Kress Conservation Fellowship
Application Guidelines

The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works is pleased to be administering the Kress Conservation Fellowship program on behalf of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

Purpose and Background
The purpose of the Kress Conservation Fellowship program is to provide a wide range of post-graduate fellowship opportunities that will help develop the skills of emerging conservators.

At the crossroads of science and art, the fields of conservation and technical art history demand a complex knowledge of chemistry and materials and an extraordinary sensitivity to artistic intent, as well as physical dexterity, patience, and powers of concentration. Initial training, typically at one of a handful of institutions in North America, provides basic qualifications that must be supplemented with an extended period of specialized concentration on paintings, objects, textiles, antiquities, ethnic materials, photographs, prints and drawings, books and manuscripts, furniture, etc. Within a supervised environment, the young conservator develops the specific skills, the hands-on experience, and the confidence on which to base a future career.

The Kress Conservation Fellowships provide competitive grants to museums and other conservation facilities which sponsor supervised internships in the conservation of specific objects and onsite training.

Description
Nine $32,000 Fellowships are expected to be awarded each year for one-year post-graduate internships in advanced conservation at a museum or conservation facility.

At least $27,000 must be allocated as a fellowship stipend; up to $5,000 may be used toward host institution administrative costs, benefits for the Fellow, and other direct costs of hosting the Fellowship.

Most Fellowships begin in late summer or early fall, and run for a term of 9 to 12 months. A report, whether interim or final, will be due from the host institution in September of the year following the award.

Eligibility
Application must be made by the museum or conservation facility at which the internship will be based. Fellows should have completed (or will complete prior to the Fellowship)
a masters-level degree in conservation prior to beginning the Fellowship. The Fellowship candidate may be identified in advance of application by the host institution or recruited subsequently.

Priority is given to first-year requests, but worthy projects that clearly outline benefits to the Fellow for a second year of Fellowship can be and have been funded.

Criteria
Because of the broad goals of the Fellowship program, the evaluation of applications is based on relative as well as independent criteria. Overall, the program seeks to support a set of internships that offer:

- A variety of specialty areas (paintings, paper, objects, etc.)
- Opportunities for graduates of a variety of North American graduate programs
- Opportunities to work in a variety of institutions, from large municipal museums to university museums and other conservation facilities, as well as sites outside the U.S.
- A combination of proven Fellowship sites as well as opportunities at institutions that have not previously hosted Kress Fellows

Applications will be rated according to the potential for the Fellowship to develop professional skills, knowledge, and abilities in conservation, based on an ability to:

- Provide a varied and challenging set of tasks
- Provide sufficient and qualified supervision and mentoring
- Provide access to appropriate expertise and analytical services
- Provide appropriate work space and equipment
- Provide opportunities for professional presentations and public outreach activities

If a specific candidate is proposed, review will also be made regarding the potential for the Fellow to make a contribution to the conservation community, and the appropriateness of the proposed Fellowship experience for that individual.

If a specific candidate is not proposed at the time of application, review will include the appropriateness of the search procedure to fill the Fellowship position. Final approval of awards will be contingent on FAIC approval of the selected Fellow and his or her potential to make a contribution to the conservation community.

Reporting and Other Requirements
Fellowship host institutions agree to:

- Acknowledge FAIC and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation’s financial support in all publicity materials and news releases related to the project. Please use the phrase, “This [Fellowship/research/project] has been supported by a grant from the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, funded by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation” in acknowledgements.
• Submit a final written report to FAIC prior to September 15 of the year following the award, summarizing the goals, activities, and results of the Fellowship, and confirming that the total grant funds have been expended as proposed. (If the Fellowship is not complete at that time, an interim report will be required by September 15.)

Application Procedure
• Complete the form provided on the AIC Website
• Attach:
  o Curriculum vitae of the supervisor(s)
  o Curriculum vitae of the proposed Fellow (if identified), or position description/announcement and search procedures
  o Other supporting materials, such as descriptions of the collection and institution, as desired

Electronic applications are encouraged. Please prepare materials in Word or PDF formats in as few files as feasible, and email to: faicgrants@conservation-us.org.

Deadline and Notification
All materials must be RECEIVED in the FAIC office by January 22. Applications will be acknowledged by email. Notification of results will normally be made by April 1. Award payments will normally be made by August 1.