Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2018

• Organization: Artspace, Inc

• Full street address of organization: 50 Orange St

Website: www.artspacenh.org

• Name and title of person who will be the Fellow’s direct supervisor (the supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis): Sarah Fritchey, Gallery Director/Curator. Depending on the project selected, it could also be Helen Kauder, Executive Director, Helen@artspacenh.org

• Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor: sarah@artspacenh.org, helen@artspacenh.org 203 772-2709

• Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 29 and Friday, August 10, 2018): May 29 and August 10, Flexible. 8-11 weeks in there.

• Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: Yes.

• Proposed work schedule (placements should be equivalent to full-time and not more than 37.5 hours/week): 10 am-6pm. (This may vary somewhat. July is M-F, but June and August will be Tue-Sat)
Placement Description

- Organization description (mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.): Artspace is New Haven’s leading contemporary art space with a mission to catalyze artistic activities; connect contemporary artists, audiences, and resources; enrich art experiences; and create art spaces. Our 5,000 square-foot gallery space, anchored in an affordable housing complex in downtown New Haven, features a mix of group and solo shows of both local and nationally recognized artists. Our programs (gallery-based, outdoors, and citywide) give hundreds of local visual artists unparalleled opportunities for visibility, leadership training, income, space, and time to network with fellow artists. Our acclaimed annual Summer Apprenticeship Program, which pairs 15 public high school students with a Master Artist to create a major installation, is now in its second decade. In 2013, readers of the New Haven Advocate voted Artspace Best Non Profit organization, and in 2014, we were nominated Best Local Arts Organization. Our work has attracted the support of the Andy Warhol Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Institute for Museum & Library Services, and the City of New Haven’s Office of Economic Development. Artspace’s activities are supported by three full-time staff members, a hands-on eighteen-person Board of Directors, a ten-person Artist Board, a devoted corps of 120+ volunteers, college interns, and part-time program staff. Artspace offers a fast-paced, dynamic environment that believes in the visual arts as an effective means to initiate long-term positive change in New Haven.

- Please write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting

The Fellow will join a small, hard-working team (the Gallery Director, the Communications Coordinator, and the Executive Director) as a full partner and will assume a high level of responsibility in helping to develop Artspace’s programming, assist day-to-day operations, and shape our engagement with the community.

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

  **A. City-Wide Open Studios Placement:** “No other cultural event...brings the city so close together and involves the city so intensely.”—The New Haven Advocate

The Fellow will work with the Board, senior staff, and artists to help organize the 21st annual City-Wide Open Studios festival, recruit artists and community partners, and expand the resources available to the event. This inclusive month-long festival invites the public to witness the creative processes taking place in studios and spaces across the city.
Greater New Haven. Our festival inspires artists to make meaningful connections with New Haven’s citizens by creating accessible points of entry to the visual arts for a diverse public. We’ll invite artists and community members to engage with one another through commissioned works, temporary constructions, performances and public art. Though each year has a unique theme, City-Wide Open Studios is always organized with a goal to:

1) Connect hundreds of visual artists to the public and to each other
2) Provide a forum for showing and selling artwork that is open to all artists regardless of training or background
3) Foster community pride in visual artists and their contributions to a thriving city
4) Draw visitors from New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and beyond to explore all that New Haven has to offer
5) Showcase vacant and/or historic properties by using them as temporary exhibition spaces and contributing to their revitalization for other uses.

Over the course of the month-long festival as many as 500 artists show their work to nearly 10,000 visitors. Art dealers and curators from the region have used CWOS as a resource to discover new artists, plan upcoming shows, and buy art. More than 2 million square feet of underutilized space has been showcased as temporary studios.

CWOS includes a hub exhibition at Artspace, which displays one work by each participating artist for the duration of the festival; a weekend devoted to artists with year round studios in the former Erector Set factory building in Fair Haven; a private studios weekend, where artists dotting the city open up their houses and independent spaces; and the Alternative Space weekend, where Artspace transforms a vacant property into a temporary exhibition space for artists who live too far outside of the scope of New Haven, or do not have a studio, and wish to participate. This renovation brings new life to the city’s neighborhoods, connects artists to new audiences, public, and aids the city’s redevelopment initiative. Past spaces have included the Goffe Street Armory (next to Hillhouse High School), the Pirelli Building (next to IKEA), and the production facility of the New Haven Register.

The Fellow will help mobilize artist and partner participation for the fall 2018 event through presentations to various local and regional cultural groups, including groups involved in the visual arts, music, film, writing, dance, architecture, education, church and community development. The fellow will write letters to curators, activists, architects, coaches, and schools who might add to the Festival’s interactive projects. The Fellow will help recruit corporate and other sponsors, and will work with the staff and a graphic designer on the marketing and development strategies to ensure a successful
event. This placement offers a unique opportunity to engage in community building through work with the arts.

More information about CWOS at [www.cwos.org](http://www.cwos.org). The full scope of the Festival comes alive in the Official Guide, with a cover and identity designed by our 2017 Fellow:


**B. The annual Summer Apprenticeship Program Placement**

The Fellow will work with our guest “lead artist” Roberto Lugo, a rising ceramic artist whose vessels and objects address issues of injustice. Artspace staff, and 20 high school students from New Haven public schools, and the YPPSF Fellow will execute and mount a large-scale installation in the gallery. This program, twice nominated for a Presidential Coming Up Taller award, gives urban teens unparalleled exposure to the practice and methods of a noted artist and connects them to the workings of Artspace’s highly visible gallery. Past master artists have included Sol LeWitt, Lee Boroson, Shih Chieh Huang, Jean Shin, and in 2015, Titus Kaphar. The Fellow works with local schools and educators to help identify and recruit the students, helps secure (with staff support) the materials needed for the installation, refines the curriculum so that it takes advantage of New Haven resources (for field trips and collaborations with other local organizations) and serves as the liaison between the students and the Lead Artist. The Fellow assists with various media content, eg possibly working with the students to develop short video interviews and documentation, writes/produces a pamphlet that gives a voice to each of the students and assists (working with the students and staff) to publicize the project for media coverage and for an opening reception in late July for students and their families and network. Overall, the Fellow in this placement helps us enable youth to forge relationships with artists and arts institutions, and provides them access to materials to support the creation of work that will also enhance their engagement with Artspace and its programs.

Depending on his/her interest, the Fellow might work with performers, playwrights and theater designers to develop a spoken word performance that responds to the visual works. Please watch this short PBS special to learn more about Roberto Lugo


**C. Symposium Organizer, Paying Homage: Soil + Site (Working Title).**
This placement will entail developing a 1-2 day September 2018 conference to flesh out themes and ideas that underpin the work of ceramics artists Roberto Lugo (see above) and others to illuminate the connection between clay and activism. The fellow will research, identify and correspond with scholars and activists, journalists, public intellectuals and artists whose work could be presented at the symposium. Leaning on the seminal work of noted Geographer Kenneth Foote *Shadowed Ground: America’s Landscapes of Violence and Tragedy (1998)*, the Fellow will generate lesson plans for educators and prompts that will encourage conference attendance and community conversations. The Fellow will correspond with potential speakers, help Artspace curate the program and develop a media outreach plan. Topics might include Clay and Environmental Justice, Clay and Juvenile Justice and may extend to history, politics, economics, ethics, the law, the media, and how we think about fairness. This placement will involve close work with Artspace’s senior staff, and partners at Yale Art Gallery, Southern CT State University, Common Ground School and The Global Institute for Arts & Leadership.

Artspace’s last such symposium, *Arresting Patterns*, drew 600 people, and will serve as a model. The Live Stream video of each panel, and the program book gives the full scope of the project.

- Specific skills/experience required for the project (*please list*):
  - Exposure to the contemporary visual arts, art history (theory and practice) and performance art/theater, OR
  - Experience in community development work (e.g. grass-roots organizing, advocacy, youth work, tutoring/mentoring, festivals)
  - Strong writing skills
  - A take-charge, entrepreneurial spirit
  - Web/PR/Design, Photo/Film/Radio, event production and/or Sound/Video/Projection experience will be very helpful
  - Art handling, installation, and events/fundraising experiences are pluses
  - Spanish is a plus, since Roberto Lugo’s project is anticipated to entail engagement with LatinX advocacy organizations.

Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, please include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage.
reimbursement): Access to a car is helpful but not required. Occasional Saturday work will be needed for exhibition openings and workshops.

- Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your agency in the past and present.

Since 2001, each Fellow has been given primary responsibility in coordinating one of our contemporary art exhibitions or programs. Some Fellows have even launched initiatives that have gone on to become Artspace core programs; for example, a past Fellow ran all aspects of our Summer Apprenticeship Program—a three-week, hands-on workshop in which a distinguished Master Artist collaborates with a team of fifteen urban high school students on the production of a major gallery installation. The Fellow assisted in all aspects of the educational initiative, from recruiting students, to designing field trips and mentoring students. A past History of Art graduate student Fellow worked with ten visiting artists on an innovative factory-based artist residency. He assisted each artist who came to New Haven in working with venerable local manufacturers to use their products and processes to make new work for an eventual exhibition at Artspace. He then wrote essays about the companies for the exhibition catalog and helped write several important grant proposals. After graduation, this experience helped him land a coveted curatorial post at the Andy Warhol Museum, and he has since become the Director. In 2017, a Graphic Design MFA student Fellow created the design and the visual identity materials for the annual City-Wide Open Studios festival. A past undergraduate Fellow helped organize Library Science, an ambitious exhibition and film series about our changing relationship with libraries in the digital age. She served as the liaison between host libraries and the artists-in-residence who were making new work. She also curated a show of photographs and drawings in our Project Room.

Our 2015 Fellow, Julia Hamer-Light, worked on these two projects:

https://vimeo.com/137947380
https://vimeo.com/142209838

Fellows usually also immerse themselves in one project of their choosing from among the upcoming exhibition and program calendar at Artspace. In sum, Artspace offers Fellows the freedom and platform they need to realize groundbreaking experimental work in the contemporary art field. In 2014, for example, Carl Stanley (School of Music), honed his grant writing skills by crafting our foundation and corporate sponsorship proposals for the City-Wide Open Studios festival. He also selected and programmed the festival’s eight music performances.