NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM 2021 INTERNSHIPS

Aeronautics: New Military Aviation Exhibits Content Support

Project Description:
The Intern will conduct research at the National Archives and Records Administration and other repositories in support of the three new permanent military-themed galleries at the National Air and Space Museum (World War I, World War II, and Modern Military Aviation). This research will include finding still imagery, motion picture, textual, cartographic, and other graphic representations of military aviation with a primary focus on the post-1945 era. About half of the internship will consist of the high-resolution reproduction for in-gallery digital use. Interns will be able to participate in exhibition design meetings and gain an inside perspective into the development of high-end permanent exhibitions with one-of-a-kind artifacts and displays.

Major or Academic Background:
- History
- Museum Studies

Aeronautics: Research Assistant for the Flight and the Arts Center

Project Description:
The Museum’s Flight and the Art Center art gallery is undergoing a major renovation in preparation for new art exhibitions. The intern will conduct content research to support upcoming exhibitions and companion publications related to Robert Rauschenberg and the Museum’s art collection. Research will involve photographic research and obtaining permissions for photographs and documents from outside institutions for artworks selected for display, publication, and gallery digital interactives. The intern will assist the art curator with all aspects of gallery development including programming concepts for community engagement. Support for this project will provide the intern with an in-depth knowledge of the artwork of Rauschenberg and companion primary sources; the NASM art collection through TMS and original documents; and the creation of art exhibits stemming from original arguments. This internship is 100% virtual.

Skills:
The intern should be versed in the scholarship of Robert Rauschenberg and American Art as it relates to the history of technology and flight. Skills include proficiency in: Photoshop; TMS; Excel; access to Drop Box; research, writing and organizational skills; and excellent communication and follow up skills via e-mail and phone.

Major or Academic Background:
- American Art History
- Graduate Student Only

Center for Earth and Planetary Studies: Runoff Production on Early Mars
Project Description:
The intern will map valley networks carved by running water during early history of Mars and investigate why these valleys preferentially formed in some locations rather than others. For example, surface characteristics such as slope, contributing area, roughness, and topographic contour curvature may have encouraged water to collect and flow downslope locally. The project involves mapping with ArcGIS software on Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Context Camera image mosaics, as well as collection of measurements from image and topographic datasets. In addition, the intern will participate in the annual Mars Day public program in the museum.

Major or Academic Background:
- Geology
- Physical Science

Center for Earth and Planetary Studies: Searching for Wind-formed features on Mars and Communicating Science to the Public

Project Description:
The intern will work with projects in the areas of both scientific research and public outreach. The intern will assist with a study of wind-formed ripples and megaripples on the surface of Mars using HiRISE imagery from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter spacecraft. The intern will document and gather data on ripple-to-megaripple transitions globally. The supervisor will provide guidance and assist the intern in understanding what features are to be searched for in the images, and how to document the results. Results may contribute to conference presentations or other professional publications. The intern will also assist with the preparation for and implementation of an annual family educational program related to Mars. The intern will gather, develop, and prepare materials, assist with running the program, and develop and present an educational activity with guidance from the supervisor. This internship will be a particularly valuable one as it provides both research and outreach experience, allowing the intern to be exposed to different career paths and gain knowledge in different fields.

Major or Academic Background:
- Geology

Communications: Department Support

Project Description:
Enhancing outreach to key audiences (such as education, caregivers, students/campers K-12, tourism and subject matter interest groups) particularly for digital programming. Supporting communications/marketing around post-COVID operations to make visitors aware of new operating procedures and drive visitation. Support media and filming requests including planning, logistics coordination and support on-site. Assisting with various communications writing, including press releases, blogs, etc.

Major or Academic Background:
- Communications
- Public Relations
Communications: Digital Experience

Project Description:
The intern project will focus on digital accessibility as part of the NASM website redesign and our ongoing efforts to serve audiences of all abilities. They will produce, edit, and review accessible content for release on NASM’s digital platforms. They will work with stakeholders to refine internal workflows and update NASM’s accessibility guidelines. They will also explore methods for monitoring and evaluating accessibility of digital content with audiences.

Major or Academic Background:
- Any
- Web Design
- Digital Accessibility/Information Design
- UX/UI Design
- Digital Curation
- Visual/Graphic Design
- Communications

Education: Development and Production of Videos (Science Starters)

Project Description:
Smithsonian Science Starters is a video series that showcases experts doing hands on science demonstrations that students can complete either at home or in a classroom. For this project the intern would be assisting their mentor in researching, developing and evaluating Smithsonian Science Starter demos. This would include researching visually interesting demonstrations, matching them to potential experts, and helping execute the filming and production of video segments. It would also involve evaluating existing videos and developing ways to expand their reach. Throughout this internship, collaboration with the Intern’s Mentor, SI Staff members and other interns will be a critical component in support of the intern’s own project, other intern’s projects and fostering a culture of teamwork at NASM.

Major or Academic Background:
- Video Production
- Education
- Mass Communications

Education: Development and Production Videos (STEM in 30)

Project Description:
The intern will be working closely with the Interactive Media and Production team to produce videos for the National Air and Space Museum’s interactive webcast, STEM in 30. The intern will work closely with
the production and education team to Co-Produce (with a NASM producer) an episode of STEM in 30. This will include topic selection, research, scripting, fact checking, logistics, directing, all aspects of cinematography (video, lighting, audio, etc.) editing and editorial review of pre-taped video. Interns will get an opportunity to produce content that is immediately published through different channels at the National Air and Space Museum. Throughout this internship, collaboration with the Intern’s Mentor, SI Staff members and other interns will be a critical component in support of the intern’s own project, other intern’s projects and fostering a culture of teamwork at NASM.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Cinema
- Mass Communication
- Media Studies
- Broadcasting

**Education: Development and Production of Videos (What's New Production)**

**Project Description:**
The intern will be working closely with the Interactive Media and Production team to produce videos for the National Air and Space Museum’s live web series What’s New in Aerospace. The intern will work closely with the production and education team to Co-Produce (with a NASM producer) episodes of What’s New in Aerospace. This will include topic selection, research, scripting, fact checking, logistics, directing, all aspects of live production (video, lighting, audio, etc.) Interns will get an opportunity to produce content that is immediately published through different live platforms at the National Air and Space Museum. Throughout this internship, collaboration with the Intern’s Mentor, SI Staff members and other interns will be a critical component in support of the intern’s own project, other intern’s projects and fostering a culture of teamwork at NASM.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Cinema
- Mass Communication
- Media Studies
- Broadcasting

**Education: Public Programs Intern**

**Project Description:**
Assist Family Day Coordinator and the Education Department with planning and developing programming and activities for family day type events. Also support the execution of logistics and organizing support, for virtual, and possibly on-site events (once the Museum is opened).

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Education
- Program Management
- Event Planning
- Communications
**Education: Public Programs Intern SOAR Together @ Air and Space**

**Project Description:**
Assist with planning, logistics, and execution of museum’s public programs targeting adult and young professional audiences. The intern position will assist with public programs and content associated with AirSpace, NASM’s young professional satellite brand that includes after hours programs, a podcast, and other digital content. Other projects include offering logistics and coordination support for the museum’s evening lectures and Afrofuturism symposium.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Education
- History
- Communications

**Education: Video Broadcast Systems Intern**

**Project Description:**
Selected intern will work with NASM Education AV Specialist to help assess, design, notate, move, install and test two repurposed video broadcast systems.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Radio and Television Broadcast Technician (see Bowie State University)
- Film and Television: Show Producer (see Full Sail University)

**Education: Virtual Astronomy Education Intern**

**Project Description:**
Interns will learn about astronomy education and communicating astronomy to the public as they help research, create, and evaluate astronomy education resources for the public. As part of this project, interns will: Work together as part of a team to help research, develop, and/or revise astronomy activities and resources which reflect educational best practices and meet the needs of users locally, nationally, and internationally. Help train volunteers and staff to have engaging and effective conversations about science with participants both onsite and online. Work collaboratively across the Institution to help implement activities and resources that align with departmental and institutional goals. Help conduct front end and formative evaluation to make sure resources and activities meet the needs of users and have meaningful impact. Help develop digital-first programs that leverage best practices in online engagement and design. Learn about and assist on other projects as interested and necessary, including helping develop astronomy and spaceflight exhibitions, astronomy and spaceflight media experiences, and other Education projects.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Astronomy/physics/Earth science/space-related
- Education
Exhibits: Development of Videos and Computer Interactives for New Exhibitions

**Intern**

**Project Description:**
Assist mentor with development and evaluation of exhibition media pieces for upcoming exhibitions, as well as working with exhibition teams to ensure the voices of key stakeholders are heard throughout the development process. This intern position will help make these media pieces relevant and engaging for our target audience – middle school students – as well as inviting and inclusive to all visitors to NASM’s Museum in Washington, DC. Mentor will provide guidance on NASM’s vision for exhibition media and accessibility standards.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Computer Game Design
- Learning Technologies
- Communication
- Education
- Multimedia
- Museum Studies

Exhibits: Visitor Testing Intern

**Project Description:**
The intern will assist multiple exhibition development teams to conduct tests of proposed interactive exhibit concepts, visitor interface, instructions, and label text with visitors at the National Air and Space Museum. This intern position will help NASM refine interactive exhibit designs and identify appropriate wording for communicating complex science concepts to a general audience. The intern will provide written weekly reports to exhibit teams and suggest changes to label text to be included in follow-up tests with visitors.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Museum Education
- Museum Studies
- Exhibition Design

Reconstructing the Histories of Ocean Worlds

**Project Description:**
Planetary geology is an interdisciplinary science that employs myriad skills including geologic mapping and numerical modeling. The selected intern with use detailed observations of planetary bodies from orbital spacecraft with models to predict what conditions we would expect to find in the interior of ocean worlds. These studies tell us about the evolution of these places in our solar system and give us a peak into their potential for harboring habitable environments.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Astronomy
- Astrophysics
- Geology
- Earth Science
- Physics
- Environmental Sciences
- Mechanical or Aerospace Engineering
- Planetary science

**Sally’s Legacy: Engaging Girls and Women in STEM at the Smithsonian**

(Please apply here: [American Women’s History Initiative Internship Program](https://womenshistory.si.edu/news/2021/01/paid-online-summer-internship-application-open)

**Application Deadline: February 28, 2021**

**Project Description:**
Evaluation of “Sally’s Night” pilot program, culminating in a written report for museum leadership. The report will inform future Sally’s Night and related women’s history programming at NASM/SAO. “Sally’s Night”: NASM and SAO staff are currently collaborating to plan a pilot virtual event celebrating the historic and current contributions of women in space and space sciences. Named in honor of Dr. Sally K. Ride, the first American woman in space, the event will be scheduled around the anniversary of Ride’s historic flight on June 18, 1983.

The intern will arrive in time to observe the final preparations for and participate in “Sally’s Night.” This experience will provide context for their evaluation. Mentors will provide the intern with the necessary resources to evaluate the event including: guidance on qualitative and quantitative evaluation strategies; data on outcomes and impacts; documentation from the planning of Sally’s Night; and access to staff for informational interviews.

Research in support of STEM Engagement Guide for Girls and Young Women.

The intern will build on past research by NASM Education interns on supporting women and girls in creating STEM identity and engagement in informal learning environments such as museums and out-of-school venues. In particular, the intern will focus on best practices for engaging STEM learners in virtual environments. In addition, emphasis will be placed on strategies for engaging girls and young women of color, who experience additional barriers to developing STEM identity because of structural inequality and racism. The intern will also become personally familiar with tactics researched, and be able to demonstrate these tactics by developing an example facilitation highlighting a historical figure of their choosing.
This research and exploration will inform the development of a facilitation guide for use in museums and informal learning institutions that focuses on meaningfully engaging women and girls, particularly women and girls of color, in STEM learning. The research will inform programming at NASM and SAO, including events and/or exhibitions.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- History
- Public History
- Museum Studies
- Women and Gender Studies
- Education
- Science Communication

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**Space History: Hawaiian Astronomy and The Fight for Maunakea Oral History Project**

**Project Description:**
The Department of Space History, working with the National Museum of American History and in cooperation with the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, is preparing to conduct a series of oral history interviews to capture the current fight for Maunakea regarding the construction of new telescope facilities from the perspective of the Native Hawaiian community. Through this project, the intern will learn the skills and best practices of oral history interviewing and understand the history of the long tradition of Hawaiian astronomy while contributing to a pan-Smithsonian project. The intern will assist the mentor with the research phase of the oral histories by (1) identifying potential interviewees, including those impacted or otherwise engaged, such as local activists, community elders, and Native Hawaiian staff who work at Maunakea telescope facilities, (2) developing interview questions, and (3) create a catalog of resources on the history of Hawaiian astronomy, with a focus on the current protests at Maunakea. Through these duties, and with additional guidance from the mentor, the intern will gain experience with the oral history process and an appreciation of its role in historic research. This internship provides experience for those interested in careers in history, public history, writing, or archives.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- History
- Science Technology and Society
- Asian Pacific American Studies
- Cultural Studies
- Program Management
- Related Fields

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**Space History: Latino and Afrofuturism**

**Project Description:**
The Space History Department of the National Air and Space Museum has initiated projects in Latino and Afrofuturism. This includes an ongoing oral history project to collect and record histories from artists and authors working in Latino Futurism, and a planned Fall 2021 scholarly workshop on the topic.
of Afrofuturism (co-organized with NMAAHC and NMAfA). The intern will primarily assist with these two projects, organizing and indexing the oral histories and helping to plan and organize the workshop. The intern will also assist with developing public programs that may go along with these two projects.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- STEM majors with relevant interests

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**Visitor Services: Visitor Services Intern**

**Project Description:**
This internship will be fully remote. The position will assist with the day-to-day management of the Visitor Services program, including customer service, managing volunteer training schedules and enhancing the visitor experience at either the National Mall Building in Washington, DC or at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, VA.

The Intern will also play a role in reimagining how volunteers and staff will participate in the visitor’s experience both during and after the current coronavirus epidemic. This includes assisting with new self-guided activities, new facilitation techniques for volunteers and docents, and new volunteer trainings that are highly impactful and applicable.

**Major or Academic Background:**
- Late undergraduate level student or, more preferably a graduate level student
- All degrees are welcome!