

## Indigenous Community Research Fellowships American Philosophical Society Library & Museum

The American Philosophical Society (APS) Library & Museum is now accepting applications for its 2020 Indigenous Community Research Fellowships. Made possible by generous donors and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), these fellowships support research by Indigenous community members, elders, teachers, knowledge keepers, tribal officials, traditional leaders, museum and archive professionals, scholars, and others, regardless of academic background, seeking to examine materials at the APS Library & Museum in support of Indigenous community-based priorities.

The fellowship may be used by individuals or used to enable a group of researchers to visit the APS in Philadelphia. Any community whose cultural heritage is represented in the APS Library & Museum's collections is encouraged to apply. University-based scholars and independent researchers working on projects in collaboration with Native communities are also eligible to apply. Such applicants are expected to provide letters of support from relevant community members.

Funding is limited and competitive. Applications will be evaluated based upon the applicant's demonstrated need to use APS Library & Museum resources to advance the project. Funds must be used within one year of receipt of the award.

Archivists at the APS's [Center for Native American and Indigenous Research \(CNAIR\)](#) will assist fellowship recipients with research support before and during the research visit. CNAIR focuses on helping Indigenous communities and scholars to discover and utilize the APS collection in innovative ways. The Collections comprise a vast archive of documentary sources (including manuscript materials, audio recordings, and images) related to over 650 Indigenous cultures, predominantly from the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Note: Indigenous community-based researchers are not required to hold a fellowship in order to access the APS collections in person or through online requests. CNAIR archivists can be contacted at any time for reference assistance.

Applicants should submit the following materials via Interfolio or by mail:

- Cover Letter (1 page)
- Project Proposal (2-4 pages double-space)
  - Provide an outline of the rationale of the project, and goals for the visit to the APS Library and Museum, and envisioned outcomes and uses of the research after the fellowship.

- Identify likely materials of interest for the fellowship research. (For information on APS collections, visit the [Indigenous Subject Guide](#) and contact Curator of Native American Materials, Brian Carpenter, [bcarpenter@amphilsoc.org](mailto:bcarpenter@amphilsoc.org))
  - Provide names of participant(s) who would visit the Library and Museum
  - Provide a proposed timeline for the fellowship term
- Budget
    - Please fill out the budget worksheet available for download on the fellowship website: <https://www.amphilsoc.org/grants/indigenous-community-research-fellowships>. Guidelines for estimating travel costs to and from Philadelphia, lodging, and other expenses are also available for download on the website.
    - Completed worksheets should be uploaded with the rest of the application materials in the portal in Interfolio or sent by mail.
    - Applicants may request up to a maximum of \$5,000.
  - Letters of Support (2 total)
    - Letters from people with knowledge of the project but who are not directly involved in it. Applicants are encouraged to get letters that indicate community support from people such as members of the community active in cultural or linguistic revitalization, tribal government or authorities, or other relevant leaders or entities.
  - CV/Resume

The deadline for applications is October 15, 2019. Proposals submitted by October 15 will be reviewed for projects proposing a visit to the APS Library and Museum collections between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Notification will be sent by the end of November.

To apply, please submit your proposal electronically by **October 15** via Interfolio <http://apply.interfolio.com/66731>, or by post to:

Adrianna Link, Head of Scholarly Programs  
 American Philosophical Society Library  
 105 S. Fifth Street  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106

## About CNAIR

The Center for Native American and Indigenous Research (CNAIR) works with Indigenous communities throughout North America and with scholars in many disciplines. The goal of CNAIR is to assist people in discovering and utilizing the American Philosophical Society Library & Museum's extensive collections in innovative ways that honor Indigenous knowledge, cultivate scholarship, and strengthen languages and cultural traditions. The APS Library & Museum contains over 1,900 linear feet of unique manuscripts, photographs, and audio recordings relating to over 650 different Indigenous cultures of the Americas, predominantly from the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

## **About the APS**

The American Philosophical Society (APS), the oldest learned society in the United States, was founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for the purposes of “promoting useful knowledge.” In the 21st century, it serves to advance knowledge and promote scholarship in the humanities and social, mathematical, life, and physical sciences. Members of the Society are elected from among the most eminent scholars and civic and cultural leaders in North America and abroad. More than 100 living APS Members are Nobel laureates.

The APS Library & Museum’s collections make it among the premier institutions for documenting and exhibiting the history of the American Revolution and founding, the history of science from Newton to NASA, Native American languages and culture, and the development of American anthropology. The Library houses over 13 million manuscripts, 350,000 volumes and bound periodicals, 250,000 images, fine art, and other objects. Museum exhibitions interpret these extensive collections for the regional, national, and international visitors who come to Philadelphia’s historic district. In so doing, the exhibitions aim to nurture the spirit of inquiry, promote critical thinking, and engender enthusiasm for object-based learning by using primary source documents and authentic objects. The Library & Museum also hosts a robust fellowship program, offering over 25 short-term and 10 long-term fellowships each year to scholars using its collections.

For Further Information on APS Library & Museum Collections visit:  
<http://amphilsoc.org/library> and <http://amphilsoc.pastperfectonline.com/>