Museum Paid Internship
for the Smithsonian’s Museum on Main Street Exhibition, “The Way We Worked”
with the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience

The Starr Center is pleased to announce the availability of new paid internships for the 2016-2017 academic year. Interns will play a lead role in an exciting partnership program led by the Starr Center at Washington College, Chestertown’s historic Sumner Hall, and the Smithsonian Institution. Chestertown was selected as one of five host sites for the 2017 Maryland tour of the Smithsonian’s traveling exhibition “The Way We Worked,” which explores the role of work in American culture over the past 150 years. Sites hosting the exhibition will develop exhibits and educational programs highlighting local labor history and “work stories” with special attention to the experiences of African Americans in Kent County. Sumner Hall, a community center and restored African-American Civil War veterans’ post, will be the site of the centerpiece exhibition, while other programs and exhibitions will take place throughout the campus and community. Interns can set their own hours, but must commit to at least 4 regularly-occurring hours per week, plus the opportunity for additional flex time. The position is available September - December and can be considered for extension through the spring semester.

Interns will work closely with the Starr Center, Sumner Hall, and various community organizations to develop and plan exhibits and programs. Students will help design and plan lecture series, bike tours, exhibitions, and concerts; market and promote events; and write and revise grant applications. Students will also be encouraged to propose and develop their own public humanities efforts in response to identified community needs, requests, and partnerships. Paid training sessions will take interns to local and regional museums for museum studies workshops.

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, Marketing and Media, and Patrick Henry Research Assistantship. 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.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

• Bolster efforts of the Starr Center and Sumner Hall to conceive, plan and coordinate a variety of events, including talks, performances, residencies and student programs.
• Design and distribute fliers, posters, and digital promotional materials for events, using the Adobe suite.
• Attend Starr Center and community wide planning meetings and brainstorming sessions.
• Consider larger questions concerning museum studies and public humanities
• Develop partnerships with community stakeholders to assist in the development of public humanities projects.
• Work with Kent County residents to tell their stories of work and life on and along the Chesapeake Bay
• 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 excellent communication skills. An interest in working with and empowering community members to tell their own histories is mandatory. The ability and willingness to work in teams is also a necessity. Experience working in museums or humanities-related organizations is sought, but not required.

If interested, please send a completed application form (attached) and résumé to Jean Wortman, Assistant Director, C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience at jwortman2@washcoll.edu. The application form can be downloaded at: https://www.washcoll.edu/centers/starr/starr-center-internships/