Leader-in-Training (LIT) Application

About Farm Camp: Farm in the Garden Camp is a day camp for children ages 5-14 located on the beautiful grounds of Berkshire Botanical Garden. A typical camp day might include making fresh goat cheese, extracting honey from our beehive, planting seeds in the garden, baking a treat with ingredients from the garden, and much more. Campers run a weekly farm stand for families and prepare a Friday Farm Feast to celebrate the fun and accomplishments of the week.

Farm in the Garden Camp 2020 has multiple openings for Leaders-In-Training (LITs) ages 15-18. Supervised by the Camp Director, LITs support educators in guiding campers through daily farm, garden, and craft activities. Camp runs Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm from June 29 to August 14. LITs are required to commit to a minimum of 2 sessions of the summer. There will be a mandatory LIT training on Thursday, June 25 at Berkshire Botanical Garden. Time of training TBA.

Application Deadline: Those interested in being a LIT should apply by April 1, 2020. Those who apply by then will be given priority and will be notified within the next two weeks if they have been accepted. Any applications received after April 1 will only be considered if spaces remain available.

LIT Responsibilities:
- Assist educators in set up, take down, and running of activities
- Interact with campers, help them complete crafts, activities, recipes, etc.
- Maintain the cob oven fire for the Friday Farm Feast
- Lead a game or activity; not required but highly encouraged
- Other duties as assigned

What you gain from being a LIT:
- Develop important leadership skills by observing educators and interacting with campers
- Learn not only the types of activities taught at Farm Camp, but more importantly how they are taught, organized, and planned
- Gain work references and employment skills
- Build the foundation for potential future work as a paid Camp Staff
- Get a stipend for your work (first time LITs earn $125/week, returning LITs earn $150/week)
- Be part of a fun and diverse community of children and educators (not to mention chickens, goats, rabbits, and sheep!)

Who should apply for a LIT position? This position is for highly motivated teens (15-18 years old). Farm and Garden Camp LITs are enthusiastic about working with children, have a love of animals and the outdoors, and are interested in enhancing their leadership skills, including communication, teamwork, decision making, confidence, and creativity.

Interested candidates should complete the following application and drop it off at BBG, email it as an attachment to info@berkshirebotanical.org, or send by mail to the above listed address, “ATTN: Farm Camp”. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Qualified applicants will be interviewed in person or by phone.

If you have any questions, please contact the Camp Director, by emailing info@berkshirebotanical.org or calling 413-931-3194.

We believe our camp community is strengthened by diversity and encourage individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and identities to apply.
LIT Application

Applicant's Information

Name: ______________________________________________________ Gender: ________________
First       Last

Address:
_________________________  ___________________________  ___________________________  ____________
Street  City  State  Zip

Age: _________ Birthdate: ___________ School: ____________________ Grade: ___________
by June 29, 2020    month/day/yr currently attending     entering 2020-21

Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________________________

Returning LIT? □ Yes □ No    If returning, previous years attended: ________________________________

Have you attended any other camps? □ Yes □ No    If yes, please list:
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

How did you hear about the LIT program at Farm in the Garden Camp?
☐ Advertisement   ☐ Relative   ☐ BBG Website   ☐ Friend
☐ Other ________________________________

Availability: LITs are required to commit to a minimum of 2 weeks of the summer. Space is limited to
three LITs per week. Please select which weeks you are interested in being a LIT at Farm in the
Garden Camp. The actual weeks will be discussed in your interview and chosen based on availability
when accepted to the LIT program.

How many weeks would you like to be in the LIT program? ☐ 2   ☐ 3   ☐ 4   ☐ 5   ☐ 6   ☐ 7

___ Week 1: June 29—July 3   ___ Week 5: July 27—31
___ Week 2: July 6—10   ___ Week 6: August 3—7
___ Week 3: July 13—17   ___ Week 7: August 10—14
___ Week 4: July 20—24

All LITs are required to attend a half-day mandatory LIT training on Thursday, June 25.

Time of training TBA.
Interests: Why do you want to be a LIT at Farm in the Garden Camp?
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Strengths: What are your greatest strengths?
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Related Experience: List coursework, after school activities, or hobbies related to Farm in the Garden Camp. Please include length of participation and how these activities might help you at camp.
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Skills & certifications: Describe any special skills or certifications that are pertinent to your application.
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Farm Camp Skills: Please rate your ability to lead activities in the following areas by placing a “1” by the activities that you can teach others to lead, “2” by the activities you could lead, and “3” by the activities you would feel comfortable assisting. Number all boxes that apply to you.

- [ ] animal husbandry
- [ ] art
- [ ] botany
- [ ] bugs
- [ ] building
- [ ] cooking
- [ ] crafts
- [ ] drama
- [ ] environmental ed.
- [ ] farm stand
- [ ] gardening
- [ ] group games
- [ ] journaling
- [ ] knitting/yarn crafts
- [ ] nature activities
- [ ] nature activities
- [ ] song leading
- [ ] storytelling
- [ ] woodworking
- [ ] wool felting
- [ ] wool spinning
- [ ] other

References: Please give names, email addresses, and phone numbers of three people (non-family members such as teachers, coaches, community group leaders, or others) who know you well. State when and under what circumstances they have known you.

1. ____________________________
   Name
   Phone
   Email
   How do you know this person?__________________________  How many years?______________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________
   Name
   Phone
   Email
   How do you know this person?__________________________  How many years?______________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________
   Name
   Phone
   Email
   How do you know this person?__________________________  How many years?______________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

It is my understanding that this application, or the granting of an oral interview, does not represent a contract or promise of future benefits by Berkshire Botanical Garden. I understand and agree that if selected, my services will be at-will in nature and may be terminated, with or without cause, at any time, by either Berkshire Botanical Garden or myself. I also understand that this written statement supersedes any and all oral representations made by agents or representatives of Berkshire Botanical Garden.

 AGREEMENT: I certify that the information on this application is true, complete, and correct. I hereby authorize the investigation of my past employment, education and activities and I release from liability all persons, companies and corporations that supply such information. I understand that false answers, statements or significant omissions made by me on this form shall be sufficient cause for denial or discharge.

____________________________________  ______________________
Signature                          Date