

Position Description

Working Title:	Climate Art and Outreach Intern
Classification:	Association Temp Program (Non-Exempt)
Start Date:	9/21/2026
End Date:	5/7/2027
Duration (months):	+/- 6 Weeks
Hours per week:	10 hrs/week target (up to 20/week)
Days per week / schedule:	Varied/Flexible
Work Location:	Remote and 615 Willow Ave, Ithaca NY 14850
Supervisor Name & Title:	Chris Skawski, Energy and Climate Change Team Lead
Supervisor Contact	Cjs359@cornell.edu , (607) 272-2292 ext. 293
Compensation:	\$21.00 per hour
Benefits Eligibility:	Not Benefits Eligible
Employment Type:	Casual

Position Summary

Cornell Cooperative Extension Tompkins County (CCETC) is seeking a Climate Art & Outreach Intern to support creative outreach and communication for our "Participatory Workshops for Local Climate Solutions" project. This project seeks to identify strategies for local-level deliberation on climate change resilience to accompany the City of Ithaca's participatory budgeting process. Participatory budgeting is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It recognizes that community members possess forms of local knowledge and lived experience that elected officials may lack, and that public policy is most effective when those closest to a problem are given a meaningful role in addressing it. Building off principles of popular education, CCETC will lead workshops and other forms of outreach to generate conversation about climate change impacts, solutions, and local opportunities for action, including participatory budgeting.

CCETC recognizes that art is a powerful tool for community visioning and education. The Climate Art & Outreach Intern will help create visual and written communications to promote CCETC's workshops and increase public knowledge and excitement about participatory budgeting and climate change resilience. This position is highly adaptable to the skills and interests of the Intern, and is well suited to someone comfortable with emergent, community-based work.

This position will report to Chris Skawski, Energy and Climate Change Team Lead. For questions, please reach out to (607) 272-2292 ext. 293 or cjs359@cornell.edu

Responsibilities

Coordination – 10%

- Meet regularly with the Public Engagement Educator and Communications Coordinator to identify projects and coordinate tasks.

Project Outreach – 40%

- Design outreach materials for participatory workshops. These might include a project logo, flyers, and social media posts.
- Help promote workshops in the community. This might include posting flyers, posting events on virtual calendars, sending materials to local organizations, or attending community meetings.

Community Art Project – 50%

- Identify and carry out at least one creative project to spark community conversation about climate change and civic engagement in Ithaca.
 - This is highly dependent on the skills and interests of the Intern. Some project ideas include creating public art, making a zine, developing a series of social media posts, or planning a gathering for creative expression like a poetry slam or art jam. Preference will be given toward collaborative projects that center the perspectives and creativity of Ithaca residents.

Qualifications

- Experience creating visual art. This could include photography, design, drawing, painting, or other mediums.
- Strong written communication skills.
- Willingness to work collaboratively across organizations and disciplines.

Preferred Qualifications

- Proficient with graphic design tool(s) (ex. Adobe InDesign, Canva, etc.).
- Experience with equitable community engagement methods.
- Experience communicating complex information clearly and accessibly.
- Knowledge of or interest in climate change resilience.
- Knowledge of or interest in participatory democracy.
- Familiarity with participatory research methods.