

James E. Lieber

Art History Internship Fund 2026

Established in 2019 by James E. Lieber '84, and awarded by the Art History Program, the Lieber Art History Internship Fund provides grant support to Art History majors or minors for summer work experience as rising juniors and seniors through unpaid or underpaid internships with non-profit visual arts-related institutions in the United States or abroad, such as museums, cultural foundations, collections, publications, and visual arts education programs.

The James E. Lieber Art History Internship Fund will be awarding one eligible applicant a **Wesleyan-sponsored Peggy Guggenheim Collection Internship** in Venice, Italy in June and July 2026. **In addition to covering program costs, the award includes a stipend of US\$1,000 to help offset travel expenses and a housing stipend of 1,000 euros per month, made available in Venice at the start of each month (for a total of 2,000 euros), to defray housing expenses.**

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation has overseen a unique international internship program at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection (PGC) for over 40 years. The program offers students of art, art history, or related fields the opportunity to gain practical experience in museum operations while becoming familiar with an important collection of modern art.

Interns play an active role in the museum's daily life, with tasks ranging from supporting the Visitor Services Department by welcoming visitors to being present in the galleries and engaging the public with the collection. The Education Department oversees the program, and interns deliver regular presentations to visitors on Peggy Guggenheim's life and career, individual works in the collection, and temporary exhibitions.

The daily schedule varies, and includes designated time for using the museum library, preparing and practicing talks, attending fellow students' presentations, and exploring the collection. Opportunities may also arise to assist departments on specific projects, such as social media content creation or assisting with the weekly Kids Day creative workshop for young children.

Throughout the monthly cycle of the program, interns have the chance to meet museum staff, learn about different departments, and participate in enriching activities such as seminars, guided tours, and visits to cultural sites in and beyond Venice.

Applicants should have at least a basic level of Italian prior to the program - this can be demonstrated through enrollment in a language course. Additional language skills are advantageous as the museum welcomes international visitors, though English serves as the program's shared language.

HOW TO APPLY

Please include the following materials:

1. A CV with relevant information regarding education, previous work and/or volunteer experience, and relevant skills.
2. A cover letter outlining your motivation for applying to the Internship Program at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, including knowledge of and/or willingness to learn foreign language(s), including Italian.
3. An unofficial Wesleyan academic transcript.
4. The names of two Art History faculty members to serve as references.
5. At the top of the first page, please include your Wes ID, Wesleyan Box number, email address, major(s), as well as your citizenship for tax purposes.

Please submit the above as an attachment to steoh@wesleyan.edu (Song Keng Teoh, Administrative Assistant for Art History) by **Friday, February 27, 2026, 12 noon**.

The application must contain the student's name (with the last name listed first) followed by **"Wesleyan-sponsored Peggy Guggenheim Collection Internship"** in the subject line.

Funding will be awarded on a competitive basis. The selection committee, composed of art history faculty, will examine each application, with special attention to the student's motivations and qualifications, and the ways in which the internship will advance their educational and post-graduation goals. Announcement of award for the Wesleyan-sponsored Peggy Guggenheim Collection Internship will be made by mid-March 2026.

The award recipient is to submit a final report, 1-2 pages in length, no later than Friday, September 25, 2026, 12 noon, describing the internship experience.