Yale University President’s Public Service Fellowship
Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2019

- **Organization**: Canal Dock Boathouse, Inc. (“Canal Dock”)

- **Full street address of organization**:
  
  Street address: 475 Long Wharf Drive, New Haven, CT 06511
  Mailing address: PO Box 124, New Haven, CT 06510

- **Website**: www.canaldock.org

- **Name and title of person who will be the Fellow’s direct supervisor** *(the supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis)*:

  Nicole Moody, Assistant Coach & Assistant Program Manager

- **Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor**:

  508-333-7474; nicole@canaldock.org

- **Placement dates** *(8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 28 and Friday, August 9, 2019)*:

  May 28 to August 9, 2018

- **Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe**:

  Canal Dock runs boating programs for kids all year, but when “camps” are in session over several weeks (TBD) in June, July and August, M-F 8AM to 5PM, is when additional program support becomes essential. In addition, the last week of May through June 1 is dragon boat regatta week, an important annual event. All other weeks have the potential to provide some flexibility.

- **Proposed work schedule**:

  During camp weeks, hours are M-F, 8am to 5pm, with a 1-hour break (including a shortened session on Fridays). During non-camp weeks, the schedule could vary from
6:30 to 10:30 AM and/or 2:30 to 7:30 PM on weekdays, with occasional Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7 to 10 AM.

Placement Description

- **Organization description**

  “Opening New Haven’s Waterfront to Adventure, Discovery & Growth” – One of Canal Dock’s key initiatives is offering free boating programs to New Haven public school students. Students participate both during the academic year and via scholarships in Canal Dock rowing camps. Alongside the public school program is a goal of offering affordable access to adult members of the New Haven community, which includes small group instruction, in addition to “community day” activities. Other components are fee-based youth summer camps and programs, as well as membership-based adult boating club programs, which include paddling and rowing lessons and supervision.

- **Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (50 words or less).**

  Employees will coach, manage and supervise boating programs that include kids through adults, during camps, group outings, and “intro to rowing” lessons. Canal Dock uses a dragon boat, kayaks and paddle-boards, in addition to rowing shells, to introduce participants to community boating. Employees will regularly participate with boaters.

- **Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (Suggested length: one to two pages.)**

  A Yale Presidential Fellow will have a wide range of duties and expectations working for Canal Dock, and participation with boaters is a regular occurrence during group outings, rowing lessons, summer camps, the dragon boat regatta, and school programs.

  During regular adult group outings, employees may steer the dragon boat, drive the safety launch alongside the outing, or teach rowing lessons by rowing in a single shell alongside a student. Canal Dock group outings are referred to as “Paddling, Rowing,
and Fitness” (PR&F), which are held mornings, afternoons, and evenings daily, several days per week.

Safety and compliance are prioritized. Employees will work behind the scenes to ensure that waivers and forms are completed before participants take part in any activity, that participants wear lifejackets properly, and that the weather conditions provide for safe activity. Coaches should be strong swimmers, experienced in rowing or sculling, and have some experience in general boating programs. Coaches must arrive with, or quickly develop the ability to make decisions regarding water safety and supervision of kids and adults with any experience level.

From late May through most of June, coaches oversee and participate with “Metro Boating,” a public school program of students and teachers from Metropolitan Business Academy. One to two times per week the students take part in mixed, recreational boating opportunities. While one coach is steering and leading a dragon boat session, another coach can be teaching others how to kayak or row. During summer camps, coaches again oversee the collection of forms and waivers, prior to supervising outings and teaching kids how to row. Depending on the schedule, one coach could work with campers at the same time another coach teaches adult paddling or rowing lessons.

Canal Dock is part of New Haven’s growing waterfront, creating an exciting opportunity to introduce participants to the benefits of community boating. Current programs are entirely recreational, where participants (and coaches) enjoy kayaking, single sculling, exploring and sharing the river with other boaters, gaining fitness, and caring for the environment, our equipment and other members.

• **List specific skills/experience required for the project:**

  General boating experience required (kayaking, paddling and/or sailing); comfort in being on the water; swimming competence required; rowing experienced preferred; First Aid/CPR/AED certification required (can be acquired after start of employment); CT Safe Boating Certification (can be acquired after start of employment); background check (necessary to work with youth participants); teaching skills; the ability to be patient with beginner participants; motivational skills.

• **Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours).** If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):
Car not required, all employment takes place at the Canal Dock Boathouse, which is biking or walking distance from downtown New Haven. Saturday mornings are somewhat regular, and other weekend hours are possible, but will be based on when adult members sign up for lessons. The Dragon Boat Regatta, with activities covering five (5) days from May 28 through June 1, will have mixed hours, and a long day on Saturday, June 1.

- Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

Canal Dock has not previously employed a Yale PPSF Fellow, however, Yale Law School students from Community & Economic Development (CED), under the supervision of Anika Singh Lemar, have been working for Canal Dock for approximately 4-5 years, doing everything from drafting a 501(c)(3) application to managing high-level negotiations with potential partners, like the University of New Haven. In addition, twice in the past Yale SOM students have worked as consultants, and have performed semester-long operational studies on behalf of Canal Dock.