2023 MUSEUM STUDIES SUMMER FELLOW
AT SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The School of Design and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at South Dakota State University invite applications for a new Museum Studies Fellow for the summer 2023. This fellowship initiative has been made possible thanks to combined funding from the FUNd for Museum Studies and the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation.

South Dakota State University offers the only program in Museum Studies across the state. Founded in 2015, the Museum Studies at SDSU is a dynamic, robust, collaborative and interdisciplinary minor. It provides students with a solid background in the preservation and presentation of cultural materials and artifacts, as well as in communication, design, and management skills.

Our minor is shaped and delivered as an academic-professional partnership with five institutions in Brookings: the South Dakota Art Museum, the South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum, the Children's Museum of South Dakota, McCrory Gardens, and SDSU's Archives and Special Collections at Hilton M. Briggs Library. The minor’s operations are managed within the School of Design, an interdisciplinary academic unit housing programs in Art Education, Studio Art, Graphic Design, Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Interior Design.

The Museum Studies Fellow will be a graduate student (Master’s or PhD, completed or in progress) with a museum studies background and/or some experience in collecting institutions, for instance museums, library archives, public gardens, state or national parks, or historic sites. This is not a postdoctoral fellowship.

The fellow will be actively involved with our partner institutions here in Brookings throughout the fellowship, including our summer undergraduate internships.

The Fellow will also deliver a public lecture centered on their own exhibition record, career path, research, and/or relevant experiences in the field.

The Fellow will be required to submit a progress report periodically throughout the fellowship and a final report at the end of the fellowship period. The report will be detailing the activities completed throughout the duration of the project and the learning that occurred; it will provide
insights on how this multi-layered mentoring model has contributed to the Fellow's professional growth.

The Fellow will be living in Brookings for the period May 7-August 21 (with potential to negotiate the dates within a few days’ interval). We will provide hotel accommodation in town that includes kitchenette: please, inquiry with us to verify your specific accommodation needs before you apply. In addition to this accommodation, the fellow will receive a $7,000 stipend to cover the other living expenses, plus an additional $1,000 travel reimbursement upon arrival in town.

We are excited that our interdisciplinary vision is further expanding through partnership with three prestigious institutions in New York: the Brooklyn Museum; the National Park Services (Roosevelt and Vanderbilt homes in Hyde Park, NY); and the Brooklyn Children’s Museum. The fellow will be given an additional $2,000 stipend to travel to New York City to visit the museums of our out-of-state partners, talk with some of the staff, and catch a glimpse on connections between the fine arts, architecture, landscape architecture, industrial design in institutions, whose strengths complement those already present in Brookings.

A complete application package will include:

- The applicant’s full CV.
- A statement of academic research and/or professional experience in the museum field (including past internships).
- A statement explaining how the applicant envisions this fellowship program to benefit the progression of their career.
- The names and contacts of two references (one must be the most recent work or school supervisor).
- A brief statement that the applicant has inquired with school or work supervisor about leaves or TA or classes requirements and is approved to accept the fellowship if offered and move to Brookings for the summer 2023. In doubt, please send inquiries prior to applying for this position.

Please, note that visa sponsorship is not available for this opportunity.

To apply, email your application package to Dr. Leda Cempellin, the Museum Studies Coordinator and Associate Director of the School of Design (Leda.Cempellin@sdstate.edu) by no later than February 15, 2023. Finalists will be selected among the applicants for a Zoom interview and the Fellow will be finalized by end of March.