

# MOREHEAD PLANETARIUM AND SCIENCE CENTER Science Communication Ambassadors Program

## **UNC Graduate Student Cohort begins September 23!**

Science Communication Ambassadors are researchers, graduate students and other science-based professionals who have been certified by Morehead Planetarium and Science Center as current science representatives and excellent communicators. Ambassadors join Morehead Planetarium and Science Center in inspiring the public's lifelong interest in science, math and technology. This Fall 2013 cohort is designed especially for UNC graduate students!

#### >> BECOMING AN AMBASSADOR

- Science, math and technology graduate students participate in Morehead Planetarium and Science Center's Science Communication Short Course, a series of three professional development workshops focused on building skills to effectively engage public audiences. Scientists refine key messages related to their areas of expertise and practice simple techniques for talking science with non-scientists.
- Each Ambassador develops a hands-on educational activity directly related to their area
  of work. Ample concept development and support is provided by Morehead
  Planetarium and Science Center staff. Activities can be used for Morehead Planetarium
  and Science Center programs as well as classroom visits, fairs and festivals and other
  outreach venues.
- Ambassadors participate in a minimum of two public programs per year at Morehead Planetarium and Science Center. Opportunities include 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Science on the Sundial events, family science weekends, afterschool and camp guest presenter, UNC Science Expo, Teen Science Café speaker and more.

### >> AMBASSADOR BENEFITS

- Official Morehead Science Communication Ambassadors certificate, for reference in a C.V., commending commitment to science communication and public engagement.
- Opportunities to network with other UNC graduate students committed to public engagement, including the graduate students spearheading the Scientists with Stories program that won second place in the National Science Foundation's Innovation in Graduate Education Challenge.

- Consultation and assistance in designing and writing broader impact plans to fulfill grant and other outreach requirements.
- Letters of acknowledgement and professional documentation, suitable for sharing with supervisors and for grant reporting.
- Ambassadors are provided Morehead memberships, which provide free entry to planetarium shows and other member benefits.

#### >> THE DETAILS

- The UNC graduate student cohort begins in September. Short course sessions will be held on campus on Mondays from 4pm-7pm on the following dates: September 23, October 14 and November 4.
- Individual consultations to develop your hands-on activity will be provided, as will opportunities to practice before implementing your first public program.
- To successfully complete the Ambassadors program, you must commit to participate in a minimum of two Morehead public programs before the end of the 2013-2014 academic year. One must be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Science on the Sundial program, held on the second Friday of each month from 6pm-9pm.
- A \$15 non-refundable fee is required to register.

This program is led by Jonathan Frederick and Denise Young of Morehead Planetarium and Science Center. Combined they have over 28 years of science communication experience.

Registration is open **through September 13**. To register, please use this link: <a href="http://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event\_page.aspx?ek=0003-0011-">http://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event\_page.aspx?ek=0003-0011-</a>
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