



Director of Education

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About the Position

Wolfe's Neck Center (WNC) is seeking an experienced educator, proven strategic thinker, planner, and practitioner to lead and direct a myriad environmental and farm-based educational initiatives to join our team as **Director of Education**. WNC believes strongly in the power of experiential education and uses our special campus to bring people of all ages to the farm for immersive and powerful hands-on learning experiences from brief visitor experiences to multi-year farmer training apprenticeships.

The Director of Education (DoE) will play a key role on the Center's senior leadership team, will report directly to the Executive Director, and will collaborate closely with staff as well as with the Board of Directors to provide inspirational and strategic direction to all education programming at Wolfe's Neck Center. This is a terrifically exciting opportunity for the right individual to join a growing organization.

About Our Organization

Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment is on a mission to transform our relationship with farming and food for a healthier planet. We are a nonprofit education, research and visitor center situated on 626 acres of farmland, forest, and coast in Freeport, Maine. Our campus supports and includes an organic dairy program, livestock barns, diversified fruit and vegetable production, an oceanfront campground, research initiatives, historic buildings, and miles of wooded hiking trails. As a working farm located within a unique mix of ecosystems, we offer a remarkable and inspiring place for visitors of all ages. Close to the greater Portland metro area and set amidst a landscape of incredible beauty, our programs make full use of this unique mix of ecological systems and focus on connecting people of all ages to sustainable and regenerative agriculture.

Role and Responsibilities

WNC currently has multiple strains of formal and informal programming designed to meet the needs of approximately six different audiences, including: researchers and academics; campground visitors; summer campers ages 4-14; elementary, middle, and high school students; aspiring and current farmers; and a local community of families and interested parties. To support this growing body of work, WNC is currently constructing the Smith Center for Education and Research, a new 7,500 square foot facility scheduled to open in early 2023. The Smith Center will dramatically increase WNC's ability to convene a community of people who care about the future of food as well as anchor the WNC campus. All educational programming will begin, end and/or connect to the Smith Center.

- Identify, design, and successfully launch a range of new, innovative educational offerings aligned with the Center's mission. Identify and secure resources necessary to successfully launch and implement these programs.
- Provide inspirational and effective overall leadership for current education staff and programs, including organizational development, program evaluation, curriculum design and customization strengthening the focus and implementation of current programming
- Oversee the financial management of education programs, setting reasonable targets and ensuring that educational programs are operated according to the approved budget
- Connect with other agriculture and education related partners and organizations throughout the region to design, promote and execute programs for a range of age groups that teach all aspects of regenerative farming; all the while supporting a stronger, more equitable and just, local and regional food system

- Work closely with other staff to identify, seek and secure targeted grant funding that supports strategic organizational objectives and facilitates program growth and impact
- Design, implement and evaluate regular program reviews to ensure the Education program's goals and learning outcomes are met
- Work closely with other departments (agriculture, research, development, visitor services) to ensure that education programs are well integrated and taking advantage of possible organizational synergies
- Work closely with staff and board to center justice, equity, diversity and inclusion into all education programs and initiatives
- Maintain a strong working knowledge of the latest developments in the fields of food systems and agriculture, as well as experiential education, and evolve and improve program curriculum to ensure that WNC maintains a high standard for program delivery and effectiveness
- Be proactive in developing and managing relationships with key partner organizations, including other non-profits and schools, to help strengthen existing programs and identify opportunities for new programs
- Work closely with staff, board, and consultants to design and create physical spaces that facilitate learning for program participants and visitors. This includes passive and interactive learning opportunities at WNC and through digital means

Skills and Qualifications

- Ten-plus years progressive, relevant leadership and management including in an experiential education setting
- A strong interest in and knowledge of the food system, regenerative agriculture, and the environment
- A demonstrated passion for the field of experiential education and to inspiring future generations
- Strong desire to be part of a dynamic, entrepreneurial work environment and a growing, farm-based non-profit organization
- Bachelors Degree in Education, Agriculture, Environmental, or a related field. Related Advanced degree is desired but not required
- Strong interpersonal skills and public communication abilities, including excellent customer service and management ability with a diverse workforce, as well as writing and public speaking skills
- Strong organizational abilities, time management skills and ability to effectively plan across the program season, and to prioritize and manage multiple projects
- Demonstrated entrepreneurial skills, including the ability to successfully design and launch new initiatives
- Energetic, dynamic, and engaging personality
- Ability to work well independently as a member of a high functioning team and develop effective working relationships with people from a variety of backgrounds
- Ability to be flexible to the changing needs of a vibrant and growing entrepreneurial organization, and to work well under pressure
- Must be able to work a variable work schedule, which includes occasional work on weekends
- All new hires are required to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination (including booster) for employment. Wolfe's Neck Center follows Maine CDC guidelines for COVID-19 protocols and expects all employees to be willing to adhere to those safety measures.

Wolfe's Neck Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, size, national origin, disability, or any other protected characteristic as established by law. WNC strives to foster an inclusive workplace. People from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Compensation

The Director of Education is a full-time, year-round position. The salary range for this position is \$70,000 - \$80,000. As a full-time employee, the DoE is eligible for benefits offered by Wolfe's Neck Center, including: 100% employer-paid health insurance, dental insurance, paid vacation and holidays and our retirement savings plan.

To Apply

Please email a cover letter and resume to jobs@wolfesneck.org with **Director of Education** as the subject line. In the interest of reducing waste, please do not mail a hard copy of your materials. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply ASAP. No phone calls please. Position posted 6/8/22.