Planetizan and Project for Public Spaces is currently ranking the Top 100 Public Spaces in Canada and the United States. If you have a favorite place, make sure to vote! Results will be published October 20th, 2011.

http://www.planetizen.com/toppublicspaces

Events

Wall Street Occupation Tour

Academic Opportunities

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellowship
URBAN Magazine
Reimagining the Waterfront Competition
International Planning Course, India

Internship Opportunities

US DOT Summer Internship Program
Department of Transportation, NYC
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Department of Environmental Protection
Brownsville Partnership

Employment Opportunities

SF Environment, Environmental Assistant
Events

Wall Street Occupation Tour

Presented by BMW Guggenheim Lab

Public spaces have been contested throughout the history of New York. Now hundreds of activists are camped out in the heart of the Financial District. What are the written and unwritten rules that govern how we use public spaces? How have they changed over time? What happens when activists contest those rules? Join us on a tour from the BMW Guggenheim Lab to the Financial District, where we will interview occupation participants and consider the past, present, and future of the commons.

Wednesday, October 12th, 2011
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
BMW Guggenheim Lab
(2nd Avenue and Houston)
Academic Opportunities

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute

Housing & Urban Planning Graduate Fellowship

CHCI is a non-profit organization located in Washington, DC and we are currently conducting targeted recruitment sessions around the country.

We have various career and leadership development programs for college students and college graduates, ranging from scholarships, internships and fellowships. These internships and fellowships bring students from all over the country to Washington, DC to learn about and work on Capitol Hill with Congressional Offices as well as other influential organizations in our nation’s capitol. Since its inception we have had over 2,000 students complete our programs with many securing permanent placement after completion of their assignments. These programs see a diverse group of students, whose majors range from the fields of Political Science and Public Policy to Sociology and Psychology to Biology and Science. You can find more information about these programs on our CHCI website at www.chci.org

A brief information session will be held:
Tuesday, October 11th, 2011
3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Columbia University
Hammer Building, Room 303

URBAN Magazine

Did you want to write something for the next issue of URBAN Magazine, but missed the deadline? Is that thesis topic really picking up steam and calling out for a venue to bring it to a wider audience? Or maybe you’ve attended a conference, are taking part in an initiative or have come across research that has really made an impact on your thinking about cities? Well now’s your chance to put those thoughts and experiences down on paper.

URBAN Magazine is extending the deadline for submissions to the upcoming issue to October 16th at midnight. This semester’s issue is going to be URBAN’s biggest yet. We’re accepting articles on any topics relating to the city and are also doing a feature section on zoning to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Zoning Resolution. Basic style guidelines are attached to this newsletter.

Writing for this semester’s URBAN will mean your piece will be along side several Columbia professors’ articles and will be distributed around Avery as well as at the upcoming Columbia conference on zoning this fall.

Send your submissions to urban.submissions@gmail.com and be a part of the zoning and urban planning dialogue at Columbia.
Reimagining the Waterfront Competition

CIVITAS is sponsoring a Reimagining the Waterfront, an ideas competition for the East River Esplanade (60th and 125th Street). We would love to have Columbia GSAPP students become involved and enter. The website with full details is on: http://reimaginethewaterfront-civitas.com/.

International Planning Course, India

University of Iowa, Winter 2011/2012

This is a unique international course open to graduate and undergraduate students from urban planning and related disciplines. This course will provide an extraordinary opportunity to travel to India, interact with highly acclaimed environment and housing professionals, learn about many innovative environmental preservation and low-cost housing techniques, and conduct independent research on a topic of one’s choice. All course participants will develop a clear understanding of the conflicting challenges of economic development and environmental protection, and of culture, politics and the uneven geography of opportunity in a developing country.

Cultural immersion activities will be interspersed between lectures and field visits. These would include visits to Padmanabhapuram Palace (a 500-year old wooden palace), to Kanyakumari (the confluence of three large water bodies, the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean) and to classical dance performances. Get a first hand understanding of the history and culture of one of the oldest civilizations of the world. Please see attached flier for more information.

Contact:
Professor Jerry Anthony,
jerry-anthony@uiowa.edu
Internship Opportunities

US DOT Summer Internship Program

Summer 2012 Internship

The Summer Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups (STIPDG) provides a unique opportunity to gain valuable professional experience and skills that will complement your academic pursuits. This hands-on program is designed to mentor and cultivate tomorrow’s leaders, strengthen their understanding of the transportation industry and prepare them for future public service opportunities. The STIPDG Program is open to all qualified candidates without regard to their race, gender, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, citizenship status, veteran status, or any other characteristic prohibited by state or local law. The Summer 2012 STIPDG application period is now OPEN.

Apply:
To apply for this year’s program, apply here, http://stipdg.e.twc.edu/, and continue reading for more program details.

Department of Transportation, New York City

Pedestrian Projects Internship

Assist the NYC DOT Pedestrian Projects Group with the planning, design, and implementation of pedestrian improvements and new plaza spaces for intersections, corridors and the neighborhoods.

Responsibilities:

Assist project managers in all aspects of 2012 project planning -- tasks include field visits, data analysis, preparation of presentations, drawing in AutoCAD and Sketch up, and interagency coordination. Assist with before/after project imagery for all 2010 and 2011 projects: Photograph project sites, edit photographs in Photoshop and prepare Power Points for presentations and for posting on agency’s website. Review capital projects to ensure that pedestrian facilities are designed safely and accurately. Work as a member of a collaborative team of planners, engineers and designers to improve the pedestrian experience and New York City’s streets.

Qualifications:

Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word and PowerPoint) and Adobe programs (Photoshop and Illustrator). AutoCAD and/or ESRI GIS skills preferable but can teach the right candidate.

Apply:
Please send resume and cover letter to: Sean Quinn, squinn@dot.nyc.gov
Grand Street BID

Communication Intern

The Grand Street BID is a nonprofit organization that supports businesses along Grand Street between Union and Bushwick Avenues in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn with daily services that include supplemental sidewalk cleaning, graffiti removal, holiday lighting, promotional events and communication with city agencies.

The Grand Street BID is looking for a highly qualified, creative and committed individual for an unpaid part-time (up to 20 hours/week) communications internship. The intern will work to build and maintain the BID’s website content as well as create an online presence with social media outlets such as Twitter and Facebook. Other tasks may include designing and preparing promotional material including flyers, advertisements, and press releases as well as writing articles and conducting interviews with business owners for posting on the BID’s blog and newsletter.

This internship position aims to provide a valuable learning experience that will involve working alongside the executive director to come up with creative ideas to promote the businesses along Grand Street. The ideal candidate will have strong familiarity with developing and editing website and social media content as well as writing and editing content for promotional and communications channels. He/she will also have a demonstrated ability to organize and prioritize tasks and be comfortable working independently, as it is a small office.

The position requires a commitment to work between 10 to 20 hours a week for the duration of the fall semester (October to December) with an option for an extended internship period.

Please email cover letter and resume to:

ahavan@grandstbklyn.com,
Ms. Artineh Havan
Grand Street BID
246 Graham Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11206
Department of Environmental Protection, New York City

Office of Green Transportation

DEP’s Office of Green Infrastructure (OGI) is seeking an intern to assist the Partnerships and Outreach Staff. Candidates that are familiar with PlaNYC, the Sustainable Stormwater Management Plan of 2008 and the NYC Green Infrastructure Plan are preferred. The intern will be responsible for supporting outreach programming throughout the fall and spring. Responsibilities may include but are not limited to: GIS mapping, updating the website, attending community meetings, accompanying OGI staff on site visits, conducting studies and research, creating outreach materials, and Green Infrastructure Grant Program support. Candidates with a background in stormwater management and/or community-based urban planning are strongly preferred.

This is an unpaid position but college credit is available. Intern will be placed at NYC Environmental Protection on the 11th Floor of 59-17 Junction Boulevard, Flushing NY. The position will begin October 31st and continue until May 18th. Days and hours are flexible but candidates should be available two days (16 hours) per week.

Apply:
Please send cover letter and resume to sustainability@dep.nyc.gov

Brownsville Partnership

In 2005, Common Ground established the Brownsville Partnership, an eviction prevention program in Brownsville Brooklyn, an area with the highest concentration of Public Housing in the United States, if not North America. Since then, the Brownsville Partnership, now an initiative of Community Solutions (www.cmtysolutions.org) has expanded its work to include programs that facilitate a safer, healthier and more prosperous Brownsville.

In Spring 2011, the Brownsville Partnership launched the Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work, and Play Initiative - funded by the New York State Department of Health, this initiative aims to address gaps in access to healthy food and safe, active living opportunities through community-level capacity building and policy/systems-level change.

The CHP Intern will work in conjunction with the Brownsville Partnership’s Health Coordinator to establish and initiate a community based physical activity initiative in Brownsville.

Apply:
Submit resume and cover letter (with ‘CHP Intern in subject line) to: nchaudhury@cmtysolutions.org
Employment Opportunities

SF Environment

Environmental Assistant

The mission of the City and County of San Francisco Department of the Environment (SF Environment) is to promote innovative policies and programs to protect the urban and natural environment, promote social equity and expand the green economy. SF Environment includes Recycling, Toxics Reduction and Integrated Pest Management, Environmental Justice, Clean Transportation (Clean Air Program), Climate Change, Energy, Green Building and Public Information Programs.

SF Environment’s Clean Transportation Program is oriented around two primary objectives: First, through the use of Transportation Demand Management strategies, reducing the number of miles traveled in single-occupancy vehicles by encouraging the use of transit, ridesharing, biking and walking; and second, for both the municipal fleet and private vehicles, shifting vehicle use to the cleanest and most energy efficient technologies and fuels. As part of its focus on clean vehicles and fuels, SFE’s Clean Transportation Program is the lead office in implementing San Francisco’s electric vehicle initiative, and actively coordinates multi-departmental EV-readiness actions.

For complete job description and how to apply, please see attached flier.