Heidi Mouillesseaux
Positioned at the western terminus of the Erie Low
I researched Buffalo extensively, focusing on the region's
I developed a lesson plan with Nellie Gardner (host contact) for the Martin House's summer
many people who have
grew up gardening extensively with my family. I plan to use my applied ecology a
As the Horticulture intern, I was given tasks pertaining to the landscaped grounds, as well as
The Martin House Restoration Corporation was established in 1992 to restore
I was responsible for
predominantly White (50.2%), and Black or
Buffalo has been a region of entrepreneurship and innovation in
Companies can connect newly hired or potential employees
Darwin D. Martin, a Buffalo entrepreneur and millionaire, commissioned
Frank Lloyd Wright in 1903 to build his house. They became friends.
Considered Frank Lloyd Wright's finest Prairie house design
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Daily tours for the public as well as educational opportunities for local youth
I am from a small suburb outside Boston, and grew up gardening extensively with my family. I plan to use my applied ecology a
Buffalo has many educated
Median household income $30,942
Families below poverty 26.7%
39.6% of Black or African Americans, and 19.4
Unemployment rate is 5.3%,
Median age is 33.5 years. 28.7% of total population is 18-34 years
Predominately White (50.2%), and Black or African American (37.6%)
Median household income $30,942
Families below poverty 26.7%
39.6% of Black or African Americans, and 19.4%
of Whites are in poverty.
Source: Headwaters Economic Report, U.S. Census data
Community Project Proposal
Challenges:
Buffalo has many educated young people, but relatively poor resources for connecting and creating a community for them.
Low visitiorship to cultural landmarks like the Darwin Martin House, Richardson Olmstead Complex, Silo City and others diminishes potential for beneficial community development.
Difficult to engage youth in their own community.
Concept:
Tour options directed at young professionals. Various Buffalo landmarks and exciting new restaurants, breweries etc. will be combined into fun gatherings of interested participants.
Companies can connect newly hired or potential employees with tours and events to increase excitement about living in Buffalo. Activity based networking will be attractive for current residents as well as newcomers.
Buffalo has been a region of entrepreneurship and innovation in the past, and is attempting to become an industrial leader again, so learning its history will be especially interesting.
Local Partners: BuffaloNiagara360, Explore Buffalo, Preservation Buffalo, Buffalo River Works, Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, Industry employers, Cornell's ILR Highroads Program, and the online application 'Meetup'.
Timeline & Roadmap: Next year's intern will need to help connect the local partners with each other and young professionals. Implementation of tours will need approval and knowledgeable tour guides or docents.
Adeline Bakewell
Natural Resources & Plant Science, Class of 2016
The Darwin Martin House in Buffalo, NY
CALS NYS Internship Program 2015
Biographical Profile
- I am from a small suburb outside Boston, and grew up gardening extensively with my family. I plan to use my applied ecology and horticulture background to pursue a career in either landscape architecture or urban planning.
- This internship attracted me initially because I admire Frank Lloyd Wright’s commitment to ‘organic architecture’ and sought practical landscaping skills, but I gradually got hooked on the community engagement aspect as well.
- My LAP goals were in flux throughout the summer, but were ultimately fulfilled. My internship will hopefully shape future intern positions.
Darwin Martin House
- Darwin D. Martin, a Buffalo entrepreneur and millionaire, commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright in 1903 to build his house. They became friends.
- Considered Frank Lloyd Wright’s finest Prairie house design
- The Martin House Restoration Corporation was established in 1992 to restore the complex, and work is ongoing
- Daily tours for the public as well as educational opportunities for local youth
Internship Responsibilities
- As the Horticulture intern, I was given tasks pertaining to the landscaped grounds, as well as indoor plantings. This included both indoor and outdoor fountains. I was responsible for keeping plants attractive and healthy through proper pruning, weeding, staking, fertilizing, and watering. Occasionally I needed to remove and replace plants.
- Conducted research on grant and funding opportunities for the cultural landscape restoration, incorporating critical thinking about the role of the Martin House. Also researched similar sites for comparison and insight into future collaboration.
- Worked with the many landscape volunteers, and helped give guidance when necessary.
- I developed a lesson plan with Nellie Gardner (host contact) for the Martin House’s summer kids camp. We focused on the interdependence of plants, animals, and humans, using the grounds and greenhouse activities to engage the campers.
Community Profile
- Positioned at the western terminus of the Erie Canal, Buffalo was a booming industrial hub at its height, but then declined.
Demographics:
- Unemployment rate is 5.3%,
- Median age is 33.5 years. 28.7% of total population is 18-34 years
- Predominately White (50.2%), and Black or African American (37.6%)
- Median household income $30,942
- Families below poverty 26.7%
- 39.6% of Black or African Americans, and 19.4% of Whites are in poverty.
Source: Headwaters Economic Report, U.S. Census data
Community Highlights
- Phase One research project. Gathering general information about the community of Buffalo, NY.
- I researched Buffalo extensively, focusing on the region’s industrial history. I went on multiple tours of the city including Buffalo River and Silo City, City Hall, The Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, Niagara Falls, and talked to docents and tour guides.
- I engaged the community by visiting countless places and events. I gained insight by talking to diverse community members including tour guides, local residents, shop owners, students & young workers, as well as Martin House staff.
Community  Highlights
- Difficult to engage youth in their own community.
- As the Horticulture intern, I was given tasks pertaining to the landscaped grounds, as well as indoor plantings. This included both indoor and outdoor fountains. I was responsible for keeping plants attractive and healthy through proper pruning, weeding, staking, fertilizing, and watering. Occasionally I needed to remove and replace plants.
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