General Information

- Organization: The Bird School Project (BSP)
- Sponsor: Darrow Feldstein & Kevin Condon (co-founders/directors)
- Email: darrowfelstein@gmail.com & kevcomail@gmail.com
- Phone: (858)525-2147
- Website: birdschoolproject.com
- Address: Ken Norris Center for Natural History
- Quarters Needed: Fall, Winter, Spring

Description of Internship

The Bird School Project is an environmental education program that sends naturalists into 5th-8th grade classrooms to take students on bird walks. During the bird walks, students learn life science lessons that are on par with curriculum standards from both Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core standards. An internship with the Bird School Project is an opportunity for students to get experience teaching environmental education in classrooms and receive mentorship from Bird School staff. In addition to assisting in teaching a class for the quarter, interns will get the experience of being a part of a small team of high functioning and communicative young naturalists working to design and maintain a successful program. Additional responsibilities along these lines include:

- Lesson planning and crafting informative lesson materials
- Participating in writing and upkeeping a public blog
- Participating in fundraising and
- Working with social media design (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.)
- Community outreach (i.e. organizing a community event like “Bike & Bird”)

Prerequisites

A successful Bird School Project intern will begin their internship with a basic understanding of bird watching. Any experience teaching is desirable, but not necessary. More importantly, an understanding of making good field observations and journaling is crucial. In particular, students with an interest in teaching environmental education through inquiry based lessons. Students who have background coursework in natural history (i.e. Natural History Field Quarter (ENVS 107), Natural History of Campus (ENVS 15), or are participating members of the UCSC Natural History Club, or any similar coursework), are ideally suited for an internship with the Bird School Project.