

2010 INTERNSHIP AT THE PENNSYLVANIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Project Summary

The Haverford humanities student would serve as Development Intern, supporting communications, government relations, fundraising, and new program development. Activities would include research in PHC files and communication with staff and individuals across Pennsylvania, in support of PHC relationships with (1) program producers, (2) leaders in public humanities, and (3) allies and funders.

Organization Mission and Governance

The Pennsylvania Humanities Council, a nonprofit organization, inspires individuals to enjoy and share a life of learning enriched by human experience across time and around the world. Through programs and partnerships, PHC fosters the sharing of stories and ideas – to increase understanding and a large vision of human life, community, and possibility.

The PHC represents Pennsylvania in the Federal-State Partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which fosters public humanities programs in each state and territory of the United States. At present, the PHC is governed by eighteen volunteer members and has a staff of six full-time and five part-time employees. Please visit the website www.pahumanities.org.

The Set of Projects

The Haverford intern would work closely with staff as PHC:

- Analyzes recent successes and future funding prospects;
- Identifies and communicates with potential program producers in various regions of the state;
- Explores new social media, making use of a new collaboration with Pennsylvania Cable Network and long-time partnerships with Commonwealth Libraries and other funders.

The intern would support staff members by:

- Researching past program producers and partners, and assisting in grant proposals;
- Emailing, phoning, and mailing to individuals developing humanities projects for

public libraries, historical sites and museums, arts venues, and community organizations;

- Assisting with the production, promotion, and evaluation of a new television series, *Humanities on the Road*, including its webspace and on-line community.

Special Skills

The intern will exercise skills in communications (oral and written), both internally with PHC staff and externally with PHC program personnel and allies; and analysis, particularly by research into past PHC activities. The assignments would appeal to a humanities major who enjoys being a generalist, interested in many different topics and fields of knowledge. They would appeal, also, to a student interested in current U.S. culture and politics, during a gubernatorial campaign in Pennsylvania and a presidential administration when there is a new appreciation of American diversity, new points of view about governmental funding for the arts and humanities, and new interpretations of “the culture wars” from the 1960s to the present.

Challenges and Rewards

The challenge would come from immersion into a fast-paced office, staffed by highly skilled personnel, who are simultaneously moving new programming forward, reflecting on recent achievements, and implementing a strategic plan for 2010-2011. The reward will be an understanding of how a state humanities council -- in a large, diverse state -- functions through programs and partnerships. Colleagues would include four individuals in their twenties who are recent graduates from such institutions as Drexel University, Franklin and Marshall College, and Temple University; a student from Rutgers University-Camden; and experienced staff with extensive knowledge of public cultural work from the 1980s to the present.

Work Environment and Supervision

The work will take place at the PHC office, 325 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, in the heart of the city’s historic district, from 9:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. Flexibility in daily work hours can be accommodated; however, punctuality and a professional attitude are essential. The office is close to train stations at 8th & Market and 5th & Market. There is no requirement to work evenings or weekends. Travel, if any, will be minimal. Overall supervision will be provided by Executive Director Joseph J. Kelly or Assistant Director Laurie Zierer; daily tasks will be overseen by the employees whose work is to be supported.