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Industrial Year Science Student Placement The National Botanic Garden of Wales

The National Botanic Garden of Wales is dedicated to the research and conservation of biodiversity, sustainability, lifelong learning and the enjoyment of our visitors. The Garden is set in the beautiful Carmarthenshire countryside with over 120 acres of formal gardens along with the 440 acre Waun Las National Nature Reserve, managed as an organic farm. Our science centre overlooks the botanic garden and contains a fully equipped molecular lab, library and herbarium.

What is involved?

During the placement, based in the Science Department, you will work primarily within our Saving Pollinators research area. Your main accountabilities will include:

- Undertaking a research project (around 50% of your time) that contributes to our current research on pollinators, working closely with our Saving Pollinators research group
- Helping to manage our tropical butterfly house, Plas Pilipala
This will entail ordering pupae and equipment and helping to co-ordinate the team of volunteers that work in the butterfly house. You will also work as a butterfly ranger when required, informing visitors and monitoring the butterflies.
- Carrying out floral surveys
You will assist in the monthly survey of all flowering plants within the Garden and surrounding area, improving your identification skills of both native and non-native plants.
- Seed collecting
You will work with the Growing the Future team to collect and sort samples to develop the new National Seed Bank of Wales.
- Public engagement
You will have the opportunity to develop your communication skills by being involved in internal and external events that promote the research of the department, giving talks to visiting groups and collaborating with art-science projects.

There are two placements available for students registered at a UK University. In addition to the science training and a bursary of £3,000 for the year, you will be provided with **free** accommodation (including utility bills) in a student house on the edge of our nature reserve. The placement is expected to start July/August 2019 and last for 12 months.

For further information: Please contact Abigail Lowe by email (@abigail.lowe@gardenofwales.org.uk) or phone (01558 667180). Also, visit our website at www.botanicgarden.wales.

Applications, in the form of a cover letter and CV clearly showing how you meet the criteria below should be sent to Abigail.lowe@gardenofwales.org.uk by 5pm on 18th December 2018. We will also require full contact details (including email and telephone details) of TWO referees willing to provide a reference for your application. Selection from amongst the applicants is competitive and offers of interview will be limited.

Interviews are currently planned for January 7th-8th 2019 and will take place at the Garden. You will be notified on 21st December 2018 whether you have been successful in securing an interview.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Specified below are the criteria considered necessary to fulfil the role.
- This information is made openly available to applicants and will form the basis for the recruitment and selection process.
- Only those applicants who meet these criteria adequately will be considered.
- Please note that Welsh Language skills are not essential.

Criteria and evidence candidates are expected to evidence:

	Education/Qualifications Knowledge/Experience Competencies/Abilities	Paper application	Interview
	Essential Criteria		
1	Student in a UK university	√	
2	Academic performance and examination scores (achieved to date and predicted)	√	
3	Evidence of aptitude, interest, and capability for conducting research and public engagement in the area of conservation science including (but not limited to): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Overall demonstration of academic potential b) Good practical skills in field biology or evidence of the capacity to develop these c) Clear IT, analytical, problem solving and reasoning ability d) The ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team e) Enthusiasm, personal initiative, self-motivation, and good time-management 	√	√
4	Evidence of work experience (can be in any area, paid or voluntary) that demonstrates an understanding of the world of work and the life skills that this requires.	√	√
5	A passion and commitment to help take forward the mission of the National Botanic Garden of Wales.	√	√
6	An understanding of Health & Safety, and Environmental practices and procedures to facilitate a safe working environment.	√	√