

**Below highlights each of the teams that students can choose from.**

### **CHILDREN'S GARDEN TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Katie McCollum, Children's Garden Curator, [krm09@uga.edu](mailto:krm09@uga.edu)

Student Leader: Jolene Gale

The Alice H. Richards Children's Garden is one of the newest and most interactive spaces at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia. Team members of the Children's Garden Learning by Leading team will have the opportunity to work in this garden and gain skills in gardening and environmental education in a public garden setting. Team members will begin by understanding basic gardening skills including weeding, planting, watering, pruning, harvesting, pest management, and more. After learning garden maintenance skills, the team will work together on project planning for educational programming and support in the garden. During the spring semester the Children's Garden Team and the Environmental Education Outreach Team will work together to put on the Georgia Questival family festival.

### **CONSERVATION TEAM**

Staff Mentors: Jennifer Ceska, Conservation Coordinator, [ceska@uga.edu](mailto:ceska@uga.edu)

Heather Alley, Conservation Horticulturist, [alley@uga.edu](mailto:alley@uga.edu)

This team of students will assist in coordinating and staffing the annual fall Connect to Protect Native Plant Sale. This involves contributing to the planning, set-up, and customer service at this event which is integral to the outreach mission of the Mimsie Lanier Center for Native Plant Studies. Additionally, students will work with conservation professionals to upkeep local community pollinator gardens and restore habitat in the garden's natural areas. Students will learn and perform pest management, weeding, pruning and planting. By the end of the school semester, students will receive a well-rounded introduction to horticulture and ecology centered around native plants at the State Botanical Garden.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Audrey Mitchell, Children's Program Coordinator, [astadler@uga.edu](mailto:astadler@uga.edu)

Student Leader: Sahana Saravanan

The Learning by Leading™ at UGA Environmental Education and Outreach team is seeking individuals eager to gain experience in environmental education and community outreach. This team will spend time together each week preparing, leading, and evaluating various programs at SBG such as field trips, hikes, birthday parties, and festivals. Students will develop the tools necessary to lead successful programs and foster relationships between people of all ages and the environment.



### **GARDEN AMBASSADORS TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Sean Cameron, Education Coordinator, [cscamero@uga.edu](mailto:cscamero@uga.edu)

Student Leader: Katherine Czarik

The Garden Ambassadors team is a unique, cross-disciplinary group whose goal is to produce educational and informational resources for the garden. Students on this team will have the opportunity to work with garden staff across departments to create new materials such as outreach videos, publicity items and other media content. Through this experiential learning opportunity, students will gain valuable experience working as a team, designing graphics, writing for the public, producing digital media and learning skills that translate into both effective public speaking as well as science communication.

### **GARDEN VISITOR SERVICES TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Adam Lowe, Facility and Event Manager, [adam.lowe@uga.edu](mailto:adam.lowe@uga.edu)

The Garden Visitor Services Team supports the mission and values of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia by creating a welcoming experience to all guests. Students working with Visitor Services can expect to gain experience overseeing events, guest experience, membership, gift shop operations, and the volunteer program. The team will be heavily involved in large upcoming Garden projects such as music events, fundraisers, and the new Winter Wonderlights, providing our Leaders with hands-on event production experience. This will be the first year of the department working with a Learning by Leading team, and those involved with our inaugural efforts will help shape the program for those who will follow.

### **FLOWER GARDEN HORTICULTURE TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Jim Moneyhun, Flower Garden Curator, [moneyhun@uga.edu](mailto:moneyhun@uga.edu)

This team of students will learn horticultural practices while assisting in the maintenance of the Flower Garden. This group covers topics such as: soil analysis and plant nutrition, garden design and planning, use and maintenance of hand and power tools, plant propagation and seed saving, and pest and disease identification/mitigation. Students will perform tasks such as: weeding, mulching, watering, mowing, planting and transplanting, pruning and deadheading, and plant and weed identification.



### **HERITAGE GARDEN HORTICULTURE TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Gareth Crosby, Heritage Garden Curator, [gcrosby@uga.edu](mailto:gcrosby@uga.edu)

\*\*Please note this team will reconvene in Spring 2022

The SBG horticulture department maintains all of the ornamental gardens including Berkman's Orchard. This unique space is dedicated to preserving many fruit species including the Georgia Heirloom Apple Collection. Students participating in this team will work on one of two projects:

1. Work in this ever-changing environment learning to improve orchard practices such as plant pathology, organic methods of maintenance, irrigation system development, maintenance schedule development, soil testing and amending, orchard floor management, signage, propagation and crop development and
2. Manage the propagation of the Georgia Heirloom Apple Collection. Management will include propagation, record keeping on all plants propagated, nursery care, field planted tree care and record keeping, publicity, and sales.

### **MAPPING INTO THE FUTURE TEAM –GIS Horticulture**

Staff Mentor: Emily James, Curator and Plant Records Manager, [eejames@uga.edu](mailto:eejames@uga.edu)

Student Leader: Kyle Steen

The Horticulture GIS Team is seeking individuals to help build a garden mapping system. The Mapping into the Future project aims to provide real world experience by working to develop a GIS mapping database for the garden. We are looking for students to help with various aspects of this process including building and updating our current ArcGIS database with garden spaces, art, plant material, and utility lines. Each student will be able to share their expertise, gain ArcGIS experience as well as learn more about these areas of interest.

### **INTERNATIONAL AND DISCOVERY AND INSPIRATION GARDENS HORTICULTRE TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Brian Santos, Curator of International Garden and Discovery and Inspiration Garden, [Brian.Santos@uga.edu](mailto:Brian.Santos@uga.edu)

This team will be learning and assisting in horticultural tasks in two separate gardens. Each garden has many similar and different maintenance needs. This experience will offer horticultural learning based on the requirements of each garden. Students will have the opportunity to learn basic fundamentals of caring for gardens during the fall season. Some of the basic fundamentals will include: plant health and nutrition, lawn care, water management, weed control, shrub and perennial plant care.



## **NATURE AND ART INTERPRETATION TEAM**

Staff Mentor: Cora Keber, Director of Education, [ckeber@uga.edu](mailto:ckeber@uga.edu)

Student Leader: Alondra Arevalo

The Art and Nature Interpretation team focuses on fostering connections between art, nature and visitors through a variety of ways. During this semester, this team will focus on program planning and implementation through logistics, teaching, assisting professionals and evaluation. Programs include field trips, tours, adult based learning and more. Students will work alongside education staff with cataloging inventory and editing interpretive materials for the Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum at the Center for Art and Nature. As this new space at the garden continues to evolve, this team will contribute to the progress towards its opening.