

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art

Intern Project Description Form

Staff contact name: Dr. Carol McCusker, Curator of Photography, Harn Museum of Art
Dr. Glenn Willumson, Professor Emeritus, art history and museum studies

Department: Curatorial

Title of Internship: Photography Research Internship

Brief Description of Internship: This intern will do primary research for an upcoming exhibition, *Challenging Stereotypes: The Photographs of C. M. Battey* [working title] to be held at the Harn Museum of Art in early 2019. *Challenging Stereotypes* will explore the work of a Cornelius M. Battey, an African-American photographer who is acknowledged as a leading portraitist of the early twentieth century. As a black man in a segregated America, however, Battey struggled for recognition outside the African-American community and he fell largely from historical consciousness after his death. This exhibition and research project will establish Battey as the major figure that he was during his career.

The student selected for this project needs to be organized and outgoing, and be someone who is willing to ask questions, since persistence will be key. When reaching what seems like a dead-end or unwelcome response from an archive, the student needs to go the distance, finding another way around and into the research in order to find a definitive answer. Emails, working with interlibrary loans, finding out the names and contact information of knowledgeable persons, communicating well with them, and sometimes making phone calls will be necessary for timely results.

Date needed and duration: Summer Semester, with an option to continue if the project is a good fit

Hours per week: 10 hours/week

Specific Duties: (what will the intern be doing?)

- Work with UF library collections to write about imagery of African Americans produced by mainstream culture between 1890 and 1930
- Biographical research about Battey and placing those details into a contemporary context
- The student should have an idea of which topic is of greatest interest to her/him; the final decision of a research topic will be made in consultation with their supervisor

Qualifications needed:

- Available 10 hrs/wk during museum business hours: M – F 8 am-5 pm
- Art History knowledge & experience, history of photography especially desired
- Strong research, writing and organizational skills
- Ability to work professionally with museum and university staff, volunteers & general public

Learning Objectives for intern: (what will the student learn from this experience?)

Special application instructions for this project: (indicate if you want applicants to submit a general writing sample, a research paper, a graphic design portfolio, etc.)