

Mellon Humanities Ph.D. Program Interventions

Mellon Interventions Student Interventions Grants: Internship Supplements

The Laney Graduate School and the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry invite eligible Emory PhD students in the humanities and humanistically oriented social sciences to apply for Internship Supplements for the Spring 2023 semester. We plan to support Ph.D. students through a \$2,000 internship supplement to their stipends. Students will take GRAD 705 while interning with a community partner (6-8 hours a week). Interested students can apply to work with one of our community partner organizations to assist with ongoing research projects or to develop skills through internship experience.

We encourage eligible students to apply to these opportunities as an opportunity to engage projects related to their own research, explore new areas of public scholarship, or simply expand their public humanities experiences and skills.

Awardees will participate in a mid-semester check-in with the Mellon Interventions team and complete a GRAD705 Experience Completion Report with additional Public Humanities-focused content.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, Spring 2023

Alliance Theatre

The Alliance Theatre is Atlanta's national theater. Founded in 1968, the Alliance Theatre is the leading producing theater in the Southeast, reaching more than 165,000 patrons annually. The Alliance delivers powerful programming that challenges adult and youth audiences to think critically and care deeply. Under the leadership of Susan V. Booth, the Jennings Hertz Artistic Director, the Alliance Theatre received the Regional Theatre Tony Award® in recognition of sustained excellence in programming, education and community engagement.

Known for its exemplary artistic standards and national role in creating significant theatrical works, the Alliance has premiered more than 100 original productions, professionally launching important American musicals with a strong track record of Broadway, touring and subsequent productions. The Alliance also creates and nurtures the careers of emerging writers through the Alliance/Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting Competition, producing the world premiere for the competition winner as part of the regular season. The Alliance is deeply committed to Atlanta artists, showcasing locally based artists on a nationally watched stage, and sustaining Atlanta's artistic community through the Reiser Atlanta Artists Lab, providing developmental support and production resources for an annual roster of locally sourced performance projects.

The Alliance's dedication to providing access to the arts is reflected in its commitment to creating new work for all ages, and to bringing that work into classrooms and communities across Atlanta and throughout the region. More than 80,000 students each year experience age-specific professional performances and participate in acting classes, drama camps and in-school

initiatives through the Alliance Theatre Acting Program and Education Department. Twice recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for leadership in arts education, the Alliance Theatre Institute equips classroom teachers with theatrical techniques that link directly to school curriculum and have been empirically proven to improve student learning.

Internship project:

- Interns will work with Alliance staff on projects involving one or more of the following:
- Grant Writing for Alliance Community Engagement Programs
- Partnership Building and Relationship Management with Community Partners
- Developing and supporting community conversations around current Alliance productions
- Developing ideas for playbill text and “think pieces” on the Alliance’s website and lobby displays

Student internships may be between 5-10 hours a week, including some on-site meetings throughout the internship period.

Plympton, A Literary Studio

A San Francisco-based literary studio that focuses on innovation and multi-media collaborations in publishing, Plympton has made advances across a range of practices from story format to book cover design to library licenses to writer compensation. It worked with *The New York Times* to produce a Virtual Reality film based on George Saunders’s *Lincoln in the Bardo* and it has published notable writers including Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Roxane Gay, Yiyun Li, and Jane Smiley — the last as part of [a series of cli-fi stories](#) published with Amazon. For the past two years, Plympton has worked with Emory undergraduate students on building the Writing Atlas, a database of 20th and 21st-century award-winning short fiction, both to further scholarly research and to provide potential material for screen adaptation.

Internship project:

Interns will join one or more projects working at the intersection of literature and entertainment. In all aspects of this work, involvement of students from underrepresented groups will be important to unearthing and developing stories that appeal to diverse audiences.

Opportunities include:

- Identify bodies of short stories which are worth cataloging for Writing Atlas.
- Work with screenwriters, development executives and producers to identify promising short stories for screened and podcast adaptation.
- Work with Rights Center to highlight promising short stories for adaptation.
- Provide coverage (e.g. evaluations) of scripts for producers and film investors.
- Provide coverage (e.g. evaluations) of books for producers and directors.
- General Writing Atlas (literary database) feedback and contributions.
- Helpful skills: Airtable, Google Sheets, GitHub, working with developers.

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

Established in 1994, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper’s mission is to educate, advocate and secure the protection and stewardship of the Chattahoochee River, including its lakes, tributaries and watershed, in order to restore and conserve their ecological health for the people and wildlife that depend on the river system. Its work includes water monitoring, education, research, advocacy, communication, collaboration, and legal action.

Internship project:

“Atlanta’s Water History”

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper will tell a visual story about the value of water in the Atlanta region and beyond. Today, the Atlanta region is home to over 5 million people. Over 70 percent of the region’s drinking water comes from the Chattahoochee River. After the water is used in homes and businesses, the treated water is returned to the Chattahoochee, Flint, South, and Yellow Rivers. The region’s water story helps explain how the City of Atlanta—originally a railway crossroads—transformed into a metropolis.

As an educational, virtual, and publicly accessible tool, the project will identify where our water comes from and why we need water. Additionally, it will reveal how peoples’ decisions about water had consequences for the region and for nature. Water’s availability and patterns of use and waste affect our decisions and policies, and these can result in conflict and inequity. The project is inspired by historic pictures of people using the Chattahoochee, reports on bottling drinking water, trolley car maps leading to springs, newspaper articles detailing the public health impacts of raw sewage, “acts of god” like floods and droughts, and other cultural artifacts.

Interns and Riverkeeper team members will conduct research, document sources, organize information, and identify geographic locations. In phase II, team members will help design and build a visual story—in a GIS Story Map—using the resources discovered in the research phase. The ideal team member(s) will have

- Solid research experience and skills, including familiarity with library and archival collections, research databases, etc.
- Public history training or experience
- Experience with storytelling
- GIS experience with ESRI software including ArcMap, ArcPro, and ArcGIS Online
- Curiosity, creativity, and ability to work remotely (and meet face-to-face as needed)



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Charis Circle

Founded in 1996, Charis Circle is the 501c3 non-profit programming arm of Charis Books, the South's oldest independent feminist bookstore. Charis Circle works with artists, authors, and activists from across the South and around the world to bring innovative, thoughtful, and life-changing programming and events to feminist communities.

Charis is metro Atlanta's only publicly accessible dedicated feminist space open 7 days a week, 360 days a year. Charis hosts more than 270 events a year: from writing groups, to poetry open mics, to children's story hours, to yoga, to intersectional strategy sessions.

Now located on the campus of Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA, Charis Circle's work extends beyond the walls of Charis Books and into the schools, streets, and homes of our beloved community members. We exist as a popular education resource for you, your family, and the city at large.

Internship project:

“Swallow Hollow”

Charis Circle seeks to transform the 25-acre home of the late feminist musician and composer Sorrel Hays into a queer feminist artists' retreat called “Swallow Hollow.” Students will contribute to two facets of the project: “Histories and Contexts” research and “Interpretation and Curation” products. Some of the subjects to be researched include how to operate a sustainable artists' retreat; the history of rural queer activism in the US South; the history and context of Buchanan, Georgia; the connection between social justice and Sorrel Hays' music; and the connection between Sorrel Hays' eco-feminism and the ecology of the retreat property. Potential products include a proposal and organizational documents for how to sustainably operate the retreat; a curated display of Hays' identity on-site in the main residents dining area; website content and promotional materials; and/or videos summarizing research about Hays' music and ideas. Students will be expected to visit the site in Buchanan Georgia, as well as the Charis Books and More shop in Decatur Georgia. Transportation can be arranged.

Application requirements:

- A cover letter explaining the applicant's interest in the internship, the way the opportunity intersects or complements their PhD work, and their choice of projects. Applicants should also specify previous involvement in public humanities work.
- A CV
- A brief note of approval (not a letter of recommendation) from the applicant's DGS or advisor. This should confirm that the program representative understands that the applicant will work approximately 6-8 hours per week with an organization, that they will receive \$2000 in compensation, and that they will be enrolled in the 3-credit seminar, GRAD 705. The person should know that we may check back with them later in the selection process to confirm the student's satisfactory progress in the program.
- A list, in order of preference, of the organizations the applicant would like to work with. The applicant should leave off ones they are not interested in working with.

Please submit your application package as a **single PDF file in the order listed above** to:
LGS.profdev@emory.edu.

Application deadline: November 15th

If awarded: Successful applicants will be notified and matched with a partner organization by early December 2022. Awardees will participate in a mid-semester check-in with the Mellon Interventions team and complete a GRAD705 Experience Completion Report with additional Public Humanities-focused content.

Questions?

Please direct any questions about the Mellon Interventions Project to: Jeremy Frusco (jfrusco@emory.edu).