

# Increasing African American Diversity in Archives: *The HistoryMakers* Fellowship, Mentoring, Training and Placement Institute

## 2012 Fellowship Application

### FELLOWSHIP OVERVIEW

*The HistoryMakers* is pleased to announce the second Increasing African American Diversity in Archives: The HistoryMakers Fellowship, Mentoring, Training and Placement Institute, a year-long fellowship (**Monday, June 4, 2012 through Saturday, June 1, 2013**) working in African American archives. This fellowship is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The purpose of this fellowship program is to provide training for African American archivists and other archivists interested in working with African American archival collections. The year will include a 3-month immersion training program at *The HistoryMakers* Chicago location (**Monday, June 4, 2012 - Friday, August 24, 2012**) and an on-site residency (**Tuesday, September 4, 2012 – Saturday, June 1, 2013**). The following are examples of host institutions:

- Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, LA  
[<http://www.amistadresearchcenter.org/>]
- Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC  
[<http://avery.cofc.edu/>]
- Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, Chicago, IL  
[<http://www.chipublib.org/branch/details/library/woodson-regional>]
- Franklin Library at Fisk University, Nashville, TN  
[<http://www.fisk.edu/Academics/Library/SpecialCollections.aspx>]
- *The HistoryMakers*, Chicago, IL  
[<http://www.thehistorymakers.com/>]
- Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, MD  
[<http://www.msa.md.gov/>]
- Mayme A. Clayton Library and Museum, Culver City, CA  
[<http://www.claytonmuseum.org/>]

### FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must:

- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
- Hold a recent graduate degree in library science (MLS, MLIS, MIS, MS) from an ALA accredited school (current graduate students are encouraged to apply if their degrees will be completed prior to beginning the fellowship).
- Have a demonstrated interest in archives administration and management. Applicants must have taken at least two courses related to archival information and practice or have demonstrated work/volunteer experience in archival repositories.
- Have a demonstrated interest in African American history. This interest can be demonstrated through academic coursework, volunteer or work experience, and/or through a personal statement in application essay.

### FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION

During the immersion training program, fellows will receive training in arrangement, description, preservation, reference, and outreach for collections of African American archival materials. Fellows will process collections and create EAD and EAC-CPF finding aids and will learn to appropriately utilize Library of Congress Subject Headings to provide access points to African American materials in print, video, and electronic resources. Fellows will attend lectures presented by African American scholars and representatives from other African American archival

repositories. The purpose of these lectures is for fellows to gain a deeper understanding of African American history. Fellows will also take field trips to Chicago-area African American collections.

During the on-site residency period, fellows will utilize knowledge and skills gained during their immersion training to process African American collections. Fellows will be required to organize a public program/community outreach event (lecture, exhibit, etc.), and implement social media or other online resources while in residency at their host institution. They will also be expected to give presentations on their education and career choice to other students at the high school and undergraduate levels. Fellows will also be required to keep a journal of their experiences and progress throughout the fellowship. Fellows will prepare a poster presentation for the 2013 SAA Annual Conference and will also be strongly encouraged to submit papers for presentation as a participant in a panel at professional conferences such as ALA, SAA, MAC, New England Archivists, MARAC, Society of Southwest Archivists, etc.

## **STIPEND**

\$40,000.00

## **LODGING**

Lodging arrangements during the training institute and during residency at host institution are the responsibility of the fellow. Applicants will be provided with information on local housing options upon acceptance to the program.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

All applicants should submit the following:

- Cover letter stating their interest in the internship and future career goals (please include an email address and a daytime telephone number). They should also rank their top three choices of host institution placements from 1 through 3 (one being the first choice), including an explanation of their choices, and how their experience will best serve these repositories
- Essay or written statement (2,000 words or less) addressing all of the following:
  - their interest in African American history and archival collections;
  - what they can contribute to the host repositories;
  - their experience with electronic media and social networking tools;
  - their view on the importance of increasing diversity in the archival profession;
  - what they hope to learn from the experience; and
  - the importance of this fellowship to their future career.
- Resume or CV indicating their academic background, work experience, and volunteer service.
- Undergraduate and graduate transcript, including a printout of classes in which they are currently enrolled, if applicable.
- Three letters of recommendation.

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No phone calls please.

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2012**