Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships in American Art

The American Council of Learned Societies invites applications for Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships in American Art, made possible by the generous assistance of the Henry Luce Foundation. These fellowships support graduate students working on topics in the history of the visual arts of the United States at any stage of PhD dissertation research or writing.

For the 2019-20 competition, ACLS is pleased to announce that the program is increasing the level of support per award, with a stipend of $36,000 plus up to $4,000 for research and travel costs.

The fellowships are portable and may be carried out in residence at the fellow’s home institution or at another appropriate site for the research. Projects should be focused foremost on the art object and/or image and employ an art-historical or visual studies approach. Although the topic may be historically and/or theoretically grounded, proposals whose emphases are predominantly socio-historical will not be considered.

Applications must be US citizens or permanent residents and enrolled at degree-granting institutions in the United States.

Students with appropriate projects whose degrees will be granted by departments other than art history are eligible only if the principal dissertation advisor is in a department of art history. (Students preparing theses for the Master of Fine Arts degree are not eligible.)

Applications must have completed all requirements for the PhD except the dissertation by the beginning of the award period.

Applications may not have applied for this fellowship more than once previously.

Deadline: October 23, 2019, 9 pm EDT


In the 2018-19 competition year, ACLS awarded over $25 million to nearly 350 scholars based in the United States and abroad working in the humanities and related social sciences. Visit https://www.acls.org/Fellows-and-Research/Recent-Awardees for recent awardee listings and profiles.

@acl1919
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www.acls.org
633 Third Avenue | New York, NY 10017-6706 | fellowships@acls.org