monthly Community Garden Days (1 Saturday/per month required).

Cultivate School Relationship

- Serve as the GSF representative to 24th St. Elementary, building a strong and mutually beneficial relationship between GSF and the school; attend teacher PD meetings, PTA meetings, Back-to-School night, and other special school events; share and promote GSF's program and events within the school community.
- Work with garden interns to develop their teaching and gardening skills.
- Ongoing, regular communication with school staff regarding updates, issues or problems.

Facilities Maintenance

- Assist the Garden Manager in maintaining 24th Street garden classrooms (indoor and outdoor), and the garden shed, ensuring that our facilities are clean, safe, and welcoming.
- Keep all classroom and teaching supplies stocked and accounted for, stored neatly, and in proper working order; alert GSF to any facilities or maintenance issues.

Other

- Conduct tours of the 24th Street garden to a diverse array of visitors, as needed.
- Help coordinate photo documentation of classes and secure photo permissions, as needed.
- Assist with additional fundraising, partner, and volunteer events at the garden, as needed.
- Attend monthly evening GSF staff meetings as well as occasional training and professional events, as needed.
- Liaise with partner organizations, as needed.

Summer Camp

- Teach at the City Seedlings Summer Camp (typically, the last two weeks of June and the 2nd week of July).
- Over the summer, assist with garden maintenance and intern supervision at 24th street and the other six GSF school sites, as needed.

The ideal candidate has:

- 3+ years teaching experience in an outdoor setting.
- Experience with project-based learning.
- Knowledge of organic gardening, environmental science, and California's growing seasons.
- Basic knowledge of raw cooking and food prep.
- Experience working with and/or managing volunteers and interns.
- Fluency in Spanish (nearly 50% of the 24th Street students are English language learners).
- A passion for elementary students and competency working with students and families from varying economic and cultural backgrounds.
- Strong experience in collaboration and site coordination.
- Ability to work flexibly, to multi-task, and to problem solve independently within a dynamic public school environment.
- An unyieldingly positive attitude.

Terms and Compensation

This is a part-time, hourly position, 20 hours/week, plus one Saturday a month in additional hours. Hours may increase during the 2019-20 school year dependent on funding.

Compensation based on experience (range is \$18-\$20/hour) and includes paid sick time.

Training for this position would ideally begin in December 2018 and teaching duties would begin mid-January 2019.

Application Information

To apply, please send a brief cover letter, resume, and three references to our Program Manager Rachel Black, rachel@gardenschoolfoundation.org. Please indicate “24th Street Garden Educator” in the subject heading of your e-mail. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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