Paid Internship: LGBT History Research Assistant

C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience

The Starr Center is seeking a paid, part-time, non-credit intern for the position of Research Assistant. The intern will work closely with the current Patrick Henry Writing Fellow at the Starr Center – the noted historian and author David Carter – to assist with his book in progress about the LGBT rights movement in the 1960s and 70s. The intern will contribute in a number of ways, which might include processing recorded oral-history interviews; organizing and indexing primary sources; retrieving relevant newspaper articles through online databases; assisting with oral history interviews, and (potentially) helping with research trips to Washington, D.C. and New York City. Applicants are expected to commit to a minimum of 6 hours per week, plus the opportunity for additional flex time. The position is available September – December. Much of the work can be done online. Pay scale starts at $9.25/hour but could be higher depending on student experience, especially for those involved in previous Starr Center programs.

David Carter’s book project is a biography of Franklin Kameny, an influential gay activist of the mid-twentieth century who was one of the pioneers of the LGBT rights movement. Mr. Carter is also the author of past books on the Stonewall Riot and Allen Ginsberg, as well as two young adult biographies published by Chelsea House, George Santayana (1992) and Salvador Dalí (1995).


Hired interns will have access to paid training labs, professional-development salons, and student-proposed continuing-education workshops. Starr Center interns are also eligible for raises and promotions within the Starr Center’s many internship positions and programs, including StoryQuest, Museum on Main Street, and Marketing and Media. Interns often secure early invitations to the Center’s speaker series, road trips, museum visits, concert series, and fellowship dinners.

The Starr Center is located in the 18th-century Custom House building on the Chestertown waterfront, at 101 South Water Street, although much of the work on this project can be done offsite.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Search out and collect relevant sources
- Read or listen to, analyze, and annotate research materials
- Index and transcribe oral history interviews
- Assist in conducting interviews (potentially)
- Participate in Starr Center training labs and professional development workshops
- Assist in other Starr Center-related duties as assigned and/or interested

REQUIRED SKILLS

We are looking for responsible and dependable students with meticulous attention to detail and excellent communication skills. Students with a passion for research and writing and interest in American history and/or LGBT studies are particularly sought.

If interested, please send a completed application form and résumé to Dr. Patrick Nugent, Deputy Director, C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience, at pnugent2@washcoll.edu. The application form can be downloaded at: https://www.washcoll.edu/centers/starr/starr-center-internships/