LATINO MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM - GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions

About the program
What is the Latino Museum Studies Program?
The Latino Museum Studies Program (LMSP) Graduate Fellowship is a summer fellowship hosted by the National Museum of the American Latino, in partnership with various Smithsonian museums and centers. The program takes place annually during the months of July and August. LMSP is a professional development program for graduate students interested in museum careers, with a focus on U.S. Latina/o/x Studies. Each fellow works closely with a Smithsonian content expert working on a specific project.

Eligibility
What are the program’s eligibility requirements?
All applicants must be enrolled in a masters or doctoral program in the United States. If you have been accepted into a program the fall of the year you are applying, you are able to apply providing documentation of your acceptance into an academic program.

Are recent graduates eligible to apply?
If you are graduating the semester before the program begins (Spring), you are eligible to apply. If you graduated the winter or any period before, you are unfortunately not eligible. You must be enrolled in a masters or doctoral program at the time of applying. For other Smithsonian internship and fellowship opportunities, please visit the following website: https://www.smithsonianofi.com/

Do I have to be Latino to apply?
You do not have to be Latino to apply. You do have to have an academic focus and interest in Latina/o/x Studies. Your focus should be on the U.S. Latina/o/x experience.

Do I have to be bilingual in English and Spanish to participate?
Fluency in English and Spanish is strongly preferred, but not required. Spanish fluency requirement may be needed on specific practicum projects. Please read each project description carefully to verify the language requirements. All programming is conducted in English.

Do I need to be a US citizen to participate in the program?
No. If you are enrolled in a masters or doctoral program in the United States, you are eligible to apply. US citizens, permanent residents, and F1 visa holders are eligible to apply.

General Information
How often do you accept applications?
Applications are accepted annually in the early part of the year. No submissions are accepted outside of the call for application period.

How many fellows are accepted for the program?
We select 12 fellows every year, unless otherwise noted.
What is needed to apply to the program?
The application is made available through the Smithsonian's Online Academic Appointment System (SOLAA). You will need to submit two essays, transcripts, resume/cv, and two letters of reference. For more information, reference the LMSP Graduate Program Application Checklist on the program’s website.

When are applications made available?
Applications are generally made available between January and February every year, unless otherwise noted. The call for applications is distributed through our website, social media channels, and various listservs.

When do applications close for the program?
Application deadlines are listed on our website. *Late submissions are not accepted. No exceptions are made.*

When are selections for announced?
Announcements are generally made approximately 6 weeks after the application deadline.

Am I able to apply in the future if not selected?
Yes, please consider reapplying if you are still eligible to do so.

Am I responsible for the costs of travel and lodging to participate in the Latino Museum Studies Program?
Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 program will be held virtually. Roundtrip economy air or regional rail transportation from within the United States to Washington, D.C. is provided. *Please do not purchase your own travel as you will not be refunded.* Fully furnished apartments are provided to enrolled fellows and common spaces are also shared with other members of the cohort. All fellows will have roommates. We are unable to provide individual rooms at this time.

Is a stipend provided?
Fellows will be provided a modest stipend to offset costs of meals and local transportation. *Any violation of the code of conduct will result in forfeit of stipend.*

What is the time commitment to participate in the program?
Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 program will be held virtually. The program is a full-time commitment and you must be able to be in Washington, D.C. for the duration of the program.

What are the program dates for the program?
The program dates are listed on our website.

I have other questions not answered in this document. Whom should I contact?
Any questions related to the program should be referred to LMSPInfo@si.edu.