

## MEDIA RELEASE

---

### **ECOCENTER AT HERON'S HEAD PARK AWARDED \$63,000 GRANT Internship Program Funded to Build Next Generation of Green Leaders**

**San Francisco, CA** – The EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park is pleased to announce they have been awarded a \$63,320 Community Challenge Grant from the City of San Francisco to fund its 2017 EcoCenter Internship Project. The EcoCenter, a division of **bay.org**, provides internships during the Spring and Fall semesters to high school and college students from the Bayview Hunter's Point community to gain hands-on work experience with the EcoCenter's LEED platinum certified buildings' sustainable systems, creating the next generation of green leaders.

The City of San Francisco's Community Challenge Grant Program (CCG) provides funding that builds strong San Francisco neighborhoods and facilitates community participation, stewardship, and responsibility.

Through the EcoCenter Internship program, interns gain valuable work experience while participating in workshops to familiarize themselves with sustainable practices, like native plant restoration throughout Heron's Head Park, landscaping the EcoCenter's constructed wetland, or gaining experience with sustainable water, power, and wastewater treatment technologies. Additionally, EcoCenter interns gain useful job skills such as resume writing and leadership skills.

By the end of the program, each intern will create a capstone project that will leave a lasting legacy on the Bayview Hunter's Point Community. In past programs, interns have created environmental public programs that become part of the EcoCenter's regular programming – such as building a DIY wind turbine that teaches about the science and benefits of wind energy and an indoor hydroponic native plant garden that teaches about the natural cycle of nutrients between plant and animal systems.

With support from the City of San Francisco's Community Challenge Grant, the EcoCenter will be able to increase the number of internship opportunities while continuing to strengthen its connection with the Bayview Hunter's Point Community.

#### **About the EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park**

A division of **bay.org**, the EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park is a living classroom that demonstrates how we can better use the Earth's environmental resources in order to foster healthy people, ecosystems, and economies in our local communities and beyond. With a mission to protect, restore, and inspire conservation of San Francisco Bay and its watershed, from the Sierra to the sea, the EcoCenter is an incredible space for environmental education, public outreach, and for connecting people with the beauty of San Francisco's wild landscapes. Learn more about the EcoCenter at [www.ecocenterhhp.org](http://www.ecocenterhhp.org).

#### **Media Contact:**

Mallory Johnson | Communications Manager | [mallory@bay.org](mailto:mallory@bay.org) | 415.623.5340  
The Embarcadero at Beach Street, San Francisco CA 94133