

Dear Colleagues, Supporters and Friends:

27 October 2016

On behalf of Doug Comer, Chair of the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees, my committee co-chair Troy Thompson, and the rest of my fellow Trustees, I am pleased to share with you this **call for applications for Hosts and Sponsors for the 2017 International Exchange Program (IEP).** 

Since 1984, the US/ICOMOS IEP has engaged partners across the world in hands-on training of emerging cultural heritage professionals. To date, more than 700 preservation interns and 70 countries have participated. The program shares the best cultural heritage preservation practices that the United States has to offer to hundreds of young professionals from overseas, and introduces young Americans to the personal and communal benefits of international cultural engagement. As a former intern myself (to Petra, Jordan, in 1999), I know firsthand the value of this program. In addition to building the skills and knowledge of emerging professionals, the program establishes lifelong professional and personal contacts. These connections are the basis of so many positive relationships that improve the quality of the international heritage profession, and the lives of practitioners across the globe.

This year we will continue to align the IEP with the six "Knowledge Exchange" themes that US/ICOMOS established in 2015 to guide the organization and better serve our members and connect them to world heritage practice. These themes are: (1) Climate Change and Heritage; (2) Cultural Landscape Practice; (3) Help Diverse American Communities Tell their Stories; (4) Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development; (5) Heritage in Times of Conflict and Disaster, and (6) World Heritage Management. Consistent with our new approach, we positioned the IEP to reflect these themes in 2016. For 2017, IEP Hosts are again encouraged to build their hosting opportunities around these themes and support IEP Interns working on related issues and challenges.

More information on the 2017 IEP is attached, including a link to the online application form. I hope that you will support the program this year, either through a host placement, a sponsor donation, or both. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about the IEP. Please contact me at <a href="mailto:blione@usicomos.org">blione@usicomos.org</a>, either with your questions, or to set a time to talk.

Brian Michael Lione

Member, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees;

Co-Chair, US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program; Member, ICOMOS Working Group on Iraq and Syria, and

Former US/ICOMOS Intern to Jordan (1999)

Enclosure

Sincerely



## HOST A US/ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL INTERN! 2017 US/ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program (IEP) in Historic Preservation provides advanced training and hands-on experience for preservation professionals early in their careers. Sponsorship of an intern enables an organization to establish international connections and help train future professionals through preservation work experience at a modest cost to the host organization. Exchanges also build rewarding social, political, and personal relationships. US/ICOMOS IEP participants are usually in their last year of a relevant graduate education program or have been working for 1-3 years in a professional capacity. Successful applicants are those who demonstrate an interest in gaining international preservation work experience, NOT simply those who need an internship to fulfill a program requirement. The program is very competitive; typically, fewer than 1 in 5 applicants are awarded internships, so those selected are usually highly qualified

## PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR 2017 INTERNSHIPS:

27 October - Calls for Intern Applications and Host and Sponsor Application are circulated.

8 January - IEP Host Applications are due. 15 January - Intern applications are due.

February/March - Interns are matched to hosts; hosts approve placements; final selections are made.

Early April - Deadline for interns to accept placements.

Late May/Early June - Intern orientation in Washington, DC.

June - August - Internship at the host organization.

Mid-August - Interns return to Washington, DC for final program and reception.

The above schedule can be modified to fit the specific needs of host organizations, as long as it allows the interns to participate in the orientation and final programs that provide important opportunities for them to meet together and learn from each other by sharing their experiences.

## **EXPECTATIONS:**

HOST ORGANIZATIONS IN THE US are expected to contribute funding to US/ICOMOS to support the intern costs, with the amount based on such factors as cost-of-living in the host city, provision of free or reduced-cost housing, etc.

HOST ORGANIZATIONS OVERSEAS are asked to provide financial or logistical assistance, if possible, such as free or low-cost room and board. In some cases, US/ICOMOS may be able to obtain grant support to provide supplemental funds for overseas internships.

FOR ALL HOSTS: It is highly unlikely that US/ICOMOS will be able to support placements with Host Organizations that do not contribute financial or in-kind support for an intern. For 2016, placements averaged about \$6000 per person. US/ICOMOS works to defray these costs through grants and donations, but cannot promise to do so.

ALL HOST ORGANIZATIONS are expected to cover all work-related costs for the interns, including transportation to and from project sites, if required for the internship, and assistance in finding housing, if not provided.

US/ICOMOS handles all recruiting for, and review of, the applicants; provides assistance to the intern in obtaining a J-1 (Training) Visa (if required), and conducts and funds an orientation and final program for all interns in Washington, DC. US/ICOMOS also handles the distribution of all stipend payments and provides supplemental travel insurance for interns. The amount of the stipend varies, depending on the cost-of-living in



different locations, availability of free or reduced-cost housing, and amount of grant support and other monetary contributions received for the exchange program. Travel costs to and from Washington and the Host location are borne by the IEP Participant, unless otherwise subsidized by the IEP Host and / or US/ICOMOS.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

TO BE CONSIDERED AS A HOST FOR A US/ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL INTERN, please <u>complete the online</u> <u>application at https://goo.gl/forms/PyzhqtladsYJtYVz1</u> <u>on or before 8 January 2017</u>. After an initial review, someone will contact you to discuss further details.

The online application will collect:

- Administrative information about the proposed IEP host;
- A title for the proposed intern project;
- A description for the proposed project;
- A description of the proposed work: (office vs. field, solo vs. group, etc.);
- A list of the technical skills required for the proposed project;
- A description of the final product to be produced by the IEP Intern;
- Information concerning housing for the IEP Intern;
- Information on IEP Intern costs, and
- Information on required transportation.

The online form should be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 8 January 2017. Questions on the process, including the online form, should be directed to Brian Lione, Co-chair, IEP Committee and Member, Board of Trustees at blione@usicomos.org.