



Kress Interpretive Fellow
at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, University of Utah

The UMFA's mission is to ignite critical dialogue and illuminate the role of art in our lives. We are thus committed to exploring new and innovative ways of working — particularly among curators and educators — in order to increase our visitors' abilities to access and navigate the Museum's collection in meaningful ways. As a university museum, the UMFA also works closely with faculty and students from the University of Utah's Department of Art and Art History to increase campus engagement and interaction with the Museum's collection. The Kress Interpretive Fellow will work in close collaboration with the UMFA's curatorial and education departments, with guidance from the Executive Director, to develop new ways for visitors to deepen their understanding of the UMFA's European art collection.

Job Summary:

The UMFA is seeking an enthusiastic, innovative, collaborative, and audience-minded aspiring museum professional to serve as Kress Interpretive Fellow. Under the supervision and mentorship of the Curator of Education, the Director of Education and Engagement, and the Curator of European, American, and Regional Art, the Interpretive Fellow will work with both the Education and Curatorial departments to create a variety of interpretive and educational materials centered on the UMFA's European art collection. Supported by a prestigious grant award from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the Fellow will help fulfill the Museum's mission of inspiring critical dialogue and illuminating the role of art in our lives. The ideal candidate will be deeply committed to creating an outstanding visitor experience and to meeting the interests and needs of the UMFA's diverse audiences both on campus and across the region. With collaboration as the working foundation, the Fellow will create curriculum, interpretive, and didactic materials, and conduct research centered on the UMFA collections as well as participate in teaching and learning opportunities on the University of Utah campus and in the community.

Minimum Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree in art history, art or museum education, studio art, museum studies, or a related field required; Master's degree preferred. Experience in conducting curatorial research; willingness to work in a collaborative spirit. Excellent writing ability, particularly for wide variety of audiences. Desire to think deeply about museum best practices, museum education and learning theory, and informal education practices. Interest in pursuing a career in curatorial work and/or museum education and engagement. Willingness to develop new, collaborative approaches to working and learning at the intersection of museum education and interpretation, and the study and curation of art objects and museum collections. Excellent organizational skills as well as demonstrated and effective communication skills also required.

Responsibilities:

Work collaboratively with the Director of Education and Engagement, Curator of Education, and Curator of European, American, and Regional Art as well as with others in the Museum, across campus and in the community to develop and implement interpretive and educational material primarily for the UMFA's collection of European art, with additional work possible within the American and Regional art collections.

Specific tasks may include:

- a. Researching and writing labels and interpretive texts
- b. Creating interactive exhibition elements and hands-on materials
- c. Researching provenance and art historical information about the collection
- d. Creating curriculum for K-12 and higher education students and teachers
- e. Creating and implementing education programs related to the collection for families, K-12 students, teachers, university students and faculty, and the community.
- f. Participating in educational opportunities at the University such as workshops, lectures, classes, or symposia
- g. Creating content and sharing information about the collection and its reinstallation for the UMFA website
- h. Documenting findings and generating a final written report with the intention of disseminating findings with the field as widely as possible, via local and national peer associations and conferences.

Details:

10-12 month appointment to begin September 2015.

\$25,000 stipend with some additional funds available for related travel and/or research.

Application Procedure:

Send cover letter, CV, names and contact information for 3 references, and 1-2 writing samples not to exceed 1,500 words total to kressfellowship@umfa.utah.edu. Please direct related questions to this address as well.

deadline: June 30, 2015

This position is funded by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

Other Interpretive Fellowship award recipients include the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Cleveland Museum of Art, Frick Collection, High Museum of Art, MOMA, National Gallery of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, and Clark Art Institute.