Museum Studies Collections Internship, Summer 2019

The Museum Studies Collections Internship is a professional opportunity under the supervision of the Museum Studies Program Coordinator and in collaboration with the Provost’s Office of Outreach and Engagement. Over the course of the summer, the intern will develop a comprehensive collections management policy and plan that aligns with the specific needs of the Gas Station Memorabilia at Preston’s Historic District in Belle Plaine, Iowa. Interns will be required to make at least one site visit to Belle Plaine with the internship supervisor to discuss the collection care needs of the historic site.

Internship duties:

- In person visit with internship supervisor to the site to see the collection and discuss the specific needs of the historic site (transportation will be arranged)
- Researching, reading, and learning about collections management best practices
- Writing a comprehensive collections management policy that follows museum best practice standards and meets the needs of the historic site
- Meeting regularly with the internship supervisor to review project progress
- Developing an overview presentation of the collection care policies to be shared with the community partner along with the final collections care policy document

Applicant requirements:

- Only open to current students pursuing the Museum Studies Certificate
- Need to have completed MUSM:3001, Introduction to Museum Studies course
- MUSM:3200 Collections Care and Management course is recommended, but not required
- This internship fulfills the MUSM:4080 3 s.h. museum certificate requirement

To Apply: Interested students should apply can send a resume and letter of interest that speaks to why this is of interest to the student and citing any museum collections-based experience (courses, internships, projects). Email letters to Dr. Heidi Lung, Lecturer and Museum Studies Program Coordinator at heidi-lung@uiowa.edu. Deadline is April 15.

The Gas Station Memorabilia at Peterson’s Historic District in Belle Paine is a site rich in history that houses many artifacts relating to a gas station once run by George Preston in Belle Plaine, Iowa. Among the artifacts is a collection of historic metal automotive signs.

The Provost’s Office of Outreach and Engagement (OO&E) is a campus-wide effort to enhance the capacity of rural and urban communities in Iowa to address the environmental, equity, economic, and cultural issues they face today and to help them plan for a sustainable future. Through enhanced community partnerships, OO&E invests University of Iowa faculty and student time to increase the capacity of Iowa communities to accomplish meaningful projects. By taking students out of the classroom and into communities to complete real-world projects, OO&E accomplishes two university-wide goals: enhancing sustainability across the state and transforming teaching and learning at the University of Iowa. For more information visit http://outreach.uiowa.edu.