Hemingway in Idaho Research Fellowship

Fellowship summary
The Community Library’s Regional History Department welcomes applications from current graduate students in the humanities, literature, museum studies, library science, information studies, preservation, archives, or a related program for its new professional fellowship program. The program is designed to provide practical experience to current graduate students interested in pursuing a career in special collections, historic structures, and/or literature setting.

The Regional History Department is The Community Library’s principal repository for the Hemingway archives, manuscripts, and rare books as well as strong collections of historical materials. Its collections are regionally known and used by a range of patrons from young students to scholars from around the world. For further information about the Regional History Department, consult the library's web site at: http://www.comlib.org/regionalhistory/.

Professional fellows will research specific aspects of the Hemingway House collection and will also assist with the integration of the Ernest and Mary Hemingway House collections, the special collections at the Library (including the oral history collection), and the Library’s Sun Valley Museum of History. Professional fellows will undertake and complete a research project based on their interests and skills, as well as the needs of the Library.

FUNDING: One fellowship is available, each supported by a $500/week stipend (maximum of $4,000).

For the summer of 2017, The Community Library is offering two types of professional fellowships, but will select one candidate. Please consider the following descriptions and focus your application on one (see below for the fellowship details):

- Research services and interpretation
- Digital resources

Eligibility and requirements
- Applicants must be current graduate students in good standing in a humanities, literature, public history, library science, information studies, preservation, archives or related program
Applicants must commit to a minimum of 4 and up to 8 consecutive weeks of employment between June 1st and September 30, 2017.

In addition to completing a research project, at the end of the professional fellowship, fellows will be required to submit a final report describing their experiences and participate in an exit interview.

Candidates from under-represented ethnic minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.

TO APPLY: Send a letter of interest and resume to Mary Tyson, Director of Regional History, mtyson@comlib.org. The review of applications will begin immediately. The deadline to apply is March 15, 2017. All applicants will be notified of the committee’s decision by April 15, 2017.

Research services, teaching, and interpretation with Hemingway collections

Working with the Director of Regional History and staff, the professional fellow will:

- Provide research support for patrons in-person and through email.
- Conduct in-depth research of a set of objects in the Hemingway House collection or an aspect of the historic structure.
- Assist with and perhaps be the lead in Hemingway-related presentations at the Library.
- Select materials and write interpretive materials for one or more “collection highlights” exhibits for Hemingway festival use, Regional History open houses, and the Hemingway Exhibition at the Library’s Sun Valley Museum of History.
- Give talks to small interested groups.

These duties will allow the professional fellow to develop skills in key aspects of public services in special collections and gain exposure to the complexities of providing those services in special collections settings, including research challenges while remaining mindful of security and preservation considerations. The professional fellow will also assist Regional History staff in their mission of making the library’s collections accessible and supporting the mission and goals of The Community Library.

Digital resources

Working with Catalog Librarians and Museum staff, the professional fellow will:

- Develop metadata technical services functions for rare books with an emphasis on developing metadata records for a wide range of material from the Hemingway House collection, and the Regional History Hemingway archive.
- Contribute new data in the existing databases.
- Assist with and perhaps be the lead in Hemingway-related presentations at the Library.
- Help to create a digital resource center around the Hemingway collection.
These duties will allow the professional fellow to develop skills in key aspects of public services in special collections and gain exposure to the complexities of providing those services in special collections settings, as well as providing those services in a virtual setting. The fellow’s skills will develop by using specialized databases, understanding legacy cataloging, understanding the digital user’s experience, and remaining mindful of security and preservation considerations. The professional fellow will also assist Regional History staff in their mission of making the library’s collections accessible and supporting the mission and goals of The Community Library.

For more information, contact Mary Tyson, Director of Regional History at The Community Library: mtyson@comlib.org or (208) 726-7355 x112.