

Yale University President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2017

The Eli Whitney Museum
915 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06517

www.eliwhitney.org

Wm Brown, Director
203.777.1833
wb@eliwhitney.org

Sally Hill, Assoc Director (Direct Supervisor)
203.777.1833
sh@eliwhitney.org

Dates: May 30 – August 11, 2017

Our camp program runs for 10 weeks between June 12 and August 18. We would like the PPSF to be part of our Staff for as much of that time as possible. We do understand however that our schedule may not fit into a Fellow's so we are quite flexible on either end of the date cycle. We always try to accommodate a Fellow's needs.

The hours of work are usually 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Placement Description

Completed proposals must be e-mailed to karen.king@yale.edu by **Tuesday, December 1, 2015**.

Questions? Call the Yale Office of New Haven and State Affairs: (203) 432-8613

- **Organization description**

The Eli Whitney Museum is an experimental learning workshop for students, teachers and families. We collect, interpret and teach experiments that are the roots of design and invention for children ages 6 – 14. The Yale PPSF would be an integral part of that teaching – not only for our young students, but also as a teacher, role model and leader for our 80+ young apprentices (aged 13 and up) who help design, prepare and teach our programs. Teaching real world leadership to young people by working alongside them is a core goal of our work.

The Museum celebrates the Whitney tradition of learning by experiment. It designs, produces and teaches projects that engage hands, eyes, and minds...projects that blend art, science and invention. We teach over 84,000 building projects to children each year.

- Please write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (50 words or less):

Program Associate – The Eli Whitney Summer Program

Our Fellow will become a mentor to our staff of 80+ Apprentices, a counselor to our summer campers, and a teacher of any special skills he or she would like to share. We will encourage our Fellow to lead any programs they he or she feel comfortable leading, or become part of the team who will be teaching our summer classes.

- **Please write a complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.**

Program Associate – The Eli Whitney Summer Program

The Eli Whitney Museum explores the development of inventiveness. The 60 workshops of its 10 - 11 week summer program engage children ages 6 – 14 in learning that identifies gifts often not rewarded in conventional classrooms. The programs include some traditional skills (boat building, furniture building, sewing, weaving for older campers) and some that are new (computer animation, video, electronics, again for the older groups) and literacy, history or cultural projects combined with learning building skills for younger children. These round out a summer that is full of design, experiment, and building. Explaining who we are and what we do in words is often difficult.

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Diving a bit deeper into some of the previous year's summer schedules will open pages that give more extensive descriptions of those week-long classes. You can see some of last summer's class descriptions here:

<https://www.elihitney.org/7/summer-2015>



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- **Specific skills/experience required for the project**

- ~ An enjoyment of the dynamics of teaching and learning.
You've been doing it all your life – so why not experience it as a mentor?
- ~ An outgoing personality, ease with young children.
- ~ A strong sense of responsibility.
- ~ Willingness to work in a group as well as lead.
- ~ An aptitude for problem solving, openness to experiment.

Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, please include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement): N/A

- **Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your agency in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, please describe any work that Yale students have done with your agency.**

We have been very lucky to have had a number of Fellows over the years. Each has brought his or her own special interests to our summer programs and been wonderful leaders to our high school Apprentices. Whether they were headed toward music or medicine, childhood psychology or China, the Fellows have been regarded as role models and friends to our staff.

We look forward to more years of working with Yale's PPSF program. We hope it has been as good an experience for them as it has been for us.

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