Changing Faces Oral History Internship

Project Overview

The internship would be directly related to the current exhibition in development at the museum titled "Changing Faces." The exhibition chronicles the history of changing faces in the dental field, and celebrates the individuals, organizations, and schools that shaped the dental field today. Dental history is a relatively unresearched field, and underrepresented communities in dentistry is even more so undocumented. The oral histories created through this project will represent a largely unrepresented portion of a significant professional history in America, which we hope will not only result in sharing the integral histories but encourage new scholarship and diverse growth in the field. The project will focus on preliminary research to identify and create questions for pioneer individuals who pushed for equality and inclusion in the field. The questions and research will be used to conduct oral histories both on-site at the museum, and potentially around the country. The intern will be able to participate in and learn each step of the oral history process from preliminary research to interviewing and from editing to the final inclusion in the museum's exhibition.

Position Description

The museum is seeking one intern to participate in researching for, conducting, editing, and publishing oral histories. The position will be at minimum for 2.5 days per week and be completed during the course of a 12-week period.

Tasks

- Conducting research
- Formulating appropriate questions based on research and project goals
- Utilizing audio and video recording equipment during interviews
- Processing and editing audio and video files
- Accessioning finalized products into the museum's collection
- Incorporating oral histories into the "Changing Faces" exhibition

Learning Objectives

- Conduct and synthesize research into an accessible format
- Formulate questions suited for an oral history project based on research
- Prepare for, set up the equipment for, and conduct one-on-one interviews
- Properly utilize audio and video equipment and editing software
- Incorporate stories and oral histories into exhibitions
Other Benefits

The National Museum of Dentistry is a Smithsonian Affiliate and will provide opportunities for the intern to learn from and collaborate with faculty and staff across the Smithsonian Institution.

Minimum Requirements + Skills

- A degree in or currently pursuing a degree in museum studies, history, communications, electronic media & film, or a related field
- Basic knowledge of audio and video equipment/software (preferred)
- Basic knowledge of conducting research (preferred)

Application Process

Applicants must submit a CV, cover letter, and two references to Patrick Cutter at pcutter@umaryland.edu or complete the online application.

All work completed for the museum during the internship will be the intellectual property of the museum, and can be used in future exhibitions, marketing, fundraising, educational programs, and other museum related activities.