



2010 Buchanan /Burnham Internships

The Newport Historical Society
Newport, Rhode Island, USA

Paid, Full-Time Internships, Summer 2010

Application Deadline: Complete applications must be received by **March 1, 2010**.

Internship Description: Join a team of students, scholars, and museum professionals studying and promoting the diverse and dynamic history of Newport, Rhode Island. Once a leading colonial seaport engaged in worldwide trade, Newport is a well-preserved and thriving historic community. Interns lead downtown walking tours and programs inside four historic sites: the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House (ca. 1697), the Great Friends Meeting House (1699), the Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House (1730), and the Newport Colony House (1739). Interns have access to the Newport Historical Society's internationally important manuscript and artifact collections. Intensive training is provided.

MUSEUM STUDIES INTERNS devote approximately half their time to tour guiding, ongoing training, and participation in the daily operations of the Newport Historical Society. The remainder of their time is devoted to one or more individual projects. These projects *may* contribute towards any of the following ongoing NHS initiatives:

- Public programs and exhibits related to Newport's history, including Rhode Island's ethnic groups and Newport's 20th century history.
- Updating existing tour scripts to reflect new scholarship
- Re-organizing, re-housing, and creating finding aids for various artifact, photograph and manuscript collections
- *Or, applicants may propose their own project on a different topic.*

40 hrs/wk, 6/1/10 - 8/14/10; **\$3,000 stipend**; 3 positions available.

THE POST-GRADUATE FELLOW IN HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION is open to a graduate student (or a recent MA or PhD recipient) with significant tour-guiding experience and familiarity with the early history and material culture of Newport, RI. The Fellow devotes half of the fellowship to supervising, coordinating and leading public tours; helping supervise the other interns' work on individual projects; planning and supervising ongoing guide enrichment; and participation in the daily operations of the Newport Historical Society. The remaining time is devoted to an individual public history project, or to ongoing research or dissertation work. The Fellow is responsible for offering a public program related to his or her project or research.

40 hrs/wk, 5/25/10 – 8/21/10 (1 wk. vacation, timing negotiable); **\$4,800 stipend**; 1 position available.

Eligibility: current undergraduate juniors and seniors, graduate students, and 2009 & 2010 college & university grads. The Newport Historical Society is an equal opportunity employer. The facilities of the NHS are not universally handicapped accessible; applicants with accessibility questions should contact the NHS for more information.

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To Apply: Send a **resume**, your official **transcript(s)** (including both undergraduate & graduate transcripts, if applicable), two **letters of recommendation**, and a **letter** stating your reasons for applying, your career goals, and your individual project preferences (or your proposed topic for an individual project) to:

Buchanan / Burnham Internship
Newport Historical Society
82 Touro Street
Newport, RI 02840

Benefits: Stipend as noted above, paid in equal installments every other week. *Housing is not provided; please note that summer housing is expensive in Newport. Furnished rooms are available through a local university at a rate of \$110 per week.*

Intern Selection Process: Admission to the internship program is competitive; candidates are selected by a committee of local scholars and NHS staff. Enthusiasm for history, historic artifacts, and architecture is required. Experience studying early America, giving tours, conducting historical research, or teaching is preferred. The NHS will invite leading candidates for telephone or face-to-face interviews in mid March; the NHS will notify successful candidates in mid April.

Internship Schedule: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, five days per week (Tuesday – Saturday). The first 1.5 weeks are devoted to training, with occasional ongoing training and enrichment throughout the summer. Interns are required to attend occasional evening lectures and programs and events.

Additional Income Sources: Interns may be eligible for some additional paid weekend or evening work as tour guides or at the Brick Market Museum. Additional pay may also be available for interns able to work as tour guides through the end of the tour season on September 1. Newport's tourist industry also offers some opportunities for part-time evening and weekend jobs.

For More Information: See www.newporthistorical.org/internship.htm, call (401) 846-0813, or send email to info@newporthistorical.org.

Comments from Previous Buchanan / Burnham Interns

“It was wonderful to go to work every day knowing that it would be different from the day before.”

“The internship is an incredibly valuable experience; not only do you learn about museum administration & procedures, you also get to handle collections and improve your confidence & public speaking skills by giving walking & sites tours. You not only learn about fascinating Newport history but a lot about American history (in general) as well.”

“This internship has helped me realize that I am heading in the right direction with my career, which is what any good internship should do.”

“Finishing this internship really gave me a feeling of having accomplished something.”

“Professionalism and organization of the entire internship program was amazing. I really appreciated all the work that went into preparing us to be ready for the public.”

“It's definitely nice to be welcomed by the institution and to actually feel like I'm doing something important here.”

“This really was the best summer of my life!”

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Some Projects Undertaken by Past Buchanan / Burnham Interns during their Internships

- “Homespun to High Fashion: Late 18th & Early 19th Century Clothing From the Collections of the Newport Historical Society,” a temporary exhibit
- “At War & At Home: Lessons for Newport History during the American Revolution,” a program plan for new school tours at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House
- “‘By Her Own Economy and Industry’: Enterprising Business Women in Eighteenth-Century Newport,” a research report and tour outline for a new women’s history walking tour
- “A Cosmetic Overhaul of the Havemeyer, Norman, and Oversize Photo Collections,” re-organizing, re-labeling, and re-housing thirty boxes of photographs from the NHS collections
- “Newport’s Buried History: Slavery & Freedom tour,” a walking tour highlighting the history of Newport’s people of color, the Wanton Lyman Hazard house’s ties to slavery, and the African American section of the Colonial Common Burying Ground.
- “Gilding the Globe: the Golden Opportunities of Newport’s Clarke Family,” a temporary exhibit
- “John G Wanton: A Guide for The Interpretation of the Wanton Family in the Wanton- Lyman-Hazard House,” a research report and refurnishing proposal
- “Mary (Polly) Wanton Character Development List,” a research report and partial outline for a new program of first-person role-playing at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House
- “*The Newport Daily News* Photo Project,” a new digital database of photographs from the NHS collections and a series of public presentations about the database
- “Indomitable Spirit” The Life & Legacy of William Ellery, Newport’s Signer of the Declaration of Independence, a temporary exhibit

Schools the Buchanan / Burnham Interns Have Come From

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| American University | Mount Holyoke College | U. of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Amherst College | Princeton University | University of New Hampshire |
| Brown University | Salve Regina University | University of Pennsylvania |
| Connecticut College | Smith College | University of Rhode Island |
| George Washington University | Syracuse University | Wellesley College |
| Hampshire College | University of Arizona | Wheaton College, Mass. |
| Oberlin College | University of Colorado, Boulder | Yale University |

Some Positions Held by Alumni of the Buchanan / Burnham Internship Program

Director of Education, Interpretation, & Visitor Services, King Manor Museum, Queens, NY
Educator, City Year Providence, Providence, RI
Education Coordinator, Chemung County Historical Society, Elmira, NY
Education Coordinator, Strawberry Banke Museum, Portsmouth, NH
Fellow, Gilder Lehrman History Scholars’ Program at Columbia University
M.A. program in Museum Studies, U. Saint Andrews, Scotland
Manager of Docent and Tour Programs, The Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich, CT
M. Phil. program in Historical Studies, Cambridge University, England
Museum Assistant & Tour Monitor, Emily Dickinson Museum, Amherst, MA
Ph.D. program in American History, University of New Hampshire
Ph.D. program in American History, American University
Ph.D. program in History, University of Southern California
Program Coordinator, Historic Deerfield, Deerfield, MA
Library Assistant, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL
Research Intern, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC