

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art

Intern Project Description Form

Title of Internship: Horticulture Internship

Staff Supervisor: Ollie Medici, Landscape and Gardens Manager

Department: Landscape and Gardens

Duration: Spring Semester 2025 | **Hours per week:** 10

Brief Description of Internship: The Horticulture Intern will gain hands-on experience in horticultural techniques by working closely with the Landscape & Garden Manager. The intern's primary focus will be on preserving and maintaining the beauty and health of the Harn Museum's Garden spaces. In addition to these core responsibilities, there is an opportunity for interns to explore their own creative ideas. Interns may have the chance to develop and present concept renderings or projects related to garden design and improvement. Please note that while these individual projects can offer valuable learning experiences and creative expression, their implementation may be slow and, in some cases, not feasible within the internship period.

Also, interns may collaborate with other departments to support and enhance various programs. For instance, they might get involved in projects like the Therapeutic Horticulture Workshop we've offered in the past, allowing them to contribute to cross-departmental initiatives and gain a broader range of experience.

Specific Duties: The intern will support the Landscape & Garden Manager with essential garden maintenance tasks, including plant nutrition, pruning, and pest and disease management within the interior gardens and on museum grounds. Additionally, the intern will help maintain the museum's water features and contribute ideas for the renovation of garden spaces, providing creative input and support for ongoing enhancements.

Qualifications:

- Availability to commit to 10 hours per week during museum operating hours (8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday).
- Preferred background in Plant Science, Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, or relevant coursework.
- Ability to work in the Florida heat, with appropriate breaks provided.
- Strong interest in horticulture and a willingness to learn about museum procedures and practices.

Learning Objectives:

- Increase horticulture knowledge.
- Gain understanding of gardens in public, museum spaces.
- Develop research on plant design, garden aesthetics, and landscaping techniques to support and enhance garden projects and museum initiatives.
- Acquire practical skills in landscaping, including plant care, garden maintenance, and sustainability practices.
- The internship aims to provide interns with a clear understanding of the project lifecycle, including the planning, preparatory work, and implementation stages of garden projects. Interns will gain hands-on experience in how projects are developed and executed from concept to completion.

Ongoing Projects:*Magoon Garden Renovation*

- Converting water lily beds into raised garden beds.
- Removing bamboo stumps.
- Continuing construction of the passionflower trellis.

Rock Garden

- Tinting windows.
- Replacing camellias, Japanese maple, and podocarpus.

Cofrin Wildflower/Pollinator Garden

- Advancing the implementation of the planting plan.

Front Garden Beds

- Coordinating with UF Grounds to finalize and approve the planting plan.
- Obtaining approval for landscaping surrounding the new sculpture.