



SUMMER 2019 CURATORIAL INTERNSHIP INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY- PAID

Dumbarton House, a Federal period historic house Museum in Georgetown, seeks a Curatorial Intern in the summer of 2019 to develop an exhibition for display in early 2020. Dumbarton House, headquarters of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America, offers visitors an opportunity to enhance their appreciation of early American history. We strive to inform and educate the public, about life in Washington during the early Republic, material culture, and Federal Period decorative arts and architecture.

Dumbarton House's collection of furniture, paintings, textiles, silver, and ceramics, consists primarily, but not exclusively, of objects dating from the Federal period of U.S. history (approximately 1790-1830). The Dumbarton House manuscript and document collection includes one of the original known copies of the Articles of Confederation, as well as papers, journals, account books, ledgers and letters documenting nearly 300 years of Nourse family life. In addition to our permanent collection, we also offer a series of temporary exhibits that feature topics relevant to additional interpretation of the museum. The curatorial intern works directly with and reports to the Deputy Director & Curator.

The Curatorial Intern will focus on research and writing, as well as object selection, of an upcoming exhibit to open in February 2020. Two exhibits are currently scheduled to open at this time, the first dealing with the *Form and Function* of ceramic and glass objects of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The second exhibit has a working title of *What's Your Poison: Beverages in Early America*. Working with the Deputy Director & Curator, the Curatorial Intern will work within various logistical constraints, including budget, space limitation, lighting, mounts, etc. While the end product will not be available to the public for another 6 months, the intern has the opportunity to make a significant impact on the direction and look of the exhibit.

A \$ 1,000 stipend will be awarded and/or academic credit may be arranged in cooperation with a sponsoring college or university.

Qualifications Needed:

- Excellent, research, written, and oral communication skills;
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail;
- Graduate- or post-graduate degree in art, American history, exhibition design, museum studies, material culture studies, or related field. Applicants with a recent degree, working toward a degree, and/or comparable experience;
- Familiarity with proper decorative arts terminology and a particular interest in the Federal period a plus;
- The ability to work both independently and as part of a team;
- Willingness to assist with all aspects of working in a small, historic house museum;
- Experience with MS Office Suite, general knowledge of databases and office equipment;
- Experience with Past Perfect 5 a plus, but not required;
- Strength, dexterity, and mobility to perform all duties.

Schedule

- Mid-May to mid-August, depending on schedules;
- 180 hours (approx. 12-18 hours per week)

To Apply:

- Send cover letter outlining which exhibit you would be of preference to work on, resume or CV, and one (1) page object label to: **education@dumbartonhouse.org**; subject: **Curatorial Intern**;
- Application deadline is April 7, 2019, position will remain open until filled.
- The incumbent is not eligible for museum benefits. Dumbarton House is an Equal Opportunity Employer. A background check is required for employment.
- Qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview. Please do not contact Dumbarton House to inquire about the status of your application.