



Smithsonian Institution Undergraduate Conservation Internships for Summer 2018

The Smithsonian Institution is pleased to announce conservation internship opportunities for the Summer 2018 10-week session June 4 – August 10.

This internship program will provide an introduction to museum conservation. This program is offered to students to increase participation of groups who are currently underrepresented in the museum field and visual arts organizations are especially encouraged to apply.

A conservator's work involves the preservation of collections, including documentation, treatment, and research. Conservators have academic backgrounds in the arts, sciences or social sciences and attain a professional graduate degree in conservation. For more information about the field see: [American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works \(AIC\): About Conservation](#).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Gain multi-disciplinary experiences in the conservation of objects, paintings, textiles, paper, time-based media, and/or other materials.
- Exposure to the most advanced technology in the field of museum conservation.
- Attend weekly intern seminars (10 total) curated by institutional experts on art, conservation, and diversity issues to ensure that interns receive educational experiences for museum conservation practices, industry standards, and educational requirements.
- Learning experiences through opportunities to co-work and through connecting with peers.

WHO SHOULD APPLY: Currently enrolled undergraduates or recent degree holders from HBCUs, colleges and universities, with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, with coursework in the sciences (chemistry, biology, physics, engineering, forensic science); or arts and humanities (studio arts, art history, history, anthropology); and skills such as photography/imaging; or various crafts that might be applicable/useful in a museum conservation setting, and an interest in the conservation of cultural heritage are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

INTERNSHIP LOCATIONS: Placements will be made in Conservation Departments at the: [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#), [National Portrait Gallery](#), [Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden](#), [Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute](#), [National Museum of American Indian](#), [National Museum of American History](#), [Freer-Sackler Galleries of Art](#), [National Museum of Natural History](#), and the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#). The 10-week internships will commence **June 4th and end August 10th**. They will be full-time (40 hrs/week) and carry a stipend (\$600 per week for 10 weeks). Travel allowance and housing arrangement support may be included.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Midnight (EST), March 15, 2018 for all materials including letters of reference.

Application Procedure: Applicants must register and submit an online application via the [Smithsonian Online Academic Appointment system \(SOLAA\)](#). After registering, sign onto the SOLAA system. At the top of the screen, select “Start your Application”; Select “Internship” and “Smithsonian Institution Undergraduate Conservation Program” from the drop-down program lists. Within the application you will identify which Smithsonian Unit(s) you are interested in joining for the conservation internship.

Application requirements via SOLAA

- An essay addressing the following (no more than three pages total):
 - A statement of your interest in an internship at the desired Smithsonian Conservation Unit and what you hope to gain from the experience. Please state how you found out about the internship.
 - Please discuss the impact that a funded internship would have on you and your education.
 - Provide a short biography describing your background, personal history, interests and major/minor (if declared).
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Undergraduate transcripts (unofficial)
- Names and email address of two professional references (1 must be academic)

CONTACT:

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