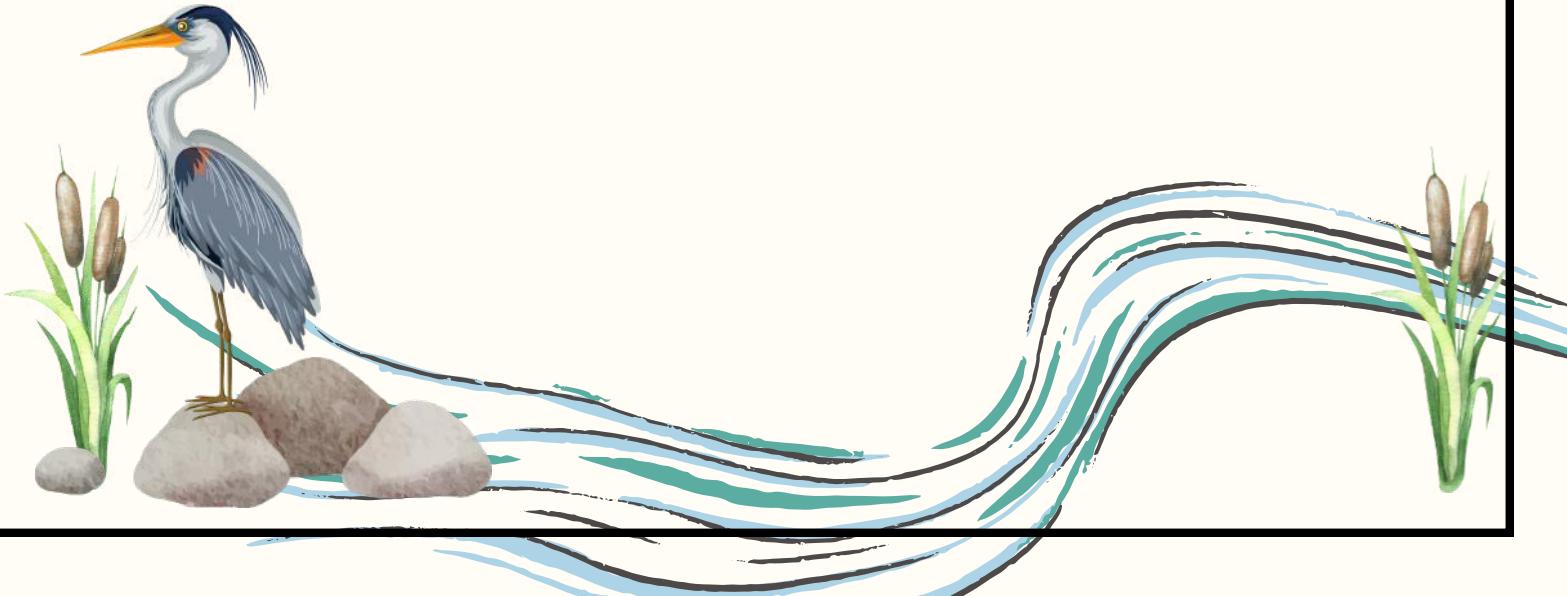




# Summer Internship Closing Ceremony 2025

PROGRAM AND STORIES FROM OUR 2025

## Summer Interns





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C E R E M O N Y   D E T A I L S

S U M M E R   G R A D U A T E S

Avery Marz

Lucia Jacomo

Atharv Kasisomayajula

Archer Wu

Anoushka Bhasin

SUMMER INTERNSHIP:

May - August

Florista Farm & Display Garden

CEREMONY GUEST OF HONOR

Mayor Veeda Williams, Arcola TX

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F L O R I S T A   F L O W E R   F A R M

Florista is an urban flower farm in Pearland, Texas, dedicated to growing high-quality, seasonal specialty cut flowers. Founded by Indu Bheri in 2019, Florista brings the charm of nostalgic, “forgotten” blooms to the local community with a focus on sustainability and collaboration with fellow growers. Inspired by childhood memories of daily flower deliveries in South India, Indu’s mission is to share that same joy and beauty through locally grown flowers that spark love, peace, and cherished memories.

F L O R I S T A   S U M M E R   I N T E R N S H I P

Our urban flower farm offers six paid summer internships for rising 7th graders through high school juniors, providing hands-on experience in every aspect of flower farming—from planting and irrigating to harvesting, caring for blooms, and preparing them for market. Interns gain practical agricultural skills, learn the importance of sustainable farming, and explore the creativity and teamwork that help a flower farm thrive. Throughout the program, they are immersed in the full cycle of flower farming, including essential post-harvest processes such as cleaning and preparing flowers for sale or distribution, as well as maintaining a healthy farm through weeding and field care. For those with creative talents, additional opportunities include supporting the farm’s promotional efforts by contributing to marketing and branding projects using Canva or graphic design skills.

## A V E R Y ' S   S U M M E R   A T   F L O R I S T A



Avery has been with Florista for three years, making her our most experienced intern and a true anchor for the group. Though the youngest in age, she brings an incredible amount of energy, enthusiasm, and heart to everything she does. From seed starting to transplanting and harvesting, Avery works with focus and dedication, setting a great example for others.

Beyond the field, she kept our team's spirits high often singing and entertaining us during rides to and from the farm. She also stepped up during our fundraiser, going door to door and helping raise awareness and support for Florista's mission. Her presence was both joyful and productive, making her an invaluable part of the Florista family.

## L U C I A ' S   S U M M E R   A T   F L O R I S T A

Lucia is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year returning intern who brought so much joy and energy to Florista this summer. She took on a wide variety of farm tasks with enthusiasm—from filling trays with seeds, planting Lily bulbs, and transplanting Zinnias and Marigolds, to carefully weeding and clearing beds to make room for new growth. She even helped with bigger projects, like creating pathways and preparing the display garden with new plantings. Her hands-on efforts also extended to harvesting flowers, and caring for plants by watering, pinching, and rooting cuttings.



Beyond the farm work, Lucia showed a generous spirit by participating in the Florista fundraiser to support flood relief efforts in Central Texas. She walked through the neighborhood, helping raise funds with the plant sale, showing her commitment to both the farm and the community.

## A T H A R V ' S   S U M M E R   A T   F L O R I S T A



Atharv was a steady hand at Florista this summer. He worked across many areas of the farm, from planting seedlings and bulbs to transplanting Marigold plugs, Cinnamon basil, and lilies. He took on detailed tasks like setting up crates, labeling, watering, and dividing and repotting Jasmine plants. Atharv also contributed to disaster relief efforts by seeding and preparing plugs with care. His work extended to harvesting Sunflowers and Zinnias, learning tools like the Earthway seeder, and supporting new projects with soil prep. His work extended to harvesting Sunflowers and Zinnias, learning tools like the Earthway seeder, and supporting new projects with soil prep. Whether it was weeding, transplanting, or harvesting, Atharv showed patience and persistence in every task he picked up.

## A R C H E R ' S   S U M M E R   A T   F L O R I S T A

Archer is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year returning intern who brought steady dedication and quiet strength to his time at Florista. Always prepared with his boots, gloves, and long sleeves, he set a wonderful example of consistency and readiness for the work ahead. Whether it was transplanting, weeding, or harvesting, Archer approached each task thoughtfully and with care. He observed closely, learned quickly, and never hesitated to put in the effort needed.

One of the highlights of Archer's internship was his love for the little creatures around the farm — especially befriending a frog he named Bob, a reminder of the joy and connection nature brings. Beyond the daily farm work, Archer played a huge role in Florista Foundation's fundraiser with an impressive number of donations for flood relief efforts in Central Texas. His initiative and dedication turned into a real success for the cause. From start to finish, Archer showed responsibility, patience, and a willingness to dive into every project. His presence made the team stronger, and he leaves with a track record of hard work and great growth.



## A N O U S H K A ' S   S U M M E R   A T   F L O R I S T A



Anoushka brought wonderful energy and dedication to her time at Florista this summer. She worked on so many hands-on tasks that helped our farm thrive — from carefully de-weeding and preparing beds to planting Cinnamon Basil, Marigolds, Zinnias, Tuberose, and even fragrant Jasmine. She learned to use tools like the Earthway seeder, stir up hoe and the aquatic rake, showing curiosity and willingness to try new things.

Beyond planting and weeding, Anoushka also helped with seeding trays, irrigating the flower beds, netting the beds, and harvesting beautiful blooms. Whether she was filling soil trays with care or jogging laps to make up, she always brought a cheerful attitude and a readiness to jump in wherever needed. She pitched in with a smile at Florista's summer fundraiser to support families impacted by the Central Texas floods, showing her caring spirit extended beyond the farm.

Her efforts not only kept the farm growing strong but also added a bright spirit to our team. We are so proud of all the work Anoushka accomplished and the joy she shared with us this summer.

# SUMMER INTERNSHIP BLOG POSTS



## From Store-Bought to Farm-Fresh: My Flower Story

Lucia Jacomo- I go to the neighborhood supermarket extremely often with my parents. The first thing I see is the wall filled with flower arrangements, varieties....



## A Day in the Life at Florista: From Pulling Weeds to Harvesting Blossoms

Atharv Kasisomayajula- Working at Florista is a really rewarding experience. It's hard work, but in the end it is definitely worth it. Now you're...



## Role of Pollinators in Flower Health

Anoushka Bhasin- Rising 9th Grader As I look over a garden or wildflower field in full bloom, I can't help but to smile. The soft...



## MULCH

Archer Vu- A good garden includes many factors and equipment to keep it running healthy and smoothly. But one thing I want to talk about

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
READ THE BLOG POSTS.





## FLORISTA FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Florista Foundation was born from our love of flowers—and our belief that gardens can build stronger communities. As our flower farm grew, so did our desire to give back. We saw how much joy a plant could bring, how curious young people were about growing things, and how nature could bring people together.

Helping others during their most challenging times gives me a sense of purpose, which inspired me to start a nonprofit branch of Florista. As President of the Florista Foundation, I led a fundraising effort. Joined by our summer interns together we raised \$2,586 for Texas Flood Relief. We walked neighborhoods, sold plants, and shared our mission, raising funds to help families rebuild after devastating losses.

This donation is more than financial support, it's a message of hope. It reflects the overarching purpose of Florista Foundation: to nurture growth, inspire young minds, and strengthen communities through the power of gardening and giving.

— Varun Bheri, President, Florista Foundation

