

SUMMER 2021 INTERNSHIPS AT THE BIGGS MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

The Departments of Art History and Art Conservation invite applications from eligible University of Delaware graduate and undergraduate students for funded summer 2021 internships at the [Biggs Museum of American Art](#) in Dover, Delaware. With the generous support of the Choptank Foundation, interns will have opportunities to expand their education beyond the classroom and develop professional skills. Established in 1993, the Biggs Museum houses an outstanding collection of American fine and decorative arts, with particular strengths in paintings of the Delmarva Peninsula, early American furniture, and regional silver. [Recent exhibitions](#) of contemporary art have included a collaboration with the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware; *Stephen Althouse: Relics*; and a juried exhibition of the Delaware Watercolor Society.

Up to three internships may be awarded for summer 2021 in the following areas:

- Curatorial: The curatorial intern will assist with planning for the first critical exhibition of the art of Tom Wilson, a Georgetown painter who developed a body of photorealistic studies of southern Delaware before succumbing to complications from the AIDS virus in the 1990s. The intern will research Wilson's work within histories of photorealism and queer art, and contribute to writing for exhibition labels, signage, and publications. Additional opportunities include researching loans of historic Eastern Woodlands art and contemporary art from Lenape and Nanticoke artists for an upcoming exhibition and public art project; and research about enslaved craftspeople in the Mid-Atlantic and materials made regionally by free and enslaved craftspeople of African descent to help reinterpret portions of the permanent collection, a feature exhibition, and publications.
- Education: The education intern will contribute to public outreach programming and education in connection with the upcoming *Tom Wilson* exhibition, such as designing lectures, lesson plans, workshops, tours, and participatory didactics for adults, families, students, and teachers. The intern may also assist with designing and implementing summer camps for children and family activities such as Biggs Kids and Saturday tours.
- Collections Management: An intern with collections management and/or conservation training will help redesign and rehouse a large silver collection for museum display drawers. Additional opportunities may include assisting with periodic collection inventory and object reports on incoming accessions; cataloguing for online records; exhibition-related record keeping; designing and constructing storage carts for furniture; care and rehousing of objects such as upholstered furniture and works on paper; rehousing portions of the institutional archives; and planning for object storage and climate control to accommodate the museum's growing collections.

Eligibility and terms of internships: Applications are welcome from declared University of Delaware undergraduate majors in Art History and/or Art Conservation and MA, MS, or PhD students in either department. Internships are full-time summer opportunities: interns must complete 140 hours, four days/week, between June and August 2021. Interns agree to

submit a two-page report within one month of completing their internship as well as a blog post illustrated with photographs that may be shared on departmental and museum websites. Summer stipends for graduate students will be \$5500 and \$4500 for undergraduates. Stipends may be used to support lodging, transportation, food, and other daily expenses; they may not be used for personal research, travel, or purchase of equipment.

To apply: Application deadline is March 1, 2021. Submit the following materials by email to Professor Wendy Bellion (wbellion@udel.edu) in the Department of Art History. Combine all application materials into a single Word or PDF document, and submit materials using the following subject line: “[your last name] Biggs internship application.” Indicate the internship(s) to which you are applying (curatorial, education, collections management); if you wish to be considered for more than one internship, please indicate your order of preference on the application. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Applications will be evaluated by a faculty committee and decisions announced by April 1.

- Complete the attached application form.
- Include the name and contact information for a faculty reference who can support your application, and agree to the terms of the award with your signature.
- Submit a cover letter or statement (maximum length of 2-pages double spaced or 1-page single spaced) explaining how the internship will advance your educational, intellectual, and/or professional goals.
- A short c.v. (no more than 2 pages).

Questions may be addressed to Professor Wendy Bellion at wbellion@udel.edu.

APPLICATION
Biggs Museum of American Art internships, Summer 2021
Due March 1, 2021

Directions: Combine the following into a single document and email your attachment to Professor Wendy Bellion (wbellion@udel.edu):

- 1) The completed application form
- 2) A cover letter or statement (maximum length of 2-pages double spaced or 1-page single spaced) explaining how the internship will advance your educational, intellectual, and/or professional goals.
- 3) A short c.v. (no more than 2 pages).

NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT/DEGREE (please indicate anticipated degree date):

MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY:

CONTACT INFORMATION (address, telephone number, email):

NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF A PROFESSOR OR FACULTY ADVISOR IN YOUR MAJOR WHO CAN SUPPORT YOUR APPLICATION:

RANK YOUR PREFERENCE FOR CURATORIAL, EDUCATION, OR COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIPS (with 1 being highest, and 3 lowest):