

Web 2.0 Internship:

Online Immigrant Rights Organizer

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

www.icirr.org | www.youtube.com/icirr



Do you YouTube? Interested in putting your MySpace addiction to work by supporting a diverse, state-wide network of immigrant and refugee advocacy organizations? Are you able to reach out to people you don't know and get them excited about a cause? Is it a piece of cake for you to use a computer and work independently on a wide variety of projects?

If you said yes, we hope you will consider the **Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights' Online Immigrant Rights Organizer** unpaid internship this summer at our office in downtown Chicago. ICIRR empowers its members with the information and tools to advocate on behalf of immigrants and refugees, at a time when these communities are increasingly under attack. Currently we are focused on issues as diverse as ensuring humane conditions for immigrant detainees and asylum seekers to turning out the immigrant vote in November!

We are seeking a highly motivated and independent student or recent graduate to assist with our new website, online advocacy efforts, and online organizing initiatives. If you already spend a lot of time online and know how to navigate sites like Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, and YouTube, then this internship is for you!

The internship may be part-time or full-time, and will take place from July 1st to September 1st on-site (with ability to work remotely). Start and end dates are negotiable.

Application Deadline: June 28th, 2006 (or until filled). Emails only- no calls, please!

Job Description

As an intern, you will work side-by-side with the leaders of the online immigrant rights movement in conceiving, developing and implementing innovative online campaigns to support the work the Coalition is doing. This internship allows for a large amount of growth and opportunity — the more responsibility you decide to take on, the more we will support you and help you grow.

Some projects you will be working on include:

- **Developing and sustaining** relationships with online constituents and bloggers.
- **Innovating** new methods for member support and engagement, especially involving social networking such as MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

- **Reading** and staying up-to-date on all things immigrant rights-related, including blogs and newsletters, and suggesting methods for collaboration when possible.
- **Writing** web updates, "action alerts," and member newsletter/blog in collaboration with communications and advocacy teams.
- **Reaching out** to online opinion-makers such as bloggers and podcasters and staying current with online discussion around related issues.
- **Integrating** online and offline organizing efforts
- **Evaluating** the new ICIRR website through metrics, as well as suggesting methods for making it more effective, accessible and useful, when necessary

As with any small nonprofit advocacy organization, interns will be expected to help support day-to-day activities such as responding to member needs, answering constituents' questions and maintaining internal documentation. In every case, these activities will support our ultimate goal: promoting the rights of immigrants and refugees to full and equal participation in the civic, cultural, social, and political life of our diverse society.

Qualifications

Applicants must be independent, responsible, full of ideas, and have their own laptop! All interns must have strong writing skills. Fluency in an additional language beyond English (Spanish, Korean, Polish, Arabic, etc.) is preferred, but not required.

The ideal candidate already has a Facebook or Myspace profile, knows how to upload a YouTube video, and is addicted to Twitter. Some experience in a position of leadership is helpful, whether through campus activism, online or in social groups. Interns must have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to manage a variety of projects and priorities on their own.

In addition, applicants should have:

- Basic knowledge of HTML
- Some experience using a content management system (experience with Blogger or Wordpress will help); We use Drupal, but any CMS experience will be useful
- Ability to edit graphics (Photoshop and Illustrator experience useful)
- Creativity in design and writing
- A high comfort level with online work and exploration
- A basic understanding of community organizing is helpful, but not required

The ideal applicant will have some experience in online organizing, a good deal of social networking experience, and a keen interest in translating online participation into real-world action.

Benefits

All internships are unpaid; however interns are eligible to receive a small reimbursement to cover public transportation costs to the office, if needed.

Ways to Submit Résumé

Please e-mail a résumé and short cover letter to Jackie Mahendra at jmahendra@icirr.org (blog posts, emails, etc., will work). Subject line: WEB 2.0 INTERN. Word documents or google documents acceptable.

Please highlight any prior online organizing experience and any websites or social networking pages (even if personal sites) for which you have been a contributor in your cover letter. Also please specify when you are available for phone interviews, and the hours and times each week that you would be available to work during the internship.