

ASHEVILLE ART MUSEUM

2 South Pack Square | 828.253.3227 | ashevilleart.org
PO Box 1717 | Asheville, NC 28802-1717

Curatorial Fellow

Updated 1/28/2020

Organization

The Asheville Art Museum, established by artists in 1948, engages, enlightens, and inspires individuals through exhibitions and programs developed for all ages that interpret its Collection of American art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Anchoring the center of lively downtown Asheville in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Museum serves residents of the Southeast and Western North Carolina, as well as visitors from around the country and the world. Through a vibrant array of educational programs, the Museum serves diverse audiences of all ages from pre-K to seniors, of all ethnicities and economic levels.

Primary Purpose

To aid curatorial staff in accomplishing critical tasks associated with collections management, research, and exhibition of the Museum's Black Mountain College Collection. From these experiences, the fellow will enhance their knowledge of the history of Black Mountain College (BMC) and the artists associated with it, curatorial practice, educational theory and practice, art handling/exhibition development, object research, and arts management.

Essential Functions

- Work with curatorial staff to perform all aspects of collections management, registration, and curatorial work relating to objects in the Museum's BMC Collection, including unpacking, identifying, inventorying, photographing, researching, and cataloguing objects for files and EmbARK, the Museum's collections management database.
- Research BMC objects from the Collection and write labels for gallery rotations and/or upcoming exhibitions.
- Work with curatorial staff to bring the BMC Collection online through Web Kiosk—the publicly accessible interface of EmbARK—including preparing/uploading images and explanations of artistic media/processes; researching, developing, and uploading biographical materials; assigning keywords/search terms to BMC object records; and researching/adding links to other websites for visitors to further explore BMC artists and/or other related materials.
- Work with education, curatorial, and communications staff to build original short-form audiovisual resources relevant to the BMC Collection for the Museum's website, social-media platforms, and/or in-gallery technology.
- Develop a research project related to the Museum's BMC Collection that will become content for the forthcoming Digital Black Mountain College Collection and Interconnective Timeline on the Museum's website.
- Present one public program (e.g. Art Break gallery talk, Up for Discussion presentation, etc.) to share work performed during fellowship with Museum Members

and visitors

- Work with Curatorial staff to research and prepare justifications for BMC objects being considered for acquisition by the collections committee and/or the Collectors' Circle, if needed.

Eligibility/Qualifications

Candidates must be current graduate students or recent post-graduates (i.e. no more than 12 months since graduation) in art history, American art history, American history, craft history, interdisciplinary studies, material culture, or a related field. Candidates must have general art-historical knowledge, preferably in American art or material culture; strong research skills; and be organized, proactive, and self-motivated. Excellent writing and computer skills are desired, particularly with digital media, spreadsheets, and databases. Experience with website content-management systems, audiovisual equipment/editing, and/or BMC research is a plus. Candidates must be able to receive and report taxable income for the duration of the fellowship.

Schedule

TBD with Curatorial staff, approximately 30–40 hours/week during the fall 2020 (September–December) OR spring 2021 semester (January–May), not to exceed 480 hours

Stipend

\$14/hour, not to exceed \$6720

To Apply

No later than April 1, 2020, candidates should submit all required application material for an internship at the Asheville Art Museum (more information at <https://www.ashevilleart.org/about/careers/intern/>) as well as include the following additional information in their letter of interest:

- Describe how your academic/research interests align with the Museum's mission and/or the legacy of BMC
- Outline how the curatorial fellowship will help you further your career goals
- Specify which semester (fall 2020 OR spring 2021) you propose to complete the fellowship