



CATHY AND JIM GERO ACADIA EARLY-CAREER FELLOWSHIPS IN SCIENCE RESEARCH, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE EDUCATION, AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

The integration of research, education, and communication is critical to the stewardship efforts in Acadia National Park. The complex challenges of rapid environmental change demand that the next generation of professionals have the necessary skills to span disciplinary boundaries, work with a diversity of stakeholders, and integrate science into decision-making.

Through the continued generous support of Catherine and James Gero, the National Park Service, Schoodic Institute, and the National Park Foundation, we are able to offer fellowship opportunities to support early-career experiences in Acadia National Park. We will support three 10-month fellowships beginning in the spring of 2024.

Start date: Monday, April 1, 2024

End date: Friday, January 31, 2025

Reports to: Science Engagement Coordinator, with additional supervision from Schoodic Institute science staff

Compensation: Early Career Fellows are paid \$19.50/hour for 40 hours a week with housing provided on the Schoodic Institute campus in the Schoodic District of Acadia National Park. In addition, the fellows will receive benefits including sick time and professional development opportunities.

Application Deadline: January 5th, 2024

The Acadia Early-Career Fellows will engage learners of all ages in science, and advance science to inform park stewardship. Together, this cadre of early-career professionals will work alongside National Park Service and Schoodic Institute scientists, educators, communicators, and resource managers in Acadia National Park and surrounding areas. These highly competitive fellowships are intended for motivated, early-career individuals (within three years of earning a Bachelor's degree) seeking a springboard experience for their careers working at the intersection of conservation, scientific research, education, and communication.

The Science Research Fellow will engage in field efforts for management-focused research across Acadia, such as monitoring seasonal bird populations, assessing biodiversity, working with resource managers, and engaging park visitors in science learning. Based on research priorities, the fellow will lead ongoing research related to bird populations and habitat conservation and restoration, including field data collection, data analysis, and synthesis. The fellow's research will directly inform management decisions to steward park resources. The Science Fellow will assist the Education Fellow with incorporating this research into science curricula and leading learning experiences with students. This fellow will also work closely with the Science Communication Fellow to share the science stories of Acadia with a diversity of audiences.

The Environmental Science Education Fellow will develop and teach lessons as a part of the Schoodic Education Adventure (SEA) overnight, experiential education program, helping to



develop both the STEM and emotional learning portions of the curriculum for 5th through 8th grade students. The Education Fellow will lead in-person and virtual education programs. The fellow will assist the Science Fellow with conducting field research and then incorporating this research into learning experiences. This fellow will also work closely with the Science Communication Fellow to share science stories of Acadia.

The Science Communication Fellow will create compelling stories of science in Acadia for a range of audiences via written and audio formats, including episodes of the Sea to Trees podcast. Specific story topics will be developed in coordination with communications staff and the fellow's interests and abilities. The Communication Fellow will work closely in the field and classroom with the Science and Education Fellows, contributing to research and education and helping these fellows tell their stories of science in Acadia to a diversity of audiences.

All three fellows are expected to participate in weekly photo submissions for social media, create content for the Schoodic Institute website, and attend or present at Schoodic events such as lectures, symposia, and fundraising events.

Qualifications and Fellowship Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree (or equivalent experience) in an applicable field of science, education, or communication with a graduation date within the past 3 years.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team,
- Strong work ethic,
- Enthusiasm for learning, science, and conservation,
- Keen interest in pursuing a career in conservation, including scientific research, environmental science education, communication,
- Willingness to periodically travel and/or camp to complete field assignments,
- Willingness to work in a variety of conditions (e.g., weather, terrain, diverse (potentially buggy) habitats),
- Must have permanent authorization for US employment,
- Must have a valid driver's license,

Fellow-specific Qualifications:

- Experience with the identification of eastern birds by sight and sound (science fellow)
- Experience with Automated Recording Units (ARUs) is desirable but not required (science fellow)
- Experience with data analysis and coding in R (science fellow)
- Experience with developing curricula and leading environmental science education (education fellow)
- Demonstrated ability to communicate science content and experience with audio storytelling (communication fellow)

Employment Details

Each fellow will be a temporary employee of Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park and earn an hourly salary (\$19.50) and work 40 hours per week. Each fellowship will last for 43



weeks (~10 months). Daily and weekly work schedules may fluctuate. Work days can be up to 14 hours long. In some instances, such as intertidal work during low tide, work days may be split into morning and evening work. At times work will begin at dawn and go through dusk. Work hours will include some weekends.

Location

The fellows' primary work location is Winter Harbor, Maine on the Schoodic Peninsula. Field work will occur throughout Acadia National Park and surrounding locations within a 1-3 hour drive. At times camping may be required to complete field work off of the Schoodic Peninsula.

Residence is required and provided on the Schoodic Institute campus. Housing is in a private bedroom as part of a shared apartment.

Note that the nearest city with full services, Ellsworth, is a 45-minute drive away. Although not required, personal transportation is highly recommended.

About Schoodic Institute:

Established in 2004, [Schoodic Institute](#) at Acadia National Park is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and Acadia National Park's primary partner in science and education. Based at the largest of 17 National Park Service Research Learning Centers in Winter Harbor, Maine, in Wabanaki homeland, Schoodic Institute's focus is understanding environmental change taking place in Acadia and beyond, and helping managers of parks and other protected areas respond and adapt to change while engaging people of all ages in science. Schoodic Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Schoodic Institute, the National Park Service, and the National Park Foundation are committed to increasing diversity in environmental science, education, and conservation. We are highly collaborative, inclusive, and committed to a team environment that is safe and free from bullying, harassment, and discrimination. Team members are encouraged to share ideas, enthusiasm, and knowledge.

To apply:

Each applicant can apply for only one of three opportunities: Science Research Fellowship, Environmental Science Education Fellowship, or Science Communication Fellowship.

To apply, [visit the online application portal here](#).

COVID-19 statement:

The job duties may be adjusted to accommodate COVID-19-specific safe working practices.

Application Deadline: January 5th, 2024