



# Alpine of the Americas Project

## LEAD ALPINE GUIDE & PHOTOGRAPHER

### Alpine of the Americas Project (AAP)

Alpine of the Americas Project repeats historic photographs of alpine regions to show changes in lakes, meadows, forests, and glaciers. By crowdsourcing repeat photographs from hikers and during our guided backcountry trips, we facilitate firsthand experiences that visually communicate how climate change is affecting local watersheds. Every useful participant photograph is contributed to climate science research. Our goal is to provide each individual who repeats a photograph with meaningful ways to participate in climate adaptation and mitigation at home.

### Position Description

AAP's Lead Alpine Guide will guide student and adult groups on single day, multiple day, and 3-week wilderness photography expeditions in the Sierra Nevada. We are looking for a self-motivated educator, wilderness guide, and photographer. Your primary obligation is to ensure the safety of the group in both public and remote settings while facilitating climate science discussion and curriculum. This is a unique opportunity to co-write age appropriate curriculum to elucidate how climate change is affecting Californians at home.

This position reports to the Custom Trips Director and will guide a 3-week course, from June 15-31, in Yosemite National Park. This expedition is a partnership with Hidden Villa Summer Camp. You will be guiding alongside the Hidden Villa Youth Leadership Trips Leader and will be equally responsible for 12 students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders). The expedition will begin with service days at Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, commence hiking through the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, resupply in Tuolumne Meadows, repeat photographs of Mt Lyell and Mt Maclure glaciers, and will end in Yosemite Valley. Additionally, you will be paid time for training, preparations with the HV Youth Leadership Trips Leader, and course breakdown.

This is a seasonal position with opportunities to become a permanent member of our team. Other guiding opportunities may include single day to 3-day expeditions in August & September. Competitive expedition pay rate is negotiable and will be based on a candidate's experience. Other opportunities to work and volunteer with Alpine of the Americas can be discussed during the interview process.

### Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Guide groups in wilderness settings and front country settings while managing participants' emotional and physical safety.
- Must be comfortable working above 10,000', traveling over 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class terrain, and providing direction during inclement weather, including lightning storms.
- Development of curriculum that elucidates how climate change affects local watersheds and populations, while revealing clear transference into current mitigation and adaptations efforts on the state, city, and household levels.



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- Repeat historic photographs in remote locations with a high degree of accuracy. Record significant information while communicating the repeat photo process and other photography skills.
- An ability to document and record objective success and shortcomings of this trip in order to make significant strides to improve subsequent trips.
- A physical and mental ability to carry 40% of body weight for extended periods over rugged terrain.

### Required Knowledge, Experience, & Skills

- Knowledge or equivalent experience in climate science and natural processes is strongly desired. An affinity towards creating new, engaging lesson plans that *incorporate up to date and relevant information to your intended audience*.
- Experience communicating with and facilitating youth and adult groups in classroom and outdoor contexts.
- Familiarity with the trailhead, trails, camps, and remote regions of the Sierra Nevada and Yosemite is strongly preferred.
- Must have significant experience with maps, compasses, and GPS systems.
- Excellent independent problem solving skills and an ability to communicate with and direct both youth and adults.
- An ability to work unsupervised, understand standing protocols, and make timely and vital decisions in case of an emergency.
- Conversational in the art of digital photography from taking photos to creating high quality prints.
- Must be able to work and coordinate with co-leaders and supervisors in both face-to-face and remote contexts.
- Independent transportation from the Bay Area to Yosemite may be required.
- Must have a current CPR & Wilderness First Responder (WFR).
- Will need to obtain a food handler's certification before the expedition.

In order to apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to the AAP Custom Trips Director at, [edgardo@alpineamericas.com](mailto:edgardo@alpineamericas.com) by April 4, 2014. We will respond to you about the interview process by April 11, 2014. If you are invited for an interview, we will ask you to explain or demonstrate a unique lesson plan that you would provide in the field.

*Alpine of the Americas is committed to diversity in the workplace. We do not discriminate on the basis of any protected quality.*