

The Andrew W. Mellon Undergraduate Curatorial Fellowship Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to apply?

- 1) Undergraduates in their freshman and sophomore year.
- 2) Students enrolled full-time at a university, college or community college.
- 3) Individuals from historically underrepresented groups in American museum staff.
- 4) U.S. citizens or permanent residents

What other qualifications are preferred?

- 1) Students must demonstrate an interest in art, art history or the museum field.
- 2) Students must be committed to spending at least two consecutive summers in paid internship positions in a museum environment.
- 3) Students should be open to the idea of pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in the arts or museum field.

Can I apply with any major?

Yes. However, The Andrew W. Mellon Undergraduate Curatorial Fellowship Program strongly favors students majoring in Art History, but closely related fields of study will be considered.

Should I attend a college close to one of the partner museums?

Yes, this is preferred, because if you are selected as a fellow following a Summer Academy, you will be paired with a mentor at your host museum who you will work with on projects during the academic year.

Do I have to apply to the Summer Academy and to the Fellowship program separately?

No. The application for the Summer Academy will be considered as your application for a fellowship. However, only individuals who are selected and participate in the Summer Academies will be considered for a fellowship.

When will students be notified if they have been selected to participate in a Summer Academy?

Students will be notified in May, one month prior to the June Summer Academy.

How many students will be selected for each Summer Academy?

15 students will be selected for each Summer Academy at each museum.

What is the Summer Academy?

The Summer Academy is a one-week intensive program consisting of workshops, tours, field trips and networking events with museum professionals. They will be offered in summer 2014 and summer 2015

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at each partnering museum. Summer Academies are designed to provide a rich experience in the museum environment and expose participants to career options related to art and art history.

Is there financial support to participate in the Summer Academy?

Yes. Students selected to participate in the Summer Academy at each partner museum will receive a daily per diem. If students do not live in the location of the Summer Academy host museum, a modest travel and housing stipend may be provided.

How are fellows selected?

Students must first apply to a Summer Academy held at one of the partnering museums. After completing the Summer Academy, prospective candidates will be invited for in-person interviews. Only two students will be selected as fellows following each Summer Academy.

Is there financial support to participate in the fellowship program?

Yes. Once selected as a fellow, students will receive \$4,000 during the academic school year to alleviate financial pressures which might otherwise require a student to pursue part-time work or work study arrangements. In addition, fellows will receive \$6,000 during summer internships. A housing and travel stipend will also be provided to fellows during the summer internships.

How much time is involved?

Summer Academy participants will spend one week at their host museum. Students selected from the Summer Academies to become Mellon Undergraduate Curatorial Fellows can expect to spend two consecutive summers at their host museum. The duration and weekly hours of the summer internships are to be determined by each institution but would average 35 hours per week for up to 10 weeks. During the school year, fellows will meet with their mentors and with a local program coordinator on a regular basis. Fellows will also participate in a yearly national convening at one of the partner museums rotating annually. Fellows will engage their counterparts across the country in an online community platform.

If I applied to a 2014 Summer Academy and was not selected to participate in it or was not selected to be a fellow, can I re-apply to a 2015 Summer Academy?

Yes, you may re-apply to the program as long as you still meet the eligibility requirements.