



2018 Summer Internship Opportunities

The Great Escape Mustang Sanctuary (GEMS) is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We are an innovative model working with the Bureau of Land Management and other key organizations for both on range and off range collaboration for healthy herds, lands, and homes for mustangs.

Off range, we provide training and adoption of Mustangs and Burros, while providing a sanctuary for those animals in need. We foster a connection with children and adults through community outreach, tours, field trips, overnight retreat programs, therapeutic programs and clinics in order to increase public awareness and education.

On range, our organization is responsible for herd documentation, fertility control, special range projects, gather support and promotion of proper wild horse management.

GEMS will be hiring 2 summer interns to fill the following duties. Equally dividing their time between training and hospitality to our guest ranch operations.

Wild Mustang Training

Training Internship's help manage the day to day ranch work. We have a very active training and adoption program at GEMS led by our Head Trainer/Equine Manager/TIP Storefront Manager. The opportunities associated with this internship would be assisting with duties related to caring for wild mustangs, gentling and training. This could include grooming, exercising, desensitizing, trailering, chores related to the care and maintenance of the horses, tidying and sweeping barns and work trucks, fixing corrals, mending fence. We are also an active Mustang Heritage Foundation TIP Storefront and facilitate BLM intakes and trainer pick-ups, typically in loads upwards of 10. This opportunity may also include assisting in duties related to these intakes and pickups.

We are a remote ranch located in Deer Trail, Colorado. There are times when you may only visit town once or less a week. You must be ok with solitude and the quiet night life. You will also need to assist with all the programs that are running on the ranch including, events, education, tours, guest operations, etc. You will be an integral part of all facets of the ranch.

Hospitality, Program Support & Events

At the ranch, we host a myriad of programs, from day tours and retreats to overnights. All of these programs require a cohesive team to support them to ensure they run smoothly and according to GEMS standards of operations. GEMS employs a Program Director, however, the assistance from interns would add greatly to the overall value of our program offerings. In this support role, the intern would assist the Program Director to fill in the 'gaps' and help where is needed. This could be anything from serving meals, to leading hiking or driving tours, to taking photographs of the retreat or clinic in action, to mucking corrals, to cabin maintenance support, etc.

Requirements

18+ years old, a long term interest in training & equine studies, experience in physical labor, 3-4 month commitment beginning in June (are willing to work with your school schedule for summer break). No pets are allowed on the property.

What we provide

The primary compensation for your internship at GEMS will be the experience you will gain. In addition, we provide housing, utilities and a stipend of \$100/week for food. Amenities are rustic, but adequate. We do have internet, but our cell service is poor.

Prerequisites

- confident moving around horses in an open space (paddock)
- can properly halter/lead/tie a horse
- can properly groom a horse (brush body, brush mane/tail, clean feet)
- can saddle/bridle a horse properly (Western tack)
- understands basic groundwork skills (lead, back horse, lunge both on and off line)
- confident riding a horse at walk/trot/canter
- understands basic commands under saddle (transitions up and down, turn, back)
- has had experience autonomously working with/riding horses
- strong work ethic
- ability to lift/carry heavy objects
- self motivated
- resourceful
- ability to problem solve
- ability to work individually and/or with others and take direction
- enjoy public interaction
- service oriented
- ability to provide stellar customer service
- self motivated
- resourceful
- ability to problem solve
- ability to work individually and/or with others and take direction

What you can expect to learn

- issues surrounding wild mustang on-range and off-range management
- working with the Bureau of Land Management through our successful collaborative approach and model
- practical on the job skills
- networking opportunities
- how to properly handle, care for and train a wild mustang
- program process and execution
- practical hospitality operations
- customer service evaluations

To apply

Fill out our online application, found here: <https://goo.gl/forms/5pNIR1rS3oPdONZq2>

For more information, contact

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