Paid Internship for the Native American Portable Poetry Project, May-June 2018

The Harvard Museums of Science & Culture (HMSC) seeks an undergraduate or graduate student with interest in museums or poetry and who is currently enrolled in any college or university for a paid internship during summer 2018.

Interested students should have experience in Native American studies or knowledge of Native American cultures and traditions. This internship will expand your experience working with primary sources such as artifacts and poetry; allow you to practice research skills in the arts and humanities; and introduce you to some possible museum careers. This internship would benefit from students in a range of concentrations, including but not limited to anthropology, history, social studies, English, Native American studies, and visual arts.

The project is based at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology (PMAE) in Cambridge, Mass. The intern will research and collect a short list of poems by Native American authors to be paired with objects currently on display in the Hall of the North American Indian. A selection committee will reduce the short list to approximately 6 poems to be read by Native American community members and recorded for use in the museum. The portable poetry will encourage visitors to consider objects more carefully and will be available on music players or smart phones during October/November 2018. HMSC and the museum are committed to achieving diversity in the museum field and seek to attract a diverse group of applicants to enrich our work.

Internship activities may include:

- research and transcribe sound recordings of Native America poetry readings at Harvard University
- review and select 12 poems that speak to some aspect of an object on display in the Museum. Poems may be drawn from various Harvard collections or a forthcoming book.
- develop and carry out protocols for speaking with authors and publishers about permission to use published or recorded poems
- coordinate the distribution of contract and licensing letters drafted by Library attorneys
- develop PDF packages for the reading committee
- schedule and monitor the selection committee conference call
- communicate regularly with the program group which includes the Executive Director of the Harvard University Native American Program, Curator of the Woodberry Poetry Room, PMAE Director of Education, and PMAE Curator of North American Ethnology
- present research to the Harvard staff at the end of the internship period and prepare material for information sharing and press releases.

Length of internship: 4-5 weeks, Full time
Stipend: $3,000
Dates: Approximately May 15 - June 13

Please Note: The Harvard Museums of Science and Culture is not able to provide visa sponsorship for this position.

Applicants should send their resumes and cover letters to project coordinator Polly Hubbard at Mhubbard@fas.harvard.edu by April 15, 2018.