

# Teens in Conservation: Careers in Aquatic Research & Education (C.A.R.E.) Program



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Volunteers taking water quality samples from an aquarium exhibit.



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An NYA volunteer investigating a local salt marsh habitat in Brooklyn.

Curious about career opportunities in marine biology? Interested in learning more about ocean conservation, and about what you can do to protect our local marine environment? Then, join us this winter for the Teens in Conservation Program's Careers in Aquatic Research and Education (C.A.R.E.) Program at the New York Aquarium!

In partnership with The Ocean Project and YouthMuse, the NY Aquarium C.A.R.E. program is designed to be a rewarding opportunity that will introduce early high school students with various occupational interests to the exhilarating world of marine conservation leadership as it links to the interdisciplinary nature of professional options in the field of aquatic sciences.

While exposure to career opportunities in aquatic science and related fields will be the focus of the C.A.R.E. program, over the course of the 10-day (50-hour) program, C.A.R.E. participants will learn about current threats facing marine ecosystems from guest speakers within and outside of the Wildlife Conservation Society and the New York Aquarium. In addition, participants will work with each other to develop a youth-focused campaign and an action plan for their own ocean conservation project that would raise awareness of some of the issues in our local environment. By the end of the program, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to successfully implement their newly planned project.

**C.A.R.E. is a paid internship.** Interns who successfully complete this 50-hour program will receive an end-of-service stipend.



## C.A.R.E. Program Requirements

C.A.R.E. interns must commit to participating in this 50-hour program that will take place over the course of 10 days (Saturdays) from February 4, 2012 to April 14, 2012. The C.A.R.E. program session will begin at 10am and end at 4pm on the following days:

*Saturday, February 4, 2012*  
*Saturday, February 11, 2012*  
*Saturday, March 3, 2012*  
*Saturday, March 10, 2012*  
*Saturday, March 17, 2012*  
*Saturday, March 24, 2012*  
*Saturday, March 31, 2012*  
*Saturday, April 7, 2012*  
*Saturday, April 14, 2012*

Successful completion of this program will require the following of CARE interns in order to receive the end-of-service stipend:

- Attendance on each day of the program, with the exception that only one absence will be allowed;
- Development of an action plan and implementation strategy as a result of group effort; and,
- Group presentations of the youth-focused campaign to an audience of Aquarium staff and volunteers and family members of CARE participants on the final day of the program.



## Application & Selection Process

Eligibility: Applicants must be...

- Between the ages of 14 and 17 by Friday, February 4th, 2012;
- Enrolled in a Dept. of Education or accredited NYC private high school as of September 2011; and
- In their freshman (9<sup>th</sup> grade), sophomore (10<sup>th</sup> grade), or junior (11<sup>th</sup> grade) year in high school.

Application Criteria: Interested students must submit a completed application package to the New York Aquarium's Education Department by post mail, e-mail (at [NYAregistrar@wcs.org](mailto:NYAregistrar@wcs.org)) or by faxing the application to 718-265-3451 no later than **4:00pm (Eastern Standard Time) on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. Late or incomplete application packages will not be reviewed or considered.

A completed application package must include:

- A filled-in CARE Application Form (signatures by the applicant and the applicants' parent or guardian is required)
- A short 250-word typed and double-spaced statement describing your interest in the program (read the application form for details)

Interview and Selection: The Teens in Conservation Program Selection Committee will review submitted applications that are **complete** and **received** by the deadline date. All applications will be equally considered. Selection of candidates into the C.A.R.E. program will be based on the strength of the candidate's application and his or her in-person interview.

Candidates selected from the pool of applicants will be contacted via phone or e-mail for an in-person interview at the New York Aquarium. All others will be notified by mail. One 1- hour interview will be scheduled for each candidate between Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Interviews will occur between the hours of 2:00pm and 5:00pm Saturdays through Thursdays. Following the interview, finalists will be notified by e-mail if they have been accepted into the program by Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. Prospective C.A.R.E. interns must notify the New York Aquarium Education Department of their intent to participate in the program no later than 4:00pm (Eastern Standard Time) on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012.