

2021 Virtual Museum Seminar Program



"Hands" Quilt, Sarah Mary Taylor, 1980

In the summer of 2021, the Philadelphia Museum of Art will host a **Virtual Museum Seminar Program** in place of an in-person internship program. This program will include weekly virtual Seminar Sessions on museum careers, departments, and behind-the-scenes experiences. This program will not involve any department-specific internship projects or placements, but it rather will be an opportunity to engage and learn about the museum at large. This new program will fulfill the educational role of internships and provide access to the museum field to a larger number of students through a virtual platform and part-time programming.

The **Virtual Museum Seminar Program** exposes students to the inner-workings of a major metropolitan museum, promoting an awareness of careers in the field through experiences not available in most academic settings. This virtual

student experience with the Philadelphia Museum of Art is an invaluable educational, professional, and personal experience. Through the seminar program, students will gain an understanding of museum professional careers, engage in weekly small group discussions, participate in professional development opportunities, and network with museum staff and peers.

Individuals of all backgrounds are welcome and encouraged to apply, including those from traditionally underrepresented groups in the museum field. Sixty students will be selected for the summer program taking place from **Monday, June 7 through Thursday, July 29, 2021**. Participants will receive a \$500 stipend to offset technology needs and part-time participation.

Program Format

The **Virtual Museum Seminar Program** runs weekly for two months. The program is made up of two parts: registrants spend five hours per week in Seminar Sessions made up of a variety of virtual engagements, and for one hour each week at an assigned time they participate in a Small Group Discussion. The Seminars Sessions are held on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to noon E.S.T. and may include:

- Presentations and talks with curators, conservators, and educators
- Discussions with top-level administrators
- Conversations with many museum departments
- Lectures on the museum's history and collection
- Guest speakers on current issues and museums now

Attendance at all Seminar Sessions and Small Group Discussions is mandatory for registrants. The required time commitment is six hours per week (five in Seminar Sessions and one in a Small Group Discussion) with optional further engagements offered weekly.

Eligibility Requirements

The Virtual Museum Seminar Program is available to applicants:

- From all backgrounds, including those from traditionally underrepresented groups in the museum field
- Who are currently-enrolled undergraduate or graduate students, or have graduated within the same calendar year as the program
- Who have completed at least their freshman year of college by the end of the spring 2021 semester
- Who are eligible to work in the United States
- Who are committed to attending all program sessions

Application

Only applicants who apply on our website will be considered for the program. Please include a résumé, essay, and one letter of recommendation when submitting an application. Additional materials will not be considered. Also identify three times for Small Group Discussion.

Apply here: [Program Application](#); all materials are due by Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Webpage

www.philamuseum.org/internships

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