

## **2018 PUSHKIN SUMMER INSTITUTE at UW-MADISON Residential Counselor**

The Center for Russia, East Europe and Central Asia and the Dept. of German, Nordic, and Slavic seek responsible hard-working, outgoing, friendly, and mature undergraduate students with a passion for Russian and an interest in working with under-represented students at the high school level to serve as residential counselors for the 2018 Pushkin Summer Institute at UW-Madison.

### **About the Pushkin Summer Institute**

The Pushkin Summer Institute (PSI) is an intensive pre-college summer program aimed at high-school students from underrepresented communities. Our unique, six-week program combines the intensive study of Russian language, culture, and civilization with residential living in a UW-Madison dormitory in order to stimulate interest in Russian studies; build critical thinking, reading, and writing skills; and prepare students for the demands of college life. The PSI curriculum centers on Alexander Pushkin, Russia's national poet. PSI students participate in a rigorous program comprised of non-credit courses on Russian language (with funding from STARTALK and based on STARTALK principles), as well as workshops on Russian culture, study skills, and preparing to succeed in college. Students also participate in on- and off-campus extracurricular activities and field trips.

### **Residential Counselors**

Residential counselors play an integral role in the success of the PSI program. Counselors live with program participants in a UW-Madison residence hall, eat meals with participants in the dining halls, provide language support during study halls and in class, provide mentoring and supervision for students, and assist the program director with planning and carrying out extracurricular activities.

Candidates for the position must have at least one year of Russian language, a strong academic background, and leadership experience. The 2018 PSI summer program will run from 24 June – 4 August, and counselors must be available for one additional day of training in early June. Counselors must also be available for one half-day in Spring 2018 (date and time TBD) for First Aid / CPR training and certification.

Students who are enrolled in intensive Russian courses during the summer are encouraged to apply. All outside employment and summer courses must, however, be approved prior to the beginning of the program.

### **Job Duties**

- Live in Leopold Hall with program participants for the duration of the PSI program (24 June – 4 August 2018; **counselors move in 23 June 2018**).
- Participate in job training and Red Cross certification
- Plan and implement evening and weekend activities for program participants
- Organize and lead evening study sessions on Russian language
- Assist teachers during regular class hours when needed
- Assist students with academic and social concerns

- Make rounds throughout the night, respond to any disturbances, and enforce Division of Housing, Pushkin Summer Institute, and University policies
- Maintain records of students' whereabouts
- Chaperone students on field trips and, when needed, drive a University vehicle
- Maintain daily communication with the PSI on-site director
- Meet regularly with PSI administration and teaching staff
- Create a safe, respectful, and fun experience for students

### **Qualifications**

Applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled UW-Madison students in good academic standing, with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Have completed First-Year Russian (101 & 102) or the equivalent, and have a GPA in Russian courses of at least 3.5
- Be energetic, organized, and highly dependable
- Possess a high level of patience and ability to provide good-natured authority
- Possess leadership skills and an ability to work with groups, particularly youth
- Understand the needs of students of color and first-generation college students, and be familiar with the available campus resources
- Be eligible to be authorized to drive a UW-Madison vehicle (i.e., have a valid driver's license and minimal infractions)
- Be available for one mandatory training session in early June 2017
- Be enrolled as a student (at UW-Madison or another institution) in either the Summer 2018 or Fall 2018 semester.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Prior experience as a camp counselor
- Experience working or volunteering with diverse youth groups
- Russian major or Russian Flagship student

### **Compensation**

Residential counselors receive a stipend of \$400/week for the duration of the PSI program. Counselors are also provided a single room in Leopold Hall and a meal plan (3 meals a day).

### **To Apply**

Applications are due by **Friday, 2 March 2018**. Email a cover letter and resume detailing your qualifications, with the names and contact information for two references who can speak to your character, work ethic, leadership qualities, and/or academic background to: Anna Nesterchouk, PSI On-Site Director, [pushkin@creeca.wisc.edu](mailto:pushkin@creeca.wisc.edu). Only electronic submissions will be accepted; please attach the cover letter and resume in .pdf, .doc or .docx format. Open Office users should be sure to format attachments accordingly.

For further details about the PSI program contact Anna Nesterchouk @ [pushkin@creeca.wisc.edu](mailto:pushkin@creeca.wisc.edu).