ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

At a time when issues surrounding migrants, refugees, and immigration have taken center stage, the Tenement Museum is a potent reminder that, as a nation shaped by immigration, our brightest hope for the future lies in the lessons of the past.

Our mission is to foster a society that embraces and values the role of immigration in the evolving American identity through guided tours; curriculum and programs for secondary and post-secondary educators; stories, primary sources and media shared on our website; and interactive online experiences such as Your Story, Our Story, podcasts and more.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

As part of the Tenement Museum’s “Two Joseph Moores” initiative, the Museum seeks an intern to conduct original research on the experiences of Black New Yorkers in mid-19th century New York City, and the histories of race and ethnicity in 19th century America.

While seeking information in public records about Joseph Moore and his family, Irish immigrants who lived briefly at 97 Orchard Street and are featured on our “Irish Outsiders” tour, however, the Museum made the serendipitous discovery in the New York City Directory of an African American Joseph Moore family living in 1869 in a rear tenement at 17 Laurens Street (now West Broadway). The Museum now seeks to transform “Irish Outsiders” into a (yet unnamed) tour on race and ethnicity in mid-19th-century New York by recreating elements of the African American Joseph Moore home in our National Historic Landmark tenement's 5th floor and comparing and contrasting the two family narratives.

In connection with this work, the intern will complete a substantial research study that will help guide interpretive planning, exhibit design, and tour composition. The intern will also conduct multiple internal roundtable discussions to share emerging research and develop familiarity with content with Tenement Museum leadership, education, and curatorial teams and with teams for partnering institutions.

Visit gsas.nyu.edu/public-humanities-initiative.html to learn more about the Public Humanities Initiative in Doctoral Education program. This position is only available through this program; please do not contact the host organization directly.
In addition, the intern will also participate in regular meetings of the Museum's internal project team, and contribute to discussions about research direction, interpretive theme development, staff education and training, and physical exhibit development. They will help plan and coordinate a meeting with the Museum's committee of advisory scholars and present their research to date to the committee. Lastly, the intern may be asked to contribute material for the Tenement Museum Social Media, Blog and/or Newsletter.

Throughout the project, the intern will be supervised by the Director of Curatorial Affairs, who will provide all necessary guidance and direction.

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified candidates will have a deep academic foundation in the history of 19th century race and ethnicity in America, preferably in the context of New York’s Black community during this period. Preference will be given to those currently pursuing a related research project. Candidates with experience working on public history projects or in a museum setting encouraged to apply. The intern should be adept at working independently and exhibit excellent written and verbal communication skills.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION QUESTION

Can you tell us about an experience you have had presenting a complex topic in history or a related discipline to a public, non-academic audience? What worked for you and what did not?

APPLICATION

- All applications must be submitted through NYU's Public Humanities Initiative online application
- Application deadline: May 1, 2020, 11:59pm

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