Ocean Science & Leadership Expedition
*Gulf Coast Scholarship Opportunity*

With the oil spill in the Gulf raising awareness of the vulnerability of our coastal and marine environments, the Prince William Sound Science Center in Cordova, Alaska is offering a timely summer program for high school students focused on understanding ocean science and cultivating stewardship of ocean resources. The Ocean Science and Leadership Expedition (OSLE) is a 10-day summer intensive learning experience for high school students, taking place August 5-14, 2010 and based in Prince William Sound. Working with local marine scientists and educators, participants will learn about—and experience firsthand—oceanographic principles and issues such as oil spills, marine debris, and climate change.

We invite students from the Gulf Coast to visit Alaska to share their experiences of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill with peers from Alaska and throughout the U.S. In Alaska, students will meet with experts at the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens’ Advisory Council to learn about the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and see what is being done to prevent future spills. As a culminating project, students will engage in a simulated oil spill scenario where they will learn the decision-making process of responding to environmental emergencies and experience the challenges of cleaning up oil in the marine environment. The course also includes a 4-day sea kayaking expedition in Prince William Sound, where students will experience ocean science principles firsthand, camp on remote beaches, and paddle among icebergs near Columbia Glacier.

Students will emerge from this course with a greater knowledge of the significance of coastal and marine ecosystems, a personal connection to the ocean, and the skills to become future leaders and stewards of ocean resources. Students may also earn college credit for this course through University of Alaska - Prince William Sound Community College.

To assist students from Gulf States who may not otherwise afford such an opportunity, the Science Center is offering two full scholarships of up to $1500 for high school students from Gulf States to attend the course. The scholarships will cover full tuition and up to $400 in travel expenses. The scholarship application deadline is July 1, 2010.

The scholarships are open to students currently residing in the Gulf States (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, or Florida) who have completed 9th, 10th, or 11th grade by the start of the course. Completed applications (including Letter of Support) must be received by the Prince William Sound Science Center no later than July 1, 2010 in order to be considered. Scholarship recipients will be notified by July 16, 2010.

Scholarship recipients must meet all other requirements of the course, including being in good physical condition to undertake a rigorous wilderness sea kayaking expedition. Students will be responsible for arranging their own travel to/from Cordova, Alaska. Students must present receipts of travel expenses for reimbursement, up to the value of $400.
Ocean Science & Leadership Expedition
Application Form
August 5-14, 2010

Applicant Information:
First Name_________________Full Middle Name____________Last Name________________
Birthdate______________Gender_______
School name and location______________________________________Grade:______
Parent/Guardian’s Name________________________________________________________
Mailing address________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Home phone_____________________Work phone__________________
E-mail address________________________________________________________________

Student Questionnaire: (Attach additional pages as necessary)
Describe your non-academic activities such as employment, volunteer work, sports, clubs, or hobbies.
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________ 
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you want to participate in this expedition?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________ 
_____________________________________________________________________________________

This expedition is a mentally and physically demanding wilderness experience that requires living and working closely with a group of peers from around the country. Please explain how you feel you are prepared for this experience.
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________ 
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please complete page 2
Scholarships are available. For more information and to download an application, please visit our website at http://www.pwssc.org/education/summer/scholarships.htm

Are you applying for a scholarship? (circle) YES / NO If yes, you are encouraged to submit your scholarship application together with this form.

Are you applying for a scholarship through the Gulf Coast Scholarship Opportunity? (circle) YES / NO If yes, you MUST submit your scholarship application together with this form. All application materials must be received by July 1, 2010.

I certify that I answered the student questionnaire in my own words, and that all of the information is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that upon admittance, a $200 deposit will be required to hold my place (unless a full scholarship has been awarded), and that final acceptance will be contingent upon completion of a registration packet, including a medical form.

Media release: If accepted, I give the Prince William Sound Science Center permission to use my photo, voice recording, and any work produced in promotional materials, reports, press releases, and other media.

Signature of Applicant__________________________________________ Date____________
Signature of Parent/Guardian_____________________________________Date____________

Mail this completed registration form to:

Alice Dou-Wang
Prince William Sound Science Center
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574
(907) 424-5800 ext. 237
adouwang@pwssc.org
Instructions: Complete one application form for each request (2 pages). Attach page(s) with the student applicant’s responses to the questions in Part 2. A Letter of Support from a non-family member is required; see attached information sheet.

Scholarship applications and letters of support must be received no later than July 1, 2010. Applicants will be notified of the scholarship decision on or before July 15, 2010.

Part 1
Today’s Date:______________________________
Student Name_________________________Age:____ Sex:____
Parent/Guardian name:______________________________
Address:__________________________________________
Home phone:_________________ Work/cell phone:_________________
Email Address:__________________________

To be completed by parent/guardian: Partial and full scholarships (up to $1100) are awarded dependent upon applicant need. In addition, up to $400 travel reimbursement will be awarded (receipts showing travel expenses must be presented)

What amount are you requesting?_________  
Number of children living at home:____________ Ages:____________
Do you qualify for the free or reduced lunch program at your child’s school?  Yes   No
Number of dependents on household income:__________________________
Occupations of parents/guardians:________________________________

Please describe your financial need or special circumstances related to this request. (Additional pages may be attached):

(Don’t forget Page 2!)
Part 2

Questions to be answered by the student applicant: (Attach answers on separate page(s).)
1. What are your future academic and/or career goals, and how will this course help you move towards achieving those goals?
2. Explain what interests you the most about science and the environment. Is there a particular topic or issue that you feel passionate about?
3. Describe how you have been affected by the oil spill in the Gulf. What experiences will you share with your peers in this course?
4. How will you share the experiences and lessons from this course with others in your school or community?
3. Describe a project or circumstance that was difficult for you. How did you overcome a challenging or uncomfortable situation?

Letter of Support
Please arrange for one letter of support from a non-family member (teacher, coach, pastor, Scout leader, etc.) to be sent to the Science Center. This individual should be able to provide insight about the applicant and what he or she can gain from attending the Ocean Science & Leadership Expedition. Please give the attached Letter of Support Information Sheet to the individual from whom you request this letter.

The Science Center must receive both the application form and Letter of Support for a scholarship request to be considered complete.

A Letter has been requested from:
Salutation: ___________ First and Last Name: ________________________________
Mailing address: __________________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________
Email address: ________________________________

I certify that all of the above information is true to the best of my knowledge, and that the responses to the student questionnaire are the student’s own words.

Signature of Applicant _______________________________ Date __________
Signature of Parent/Guardian __________________________ Date __________

Please direct questions and completed applications to:
Alice Dou-Wang
Prince William Sound Science Center
P.O. Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574
Email: adouwang@pwssc.org
Phone: (907) 424-5800 x237
Fax: (907) 424-5800

For PWSSC Staff Only
Date received: Award Approved:
Date sent to review committee: Date Applicant notified:
The Ocean Science and Leadership Expedition is a 10-day summer field course based in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The course is an adventure-based education program that includes a 4-day sea kayaking expedition in eastern Prince William Sound. Students will work with local marine researchers and educators to increase their knowledge of coastal and marine ecosystems, climate change, ocean resources and marine pollution, and will participate in a simulated oil spill response scenario, marine debris cleanup and public education service project.

Two full scholarships with travel stipend will be awarded to students from Gulf States (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, or Florida) to enable them to share their experiences of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill with their peers in Alaska.

Scholarship applications and letters of support must be received by the Prince William Sound Science Center by July 1, 2010.

In your letter, please include the following:

- Explain the capacity in which you know the applicant, and for how long.
- Describe the skills and abilities the applicant will bring to their participation in this course.
- Describe the applicant’s attitude and character: their ability to work with others, ability to handle stress, reliability, motivation and enthusiasm. How will he/she contribute to a positive learning environment in a small-group academic and wilderness setting?
- Describe the applicant’s commitment to his/her school or community. How will he/she utilize opportunities to share experiences & knowledge from this expedition with their school or community?

Please submit letters directly to the Prince William Sound Science Center by email, mail or fax. Direct questions and completed letters to:

Alice Dou-Wang
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