

James Madison's Montpelier - Mellon Museum Internship Program Summer 2021

[James Madison's Montpelier](#) announces opportunities for 2 UVA undergraduate interns in the Research Department.

INTERNSHIP 1: The goal of the internship is to digitize and contextualize the Clara Ellis Payne scrapbook collection. Payne, whose ancestors were enslaved at or near the Montpelier plantation in Orange, Virginia, collected a trove of family history materials with significant research potential for members of the Montpelier African American Descendants Community. (For further information on the African American Descendants' Project, see <https://digitaldoorway.montpelier.org/project/montpelier-descendants-project/>.) The intern will scan or photograph the scrapbooks, write descriptions of their contents, and distill genealogical information for public use.

By completing this internship, the student will gain experience in handling archival materials and using them for research. The student will also have exposure to the workings of Montpelier's Museum Programs division and will contribute a blog post to the *Digging Deeper* blog on the Museum Programs website.

ELIGIBILITY: Applications are open to rising 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year UVA students from all fields of study who identify as African American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (spring 2021 graduates are ineligible). Preference will be given to applicants with excellent research/writing skills, knowledge of African American history, and/or familiarity with Ancestry.com.

HOURS/STIPEND: This position will be 30 hours per week for 10 weeks (or 300 total hours during the summer). The intern will need to be able to work on site, within COVID-19 safety guidelines. This internship is supported by a \$3,500 Museum Diversity Internship grant to offset cost of living during the internship period.

INTERNSHIP 2: The goal of this internship is to research the migration of African Americans from Orange County, Virginia to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a connection that has come to light through genealogical research with descendants of people who were enslaved at Montpelier and nearby plantations. (See <https://digitaldoorway.montpelier.org/project/montpelier-descendants-project/> for further information on the African American Descendants' Project.) The intern will use newspaper databases available at UVA to track mentions in Pittsburgh newspapers of residents with ties to Orange, and use Ancestry.com to research families with connections to the two locations. The student will write a report tying their findings to the Great Migration and other broad historical trends. The student will regularly consult with the internship supervisor through Zoom conferences.

By completing this internship, the student will gain experience in doing primary source research using online research databases, and gain insight into the ways museums are expanding interpretation of African American history. The student will also contribute a blog post to the *Digging Deeper* blog on the Museum Programs website.

ELIGIBILITY: Applications are open to rising 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year UVA students from all fields of study who identify as African American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native

Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (spring 2021 graduates are ineligible). Preference will be given to applicants with excellent research/writing skills, knowledge of African American history, and/or familiarity with WordPress and Ancestry.com.

HOURS/STIPEND: This is a **half-time** internship for a total of 150 hours over the summer (could be scheduled as 15 hours/week for 10 weeks, or 30 hours/week for 5 weeks). The internship can be conducted remotely, though the intern will need access to research library resources. The internship is supported by a \$1,750 Museum Diversity Internship grant to offset cost of living during the internship period.

HOW TO APPLY Complete and submit the form below, along with a [Montpelier Volunteer Application](#), letter of interest, résumé/cv, and unofficial transcript to Hilarie M. Hicks, hhicks@montpelier.org. Please identify which position you prefer, though you can be considered for both if you wish. Successful applicants will be contacted for a telephone interview. **Deadline is April 20, 2021.**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT

Full Name _____ Email _____

Major(s) _____ Graduation Year _____

GENDER

- Female
- Male
- Non-Binary

RACE/ETHNICITY (Please select all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Asian
- Hispanic or Latino
- White

INTERNSHIP SELECTION Please indicate which type of internship you would prefer (you may choose more than one):

- Payne scrapbook (Full time position)
- Migration study (Half-time position)

REFERENCES

REFERENCE NO. 1

Full Name _____ Title _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

REFERENCE NO. 2

Full Name _____ Title _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Please submit the following documents along with your application:

- MONTPELIER VOLUNTEER APPLICATION
- CURRENT RÉSUMÉ/CV
- UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT
- STATEMENT OF INTEREST - up to 500 words explaining:
 - What do you hope to achieve by participating in a museum internship at James Madison's Montpelier? How do you think it will benefit you personally and professionally? How does it relate to your career goals?
 - Tell us about your interest in or involvement with archival research, African American history, and/or genealogy, such as previous coursework, research, activities with cultural organizations, or personal interest.