GEOFORCE MONTHLY

Changing lives since 2005

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: NEW JACKSON SCHOOL GRADUATE
ELEANOR COTE

This month we would like to congratulate GeoFORCE alumna Eleanor Cote on her most recent career achievement! Eleanor graduated from the Jackson School of Geosciences this spring with a Bachelor of Science in General Geosciences. Eleanor joined us from D’Hanis, Texas, for her first summer academy in 2014. Up until her 12th-grade academy in the summer of 2017, Eleanor had always imagined that she would attend Texas A&M University. It was not until her junior year, when she visited The University of Texas at Austin campus with GeoFORCE and saw the Jackson School in-person, that Eleanor realized that UT was the place for her. In fact, UT was the only school she applied to. She graduated this spring and still calls the Jackson School her home as she continues to hone her skills working in a geoscience lab.

During her time at UT, Eleanor was involved in several geoscience organizations, including the Undergraduate Geological Society, Geoscience Leadership Organization for Women, and GeoFORCE Longhorn. As a sophomore, Eleanor began working as an undergraduate researcher and continued through her senior year.

Since graduating, Eleanor has continued research at the university. After taking an undergraduate course on climate change her junior year, Eleanor discovered her love for the subject. She continues that research at the university in a lab using corals to reconstruct paleoclimate (see photo on the left). Though originally interested in volcanology, Eleanor’s newfound passion has grown into her new career plans. Eleanor plans to continue her education in this field when she pursues her master’s. She urges other students to keep open minds as they pursue their education.

"Nothing is set in stone," says Eleanor. "There are so many different subjects and areas to study. If you find you aren’t as interested in a topic as you thought would be, look for something else. There is something for everyone. Stay curious!"

GeoFORCE Texas is an outreach program through The University of Texas at Austin’s Jackson School of Geosciences that introduces high school students from underserved communities to STEM and geoscience careers through summer field experiences, corporate mentoring, and college guidance. In 2015, our program was honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring—the highest such honor from the United States government. More information can be found on our website at https://www.jsg.utexas.edu/geoforce/.

Photos: Eleanor Cote
NEW GEOFORCE ALUMNI GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP!

For M.S. or M.A. students in the Jackson School of Geosciences, this fellowship provides an annual sum towards master's program costs!

For College of Natural Sciences PhD students, this fellowship an annual stipend.

For graduate students in the Jackson School of Geosciences or the College of Natural Sciences full tuition costs are covered.

Deadline for all fellowship applications: March 15, 2023

Learn more at: https://www.jsg.utexas.edu/geoforce/grads/jsg-opportunities/

Or contact:

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ACCEPTING VOLUNTEER & STAFF APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER 2023 ACADEMIES

As we prepare for our 2023 summer academies, we are looking for new staff to help with GeoFORCE's exciting trips and educational programs. This is our second summer back to in-person trips after COVID-19. We have nine in-person academies this year, offering a number of important staff opportunities.

For summer 2023, staff will embark on week-long trips with our students to amazing geological locations in Texas, Utah, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, and Nevada. We have paid positions available for trail drivers, instructors, educational coaches, educational coaches-in-training, and counselors.

We also have many volunteer opportunities. These include positions for GeoFORCE alumni mentors and professional mentors from our sponsor companies.

All positions require the minimum qualification of a bachelor's degree or current enrollment in a 4-year college or university. Additional qualifications vary by position.

Applications for paid positions are open until January 3rd, 2023. Our application link for all paid and volunteer positions can be found on our website, as can more information on requirements and full position descriptions.