



**FORT
TICONDEROGA**
FELLOWSHIP POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellowship:
Curatorial Research Fellowship**
Posted 5 November 2021

Fellowship runs from June 6-August 12, 2022

Over the course of 2022 Fort Ticonderoga will be making our substantial archival collections more visible and accessible to researchers and the public. Along with this we are developing new ways to use archival material for educational programming and exhibition. The 2022 Edward W. Pell Curatorial Research Fellowship will assist the curator by completing a unique annotated transcription project and the planning and development of a digital exhibition.

This project centers on the manuscript diary of Ensign William Johnson, a young officer in the British 29th Regiment of Foot who came to North America in 1776. Serving with the British Indian department and assigned to the Mohawk community of St. Regis (Akwasasne) he set about learning French and Mohawk to better act as a liaison. His diary not only includes accounts of his travel, correspondence, and purchases, but several pages of phrases and important words translated from French into Mohawk taught to him by "the amiable miss Margaret Byron" a woman in the St. Regis community. This preserved transcription of the 18th century Mohawk language represents a unique and powerful historical source. Johnson's diary helps reinforce the central role of Indigenous communities in the American Revolution, and the complexity and diversity of warfare in late 18th-century North America. Transcribing and annotating the diary to better understand its contents is a vital step toward interpreting the collision of language, culture, gender, war, and revolution during the trauma of the American War of Independence.

The 2022 Edward W. Pell Research Fellow will:

- Complete a transcription of Ensign William Johnson's Diary
- Conduct additional research to contextualize people, places, names, events, and objects within the diary to better understand its significance
- Collaborate with Fort Ticonderoga's Curator to develop a digital exhibition surrounding Ensign Johnson's Diary

The Research Fellow must have a background working with archival documents and museum objects, with an ability to read, understand, and accurately interpret 18th-century script, and the experience and creativity to carefully research complex historical subjects. They must be detail-oriented, organized, and able to work independently. Experience with 18th century military, cultural, and/or indigenous history, as well as French and/or Mohawk would be advantageous, but candidates from a number of fields including, but not limited to, History, Archaeology, Art History, or Material Culture will be considered.

Applicants must submit a resume, 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 they choose). Pieces may include graphics or label copy from an exhibition, a video, or other digital or design based media).

Applications should be submitted to Rich Strum, Director of Academic Programs, at rstrum@fort-ticonderoga.org no later than January 17, 2022.