Call for Proposals: 2019–2020 Resident Fellowships

Buffalo Bill Center of the West (Center) in Cody, Wyoming, invites proposals for its 2019–2020 Resident Fellowship Program. Fellowships are intended to fund research advancing knowledge, understanding, and passion about the extraordinary cultural and natural heritage of the American West and its timeless and global relevance. Fellows will be granted a stipend based on their submitted budget and the availability of funding, not to exceed $5,000. Fellowships require at least one-week residency or more, dependent upon the parameters of the Fellow’s research needs. The period of residency must be completed between June 1, 2019, and May 31, 2020. Fellows are responsible for arranging their transportation, lodging, and meals during residency. (Note: Cody housing/lodging demands are very high during the months of June, July, and August. The CENTER recommends Fellows consider scheduling their research in the off-season, if this is possible.)

Fellows may pursue field research in association with ongoing studies conducted by CENTER curatorial staff in the Greater Yellowstone region or conduct archival and artifactual research among the collections of the CENTER: McCracken Research Library, the Buffalo Bill Museum, the Whitney Western Art Museum, the Plains Indian Museum, the Cody Firearms Museum, or the Draper Natural History Museum. Research and collection strengths at the CENTER include but are not limited to these: western art and art history, Plains Indian art and cultures, Greater Yellowstone ecology and conservation, firearms history and technology, western history, and the life and times of William F. Cody. Projects must be relevant to the CENTER’s mission and tied to its resources and/or expertise. Special consideration will be given to research proposals that incorporate an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the American West.

As a direct result of the Fellowship award, Fellows are expected to prepare a professional presentation and/or publication crediting the support of CENTER. Informal discussions of research findings and active collaboration with CENTER staff and other Fellows are encouraged. Fellows will also be asked to submit a brief summary of findings upon completion of residency.

Proposals for the 2019–2020 Fellowship Program (no more than two single-spaced pages) should outline a personal statement of purpose, the project parameters, and specific reference to how the CENTER’s staff expertise, archival, photographic, and physical collections, or other resources will significantly contribute to the ultimate success of the project. In an attachment to the proposal, please also include a proposed budget for the fellowship, not to exceed $5,000, and a timeline outlining the plan of research and dates for anticipated products. Please submit two letters of reference and any other relevant material.

Proposals will be awarded based on the following criteria:

1. A candidate’s professional background and academic accomplishments.
2. The extent to which the proposed project draws upon the Center’s collections, resources, and/or expertise.
3. The research project’s potential contribution to understanding of the cultural and natural heritage of the American West and its timeless and global relevance.
4. The potential for professional presentation and/or publication upon completion of the Fellow’s research.

Please submit all application materials electronically by March 31, 2019, to terryh@centerofthewest.org. Candidates will be selected by April 15, 2019, and notified by e-mail.