Organization: The Eli Whitney Museum

Full street address of organization (Fellows must be provided with a desk and computer at placement site and cannot work remotely): 915 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT 06517

Website: www.eliwhitney.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): Sally Hill

Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor: Sally Hill
203.777.1833  sh@eliwhitney.org

Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 26 and Friday, August 7, 2020): May 26 through Aug 7, 2020

Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: Our summer camp program is continuous from June 9 through Aug 22nd.

Our camp program runs for 11 weeks between June 9 and August 22. 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

Proposed work schedule (placements should be equivalent to full-time and not more than 37.5 hours/week): The hours of work are usually 8:30am – 4:00pm.
Placement Description

• Organization description (*mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.)*:

This 90 second video truly explains who we are.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNv9lgJNpP4&authuser=0

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 Workshop 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.

• Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (*50 words or less. This will be used as your organization’s project description summary on the PPSF website, so be succinct*):

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.

• Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (*Suggested length: one to two pages.*)

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.

Our Fellow will become a mentor to our staff of 80 Apprentices (not all at once however!), 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 he or she feel comfortable leading, or become part of the team who will be teaching our summer classes. The Fellow will work with all ages of summer campers, depending on his or her preference and our need for adult leaders. We try to accommodate age comfort levels of our staffers whenever possible.

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.eliwhitney.org/7/summer-2019

- List specific skills/experience required for the project:
  ~ Experience with the dynamics of teaching and learning.
  ~ An outgoing personality, ease with children young and teenage.
  ~ 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, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):
Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

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.