



**Pennington Marine Science Center  
2021 Fall Internship  
Santa Catalina Island, CA**

**Position Title:** Marine Science Education and Aquarist Intern

**Company/Organization:** Pennington Marine Science Center owned and operated by the Western Los Angeles County Council, Boy Scouts of America

**Location:** Camp Emerald Bay, Santa Catalina Island, CA

**Summer Internships:** August 15-November 1, 2021

**Application deadline:** Friday, April 30, 2021

**Number of Internships:** 3

**Position Summary:** Marine Science Education and Aquarist Interns report to the Director of the Pennington Marine Science Center and work closely with the full time Marine Biologist and Educator. Interns primarily teach three different marine science classes to Boy Scouts. They also learn about and assist in the husbandry of temperate marine fish and invertebrates, maintain the appearance of exhibits, monitor life support systems, perform exhibit interpretation, as well as participate in the accessions and deaccessions of specimens for the collection. We try to conduct multiple dives each week and interns have the opportunity to gain hands on experience operating small boats. Interns will also receive training as PSI-PCI Fill Station Operators, Cylinder Hazmat Handling and Divers Alert Network (DAN) Diving Emergency Management Provider. The skills acquired during the internship prove to be invaluable in a number of careers including public aquariums, informal science education, scientific diving and aquaculture. Like other camp counselors, interns are expected to participate in camp wide duties such as flag ceremonies, serving meals in the dining hall, attendance and participation in campfire skits and other camp duties as assigned. Staff uniforms are Boy Scout specific including the traditional Class A shirt, green shorts and socks.

The Pennington Marine Science Center is owned and operated by the Western Los Angeles County Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The Center supports the mission of Camp Emerald Bay by using its exhibits, classrooms and proximity to the ocean to teach the Oceanography Merit Badge (OMB), BSA Oceanographer (BSAO) and BSA Aquarist (BSAA) classes. These courses are taught by the interns and teach scouts the fundamental concepts of Oceanography (OMB), specific topics in marine science (BSAO), how to setup and care for an aquarium (BSAA) as well as the conservation and stewardship of the ocean. The camp at Emerald Bay is located near the West end of Santa Catalina Island and in addition to the marine science center, camp offers nature related merit badges, ceramics, archery, shooting sports, mountain biking, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, scuba and snorkeling activities to support our mission to teach leadership, ethics and stewardship to participants. All told we host more than 6,000 scouts and scouters during the summer. These activities, among others provide unparalleled opportunities for adventure to camp staff on the West End far from the bustling tourist destination of Avalon which is 90 minute drive away. The nearest town is Two Harbors, with about 100 year round residents, and is a half hour drive on dirt roads. Applicants must take into consideration our isolated location since it's very difficult to "run

into town” for anything, and while there is one general store, the emphasis must be placed on “general”. Creature comforts may not be readily accessible, but the island’s spectacular beauty and atmosphere more than make up for any lack of modern conveniences.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:** Interns will be on a rotation throughout the 10 weeks of summer teaching each class for 3 weeks and being aquarist for 3 weeks, the end result being experience in each area of the marine science center.

- Teaching Marine Science Education Classes
  - Teach Oceanography Merit Badge 3 sessions a day 3/10 weeks
  - Teach BSA Aquarist 1 session a day & BSA Oceanographer 2 sessions a day 3/10 weeks
- Be the Aquarist 3/10 weeks
  - Husbandry of temperate marine fish and invertebrates
  - Maintaining the appearance of exhibits
  - Animal diet preparation and feeding
  - Water quality monitoring and testing
  - Life support system monitoring and maintenance
  - Record keeping
- Assist in the collection of specimens for exhibits using S.C.U.B.A, hook and line or other methods
- Public engagement and the facilitation of group tours
- Public Speaking
- Other duties as assigned such as:
  - Flag ceremonies (every morning and evening)
  - Serving meals to scouts in the dining hall (3 times a week)
  - Participation in skits (1-2 times a week)
  - Campsite hosting (Once a week)
  - Staff activities such as dodgeball, lip sync and broomball (Once a week)

**Qualifications:** To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed are representative of the knowledge, skills, and/or abilities required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- **Education and/or Experience**
  - Experience teaching science or outdoor education
  - BS/BA in Marine Biology, Biology, Zoology, Environmental Science, Education or other related discipline or be working towards the aforementioned degrees at an accredited 4 year university
  - Professional animal husbandry experience in an aquarium or zoo a plus
- **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**
  - Desire & ability to work with kids ages 12-18
  - Current S.C.U.B.A certification from a nationally recognized agency such as PADI, SSI or NAUI
  - ReefCheck/AAUS scientific diver certification a plus
  - First Aid and CPR preferred but not required

- Oxygen First Aid and Hazardous Marine Life Response training a plus
- Familiar with Google docs
- Strong organizational and writing skills
- Ability to work effectively with co-workers
- Familiarity with use of plumbing, hand and power tools
- Ability to climb up and down stairs
- Ability to lift 50 lbs
- **Language Skills**
  - Ability to read and interpret documents i.e. safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals
  - Ability to speak effectively to groups or individuals

**Physical Demands & Work Environment:** The physical demands and work environment described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to stand, sit, walk, reach, and talk or hear. Must be able to perform repetitive motions 75% of the time. Must be able to lift 50 lbs.

**Pay Rate:** \$320 a week after deductions to cover room and board which, are provided for the duration of the internship in camp style housing and dining facilities. Taxes will also be deducted based on your W4. Travel stipend for transportation to and from the island is available. Pay rate subject to change with minimum wage increases. Interns may be eligible to apply for a \$1000 scholarship that can be used to support their education.

**Application Instructions:** Please email the following documents in PDF format following the naming convention listed in parenthesis for each document to [penningtonmsc@gmail.com](mailto:penningtonmsc@gmail.com)

- **Cover letter (Su2021\_LastName\_FirstName\_CoverLetter.pdf)**
- **Resume (Su2021\_LastName\_FirstName\_Resume.pdf)**
- **Unofficial Transcript (Su2021\_LastName\_FirstName\_Transcript.pdf)**
- **Contact Information for Three Professional References (Name, Title, Phone, Email).**  
Letters of Recommendation are not required to apply.

**Please direct questions regarding the position to:**

Linnea Heinstedt  
Camp Director, Camp Emerald Bay  
[Linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org](mailto:Linnea.heinstedt@scouting.org)  
818-933-0112



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