

Open call

Spring 2019 Studio Assistantship

A volunteer position that includes professional development and an artist residency program

Spring 2019 term: January – July 2019

Application deadline: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at midnight

Orientation: January 11-16 2019

The Studio Assistantship is an educational opportunity designed for emerging artists who have recently completed an undergraduate degree program in glass, or who are pursuing a professional career working in glass. This program provides practical, professional studio experience in a museum setting. Participants contribute to the Studio's operations by assisting with public glass demonstrations, public and college classes, maintenance, audio-visual support, and special events for up to 20 hours per week for the duration of the term. As public representatives of the Museum, Studio Assistants must have strong verbal and interpersonal skills and be willing and eager to be positive contributing members of the team. Studio Assistants must have significant (2-3 years) glassblowing experience and be able to lift at least 50 lbs.

There are two competitive six-month assistantship sessions per year.

- SPRING SEMESTER: Mid-January – Mid-July
- FALL SEMESTER: Mid-July – Mid-January

The Assistantship is an unpaid artist residency program. Housing and food are not provided.

TIME REQUIREMENTS: People with full-time responsibilities (school/job) are highly discouraged from applying as they are unable to take full advantage of the program and its benefits. Assistants often seek part-time employment. Assistants' part-time jobs are taken into consideration when scheduling.

Each Studio Assistant is assigned the following weekly studio responsibilities approximately 20 per week.

- Up to two dedicated days to support Studio programming
- Clean up and weekly studio touch base

Additional involvement throughout the semester could include:

- Third Thursday Performance Series (Monthly; approximately 10 hours including dress rehearsal and performance)
- Participation in the Visiting Artist Series, guest artist visits, and lectures.
- Personal Studio visits with guest artists.
- Participation in 2-day studio sale (commission-free)
- Community arts district projects

Outside of the above responsibilities, Studio Assistants can expect to spend approximately 20 hours per week devoted to their personal artistic practice. Activities will include:

- A. Weekly 3-hour mentored professional development workshops (see detailed curriculum outlined below)
- B. Out-of-class work relating to professional development workshop
- C. 2 hours a week of personal hot shop time (and partner assist for 2 hours)
- D. Weekly FREE 3-hour technical skill sessions that address different topics. Each session is driven by Assistant interests, including pate de verre, stained glass, neon, frameworking, Rayzist, decals, and blowing.

Assistants are provided the following:

- A. Personal studio space in adjacent building with 24-hour access.
- B. Glass Studio access from 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., 7 days a week (with some additional evening hours). Public hours are Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
- C. Full access to the cold shop during Studio open hours.
- D. Kiln access, restricted to space availability.
- E. Frameworking access, restricted to space availability.
- F. Gallery space to mount an exhibition.
- G. Partial scholarship awards to classes taught by Studio staff.
- H. Commission-free participation in the Studio's quarterly sale.
- I. One Year Museum Membership benefits.
- J. The opportunity to work with world-recognized masters in our Visiting Artist Series, guest instructor classes, and innovative Third Thursday evening performances. This is one of the most unique aspects of the program.

Weekly professional development workshops include the following:

- A. Behind-the-scenes looks into museum careers with tours of the Chrysler Museum collection, conservation, storage, and Jean Outland Chrysler Library's research facilities
- B. Research of the Chrysler Museum collection followed by a project design or proposal
- C. Writing workshops, including personal biography, artist statement, resume, and museum proposal development/review
- D. Artist documentation and image archiving practices
- E. Business cards, website development, and newsletter production
- F. Public speaking seminar
- G. Basic artist business practices: invoicing, pricing, accounting, and taxes
- H. Best application practices and submission for three different artist opportunities

ELIGIBILITY:

- A. Recent graduates with a BFA or BA in glass or equivalent experience in the field are eligible for the Studio Assistantship.
- B. Students currently enrolled in college are not eligible due to time restrictions.

The Traveling Assistant Position:

During each session, the Chrysler Museum Perry Glass Studio accepts one Traveling Assistant. The Museum provides a free apartment for this Assistant during the duration of their term since the traveler typically comes from a greater distance to participate in this program. The traveler has additional responsibilities and is expected to have more glass and studio practice experience. The Museum is not able to sponsor or facilitate visas. *Please note in your letter of interest if you are applying for this position.*

Note: With the exception of the studio manager, all Chrysler Museum Perry Glass Studio staff and adjunct professors are graduates of the Assistantship. The Studio has hired exclusively from the pool of more than 110 alumni.

Applicants should submit the following electronically:

- A. A letter of interest outlining studio experience and personal goals for the program
- B. Current resume
- C. Up to five images of your work
- D. Image list
- E. List of three references with contact information

Please send any specific questions to Gayle Forman, Program Coordinator, at gforman@chrysler.org

Previous Assistants can reapply for additional terms, and if selected, may participate in up to two sessions total, which need not be consecutive.