

FORT  TICONDEROGA
AMERICA'S FORT

FELLOWSHIP POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellowship:
Collections Fellowship: Headgear Collection**
Posted 08 November 2018

Fellowship runs from June 10-August 16, 2019

Founded in 1909, Fort Ticonderoga has for over a century been a leader in preserving objects related to military culture from North America in the “long 18th century” (1609-1815). The proposed Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellowship project will further enable the museum to meet its mission to *preserve, educate, and provoke active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations. We foster an on-going dialogue surrounding citizens, soldiers, and nations through America's military heritage.*

Amongst the most significant collection that the museum holds is that of military uniforms and other related textiles and apparel. The museum preserves one of the largest collections of late 18th- and early 19th-century military dress in North America with garments including coats, waistcoats, breeches, and trousers ranging in date from the 1760s through the 1850s, and accessories such as caps and hats. This chronological sweep mirrors the broader collection of weaponry, equipment, and literature. The clothing collection tracks the evolution of military dress in Britain and America over a period of 80 years, including the oldest known American-made military coat in existence and other important garments worn by regular and militia soldiers. In addition to clothing, textiles include flags, knapsacks, and other cloth objects. Fort Ticonderoga's rare examples of textiles include a British soldier's blanket from the Battle of Hubbardton during the Revolutionary War, the Royal Emigrants Flag, one of just three surviving British camp colors from the 18th century, a finger woven sash attributed to the Seneca orator and warrior Red Jacket, and the only extant knapsack identified to a Continental soldier along with a handwritten note confirming its provenance.

In preparation for a 2020 exhibit, the Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellow will:

- Work with the Registrar to take record images of, and hi-res photography of each piece of headgear,
- Create custom storage mounts for each piece of headgear,
- Work with the collections team to create updated condition reports for each piece of headgear,
- Catalog each object into the collections database, PastPerfect, so it is accessible to staff and researchers
- Create social media posts that document the project,
- Work on other collections departmental initiatives as assigned

The Collections fellow must be detail-oriented, highly organized, and able to manage multiple projects simultaneously. A Bachelor's degree in History, Art History, Museum Studies, Material Culture, Library and Information Science, or demonstrated collections/archival experience required. Applicants must have practical knowledge of object handling.

Demonstrated proficiency in creating custom storage mounts, especially working with tools and cutting blue board, preferred. Experience with collections historical research with a focus on material culture, and familiarity with PastPerfect (or other museum collections database), knowledge of early 19th-century fashion, and digital photography a plus.

Applicants must submit a CV, cover letter, a five-page writing sample (may be an excerpt from a longer piece), and as well as an example of a museum-based project (the candidate may interpret this as s/he will. Pieces may include photographs of a storage mount, label copy from an exhibition, a cataloging project, a video, or other digital media). Email file attachments must be labeled with the candidate's last name (example: Peters_cv.pdf, Peters_sample.pdf, Peters_project.doc, etc.).

Applications should be submitted to Rich Strum, Director of Academic Programs, at rstrum@fort-ticonderoga.org.