

## Maestro/a de Casa

### General requirements

We seek interns and volunteers who are physically, mentally and emotionally fit and do not back down from a challenge. Working in the Amazon is not for the faint of heart. The weather is hot and humid, there are often many bugs and mosquitoes. River travel is not the most comfortable form of transportation, though it is the most common. You are expected to work hard, with a high level of autonomy and initiative. When staying in indigenous communities, there is no running water or flushing toilets. While you may not permanently live in a community, you might be there for lengths of time depending on your role. Flexibility and patience are also extremely important. Things happen at their own pace here in the Amazon, and patience is definitely a virtue.

That being said, the rewards of persevering and facing these challenges yield innumerable opportunities for growth and learning.

### Overall Role

A volunteer position that provides the opportunity to live and work with the Alianza Arkana team, to gain an understanding of the organization and of permaculture in the Amazon.

### Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Assure that the Alianza Arkana house, office space and permaculture gardens are maintained.
- Support volunteers and interns and be the go-to person for questions, help and advice (with the Volunteer co-ordinator).
- Manage house finances.
- Organise house and garden Mingas once a month (communal work days).

- Organise communal dinner to welcome/ say goodbye to volunteers and interns.

## Qualifications and Skills

- Practical, compassionate, organised.
- Experience of communal live/work spaces.
- Carpentry, gardening, permaculture and other practically-based experience is welcomed.
- Any other skills that can assist with Alianza Arkana are a plus.

## As a volunteer you will

- Gain valuable experience of how a grassroots, non-hierarchical NGO in the Amazon functions
- Learn about growing and maintaining local plants in our permaculture demonstration site at the house and office location (Casa Arkana)
- Have the chance to get involved with projects

## Details

Please read all of the text on the 'Get Involved' page of our website for specific details about this role.

## How to Apply

Please send the following information to [info@alianzaarkana.org](mailto:info@alianzaarkana.org) with 'Get Involved' in the subject heading.

- Your curriculum vitae or resumé.
- A cover letter explaining in more detail your interest in partnering with Alianza Arkana.
- A completed Volunteer and Internship Questionnaire (see below).

## Volunteer and Internship Questionnaire

Please respond to the questions below, keeping each of your responses within the limit of 150 words.

- Name:
- Age:
- Position you are applying for:
- When you would like to begin and for how long?
- What is your level of Spanish fluency?
- Describe what skills you possess that would be beneficial to our work.
- What experiences do you have working with diversity, and what have you learned based on these experiences?
- What experience do you have working with indigenous peoples, if any?
- What do you think the role of an NGO/Non-profit should be in working with indigenous peoples?
- How do you think creativity and the arts can be useful in work with indigenous peoples?
- What do you enjoy doing outside of work?
- Describe a peak experience when you thought life couldn't possibly get any better.
- How do you deal with conflict and discomfort?
- What would you like to learn from your time here?
- What do you need to unlearn?

**We are happy you are interested in coming to the Peruvian Amazon  
to collaborate with Alianza Arkana!**