



| GLYNWOOD

Center for Regional Food and Farming

# Director of Agriculture

Position Description



# **GLYNWOOD'S MISSION IS TO ENSURE THE HUDSON VALLEY IS A REGION DEFINED BY FOOD, WHERE FARMING THRIVES.**

## **MISSION - VISION - VALUES**

It is clearer than ever before: we need to invest in robust regional food systems in order to foster resilience and health in a changing world. At The Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming (Glynwood), we envision a system that fosters vibrant local economies, while promoting human health, biodiversity, social justice, and sustainable land stewardship. Glynwood is a regional agricultural non-profit that serves NY's Hudson Valley, extending from NYC to Albany. The Hudson Valley holds unique potential to model a healthy regional food system thanks to market proximity, regional assets, a legacy of environmental conservation and farming, and an urgently renewed interest in local food, especially in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Our mission is to ensure that the Hudson Valley is a region defined by food where farming thrives. While our work advances local food production here in our region, we educate a national audience about efforts to regionalize food and agriculture and are inspired by aligned work beyond the Hudson Valley's borders. By training a generation of farm and food system professionals that care deeply about the environment and is set up for success, by inspiring and empowering changemakers in our community and beyond who can catalyze a healthy food system, and by creating a legion of coalitions that pave the way for this region to be recognized as one where conscious food production thrives, Glynwood fosters a regional food system that inspires other locales to follow suit.





## HISTORY



Glynwood is located on 225 acres of land in Putnam County, NY on ancestral homelands of the Munsee Lenape and Wappinger Nations, and we acknowledge the origins of this stolen land dating back to the colonial period. The recent history of this property dates to 1929 when the financier George Perkins, his wife Linn, and his mother Evelyn Ball Perkins, purchased land from the Jordan family and named it Glynwood Farm (a combination of their three names). They brought with them a commitment to conservation, inspired by Mr. Perkins' father—George Walbridge Perkins—who in the late 19th Century led the way to the creation of the Palisades Interstate Parkway Commission, and served as its first President. Upon Mrs. Perkins' death in 1993, her family preserved the property and in 1997 the nonprofit officially opened its doors as a center dedicated to conservation and community stewardship. With help from Open Space Institute and its Open Space Conservancy and funding from the Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Fund, 1,700 acres of forested uplands became part of Fahnestock State Park. At the same time, the Perkins family created an endowment to help maintain our facilities, which include a convening center, administrative offices and accommodations for retreats and events, all situated on a teaching farm for apprentices in-residence. Over the years, though our mission has evolved the organization continues to draw inspiration from the legacy of our founders as we seek to bolster the region's health, prosperity and cultural vibrancy.

**The Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.**





## DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE: JOB SUMMARY

Reporting to the President, and working closely with Farm Managers and the Director of Farmer Training, the Director of Agriculture ensures that Glynwood's farm and farmer training efforts reflect best practices in agriculture and strengthens Glynwood's impact on national efforts to regionalize food production that is underpinned by responsible stewardship of agricultural lands.

The position analyzes and contributes to Glynwood's farm strategy and its execution, serves as Glynwood's agricultural expert and spokesperson to a wide variety of internal and external audiences, and identifies on-site and collaborative research opportunities. The Director of Agriculture will create and foster strong relationships in the national sustainable agricultural sector and attract recognition of Glynwood's regional efforts. The Director of Agriculture will build on the organization's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion by seeking partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders and provide an equity lens to the agricultural work we undertake.

This position serves as a member of the senior leadership team, which advises the President on strategic decision making as well as external and internal operations. As a nonprofit that derives the majority of its funding from charitable contributions, the Director of Agriculture will play a central role in identifying, cultivating and communicating with a range of supporters.







## RESPONSIBILITIES

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Serve as the agricultural voice for Glynwood's overall leadership and strategy.
- Serve as a spokesperson and thought leader for Glynwood's agricultural practices and philosophy. This will include speaking engagements, conference representation and written communications for a variety of platforms and venues.
- Serve as an ambassador for Glynwood's farm operation, hosting occasional visitors and interpreting the on-site practices.
- Provide collaboration and support fundraising for Glynwood's farm efforts, including identifying funding opportunities, grant writing, reporting, donor cultivation, and networking.
- Establish and maintain sound working relationships and cooperative arrangements with aligned agricultural partners, peers, grantors, agencies, participants, community groups and organizations.
- Collaborate with the Senior Director of Regional Food Programs to ensure alignment in program areas.
- Elevate the reputation of Glynwood through key networks and relationships.
- Collaborate with farm management to implement climate-resilient farming in accordance with Glynwood's current farm plan.
- Collaborate with farmer training efforts to identify, incorporate and/or provide climate-resilient farming principles and practices into curriculum for apprentices, regional workshops and farm business incubator participants.
- Work with farm team to carry out on-site research as required.



## MINIMUM EDUCATION REQUIRED

Graduate level degree or equivalent professional experience in an agricultural or related discipline

## MINIMUM YEARS AND TYPE OF EXPERIENCE

At least 8-10 years progressive leadership experience or related activities in the food and farming sector

## KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED

- Proven expertise in the practice of agriculture, with particular knowledge of climate resilient practices
- Experienced educator in the topic of climate resilient farming
- In-depth network of colleagues in the national sustainable farming/agricultural sector
- The successful candidate will be a collaborator and active listener, able to develop positive relationships, build consensus and engage people, institutions, and constituencies toward common goals.
- Excellent communication, public speaking skills and media experience
- Proven ability to lead, motivate and influence staff, partners and stakeholders
- Ability to self motivate and manage multiple complex projects simultaneously

**COMPENSATION:** \$80,000 - \$135,000  
base salary (commensurate with experience)

**LOCATION:** Cold Spring, NY

**TO APPLY:** Send cover letter and CV  
to [jobs@glynwood.org](mailto:jobs@glynwood.org), with "Director of  
Agriculture" in the subject line.

