



# Community Bulletin



Maintenance YCC: (L to R) Kevin Longerbeam, Deven Combs, Corey Bowles, and Zach Zdrojewski

## Youth Conservation Corps Members Contribute to Park Operations

This summer 18 students from West Virginia, Maryland, and Virginia were chosen to work for Harpers Ferry Park's Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), assisting the in Living History, Education, Visitor Services and Maintenance Divisions.

This year's YCC group includes **Living History Division:** Amanda Smith, Jefferson High School; Mikala Bass, Martinsburg, High School; Sarah Lee, Eastern Panhandle Christian Academy; Krystal Thomas, George Mason University; Sierra Grabowska, Jefferson High School; Joseph Smith, Home Schooled; Aviva Zucker, American Hebrew Academy; and Vince Wise, Winchester, VA; **Education Division:** Anthony Chapouris, Washington High School; Nathan Diaz, Brunswick High School; Angel Routzahn, Martinsburg High School; and Christie Seidel, Washington High School; **Visitor Service Division:** Amy Scogno, Martinsburg High School and George Cabrera, Jefferson High School; **Maintenance Division:** Kevin Longerbeam, Jefferson High School; Deven Combs, Muselman High School; Corey Bowles, Jefferson High School; Zach Zdrojewski, Washington High School.

Those assigned to Maintenance have, perhaps, enjoyed the widest variety of job experiences this summer. The group has washed buses, painted, learned to use various tools, cleaned sand, worked on masonry, and done yard work--raking, edging, weeding, mulching. Corey Bowles said, "It's a really great experience. I'd like to come back next summer." When asked what he's learned so far, Keven Longerbeam responded, "I've learned how to use different kinds of tools and about the park." Deven Combs has learned how to edge gardens, clean sand and powerwash. Deven said of his experience, "I've had a fun experience and met alot of people. I enjoy this job alot." Zach

Zdrojewski said, "His favorite part of the job has been cleaning buses and the fact that it's a good paying job."

Working at the main Visitor Center desk, George Cabrera and Amy Scogno meet and greet visitors to the park, answer their questions and orient them to park programs, museums and other resources the park has to offer. According to Amy, "This is my first job and I couldn't have asked for a better place to work. I like meeting new people. Every now and then we get some upset visitors, but other than that, it's a great job." George said, "YCC is my first job. My favorite part of the job is meeting new people every day."



Visitor Service YCC: George Cabrera and Amy Scogno





Living History YCC: (L to R front) Sarah Lee, Amanda Smith, Joseph Smith, Krystal Thomas, (L to R back) Mikala Bass, Aviva Zucker and Sierra Grabowska

The Living History YCC participants dress in period clothing and work in exhibits like the Dry Goods Store and Provost Marshal Office. Amanda Smith said, "I love dressing up and talking about the exhibits." Vincent Wise listed the things he's done, "I made new friends, talked to new people, learned about history and got paid!" Mikala Bass reported, "Learning to cook on a wood stove is my favorite part." Sarah Lee said, "I've loved the chance to

work here. It's great dressing up and meeting new people." Krystal Thomas added, "I've learned alot and continue to learn more everyday. I love my co-workers, we have fun and it doesn't feel like a job." Sierra Grabowska said, "The job seemed daunting at first, but the experience has been incredible, even though we have to work on Saturdays." Joseph Smith likes meeting a variety of people. According to Joseph, "I love teaching history, but my least favorite

part is cleaning guns after a demonstration." So far Aviva Zucker has had a wonderful time this summer with YCC, "I like interacting with visitors and have learned a lot about the Civil War period."

The Education YCC team has been participating in several school programs, including the Jr. National Young Leaders Conference (Jr. NYLC) programs every Monday through Wednesday. Angel Routzahn said, "This job has further extended my knowledge of the historic area. My favorite part of the job is working with the Jr. NYLC and getting popsicles at the end of the program." Nathan Diaz likes the Trek the Trail program and setting up the fly tent. He said, "I've learned about John Brown's raid, geography and general civil war knowledge. When asked about this job Christie Seidel said, "I love everything about the job and has learned a lot about John Brown." Anthony Chapouris has done historical research, office work and participated in the Jr. NYLC program. He said, "I like working with the Jr. NYLC program the best and my least favorite part is all the gnats."



National Park Service  
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The history of Harpers Ferry has few parallels in the American drama. It is more than one event, one date, or one individual. It is multi-layered, involving a diverse number of people and events, decisions and actions that influenced the course of our nation's history. Visit Harpers Ferry and step into history.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park  
P.O. Box 65  
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Visitor Center  
304-535-6029

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop  
304-525-6881

Harpers Ferry NHP Home Page  
[www.nps.gov/hafe/](http://www.nps.gov/hafe/)

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Education YCC: (L to R) Angel Routzahn, Nathan Diaz, Anthony Chapouris and Christie Seidel

### 150th Commemoration of John Brown's Raid

October 16-18 – Sesquicentennial Commemoration of John Brown's Raid  
Public events focusing on the raid. Music, drama, scholarship, living history, family & youth activities and ranger conducted programs. Activities throughout weekend. Location: Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

**Information: [www.johnbrownraid.org](http://www.johnbrownraid.org) or call 304-535-6029**