



POSITIONS:	Academic Internship Museum Practice Cohort
REPORTS TO:	Postdoctoral Fellow of Museum Practice
TIME COMMITMENT:	Up to 15 hours per week for 9 weeks
COMPENSATION:	\$15/hour, up to \$2000
STATUS:	Summer 2026 (June 1 – July 31)

Job Summary

The MMA (paid) Internship program provides opportunities for hands-on experience learning about museum operations, working with art collections and the role artifacts, archives, and exhibitions play in shaping culture. Assigned to work directly with the Department of Academic Affairs, interns will learn about the various facets of museum careers, working closely with other museum departments, such as Curatorial and Education, and with the collection of the Mississippi Museum of Art. Six internships are available for undergraduate or graduate students from colleges/universities throughout the state of Mississippi.

Essential Functions

Professionalization Cohort – Affiliates Program

- Assist the Department of Academic Affairs to develop a teaching gallery and travelling exhibitions
- Participate in a learning experience and curriculum related to exhibition development
- Help with collaborative research projects related to the MMA permanent collection
- Co-create a gallery experience at MMA
- Collaboratively develop exhibitions from MMA's permanent collection that can travel to partner sites across the state
- Other duties specific to the department as needed

Time Commitment and Compensation

Interns may complete up to fifteen (15) hours of work per week at the Museum, not to exceed 134 hours total over the course of the summer term. Compensation will be made on a bi-weekly basis, based on the number of hours completed during the

preceding pay period.

Requirements

- Rising sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student at a college or university in Mississippi
- Interest in community engaged learning, visual art, storytelling, and museums
- Comfort with technology and collaborative working environments
- Strong written and verbal communication skills

Physical Demands and Work Environment

The physical demands and work environment characteristics described here represent those that an employee must meet to perform essential functions successfully. Reasonable accommodation enables individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Some duties may require extended periods of standing, walking, kneeling, pushing, pulling, reaching, carrying, lifting, and moving objects of five pounds or more. Working conditions may include indoor and outdoor tasks in varying weather conditions.

Application Requirements

1. Brief Letter of Application (not to exceed 2 pages) that addresses the following questions:
 - What interests you in this professionalization opportunity at MMA?
 - Drawing on your extracurricular activities, areas of study, background, or other experiences, discuss how you might contribute to the Internship, and how the Internship might benefit your academic and career goals.
- Intended as a sample of your professional writing, your Letter of Application should be original work.
2. Current Resume
3. Optional - Creative sample: This sample might showcase previous work in storytelling, design, research, art, collaboration, or another relevant skillset for this position.

All materials should be submitted as a single PDF document.

Application and Selection Process

Submit applications and questions to Julia Harth Hamilton, Postdoctoral Fellow, jharth@msmuseumart.org by **March 13**. At the close of the application deadline, the internship selection committee will review all application packages and contact the final candidates to schedule interviews.

Prior to the application deadline, MMA will host an in-person application preparation session on February 28, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at MMA. The session will be an opportunity to learn about hiring processes and specific application expectations. If you have questions about the internship or application but are unable to attend the session, you may contact Dr. Hamilton at jharth@msmuseumart.org.

Affiliates Network

Historically, the mission of the Mississippi Museum of Art Affiliate Network has been to increase the exposure of the state's largely rural population to the visual arts by utilizing the Museum's most significant resource - artworks from the Mississippi Museum of Art's Permanent Collection. In an effort to provide people across the state of Mississippi with high quality art museum experiences, the Mississippi Museum of Art offers affiliated institutions access to a changing and diversified selection of art exhibitions.

While the Affiliates program has been on hold in recent years, the Museum Practice Internship Cohort will contribute to the reactivation of the network and its offerings. Participating Interns will curate exhibitions intended to travel to sites across Mississippi and will serve as ambassadors between the Museum and external partners.

About the Mississippi Museum of Art

The Museum is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The Museum is a private not-for-profit and is not a department or agency of the state or federal government.

The Mississippi Museum of Art is more than an art museum in Jackson, Mississippi. It is a museum of Mississippi – a museum that connects Mississippians to our culture, our history, our communities, and to each other. It is a museum informed by the legacy of our past and emboldened by a vision of a future without division.

We believe it is our responsibility to the community to explore and examine every facet of the Mississippi story. The Mississippi Museum of Art is committed to curating a shared space for every Mississippian – a brave space where we can all find wonder, peace, and a voice.

We pride ourselves in being a visitor and community-focused art museum and garden in downtown Jackson, Mississippi. The Museum employs a collaborative staff that works to ensure the exhibitions, programs, operations, and community outreach fulfill the mission, vision, and core values of the institution. We are committed to building a culture of inclusivity that includes continued professional development opportunities at all levels of the Museum.

Mission

The Mississippi Museum of Art connects Mississippi to the world, and the power of art to the power of community.

Vision

Committed to honesty, equity, and inclusion, the Mississippi Museum of Art is a leader in engaging art, artists, and participants in the critical work of reckoning with the past, connecting with each other in the present, and thinking how museums will work with their communities in the future.

Core Values

- **Artworks + Artists:** Museum programs recognize artworks as primary sources of meaning and explore them in the context of their creation and creators; the Museum builds relationships with artists, amplifies their voices through exhibitions, and engages them with new audiences.
- **Warm Welcome + Inclusion:** The Museum models gratitude and hospitality for all people and demonstrates inclusiveness at all levels of its operations and programs; everything, from the exhibitions to the gardens, is thoughtfully designed to prioritize accessibility, ensuring that everyone can participate fully. The Museum will model open hospitality for all people and will demonstrate inclusiveness at all levels of its operations and programs.
- **Excellence + Equity:** Museum programs, exhibitions, and collections place artistic value as central and simultaneously challenge traditional hierarchies of genre and style.
- **Local Relevance + National Importance:** The Museum facilitates investigations into Mississippi's cultural histories that resonate with Jacksonians and Mississippians; the resulting programs hold up a mirror to the world, attracting local and national partners who seek to explore our shared histories.
- **Honesty + Diversity:** Honoring diverse viewpoints, histories, and lived experiences, the Museum is a place for honest conversations that explore power and privilege in services of learning, understanding, and empathy.
- **Trust + Exchange:** The Museum believes accurate interpretation of artworks depends on lived experience as well as scholarship. The Museum invites intellectual exchange between the audiences, staff, and artists who create exhibitions and deepen their meaning through their exploration.
- **Resilience + Sustainability:** Museum operations and facilities are designed with attention to the present and future needs of visitors and environment alike; recognizing the increasing need for adaptability in the face of uncertainty, the Museum prioritizes strength, adaptability, and growth.

Employee Values

A successful member of the Museum's team will be mission-driven, welcoming, inclusive, respectful, empathetic, ambitious, will bring a level of excellence to their work, have a high respect for artists and artistic integrity, and will collaborate within their department and with other departments.