We are pleased to announce the availability of an annual one year research fellowship for outstanding doctoral candidates or postdoctoral researchers in Art History. Through the generous support of the Belgian American Educational Foundation (BAEF) and the Rubenianum Fund, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation, the Rubenianum Fellowship Programme formalizes Antwerp’s tradition of transatlantic outreach and exchange.

Fellowship

The Rubenianum promotes and facilitates the study of the work of Peter Paul Rubens in particular and that of his Antwerp predecessors, contemporaries and followers in general. Research projects should relate to these core strengths of the institute and can focus on 16th- and 17th-century paintings, prints and drawings, sculpture and decorative arts and their relation to culture and society. Students whose dissertations will benefit maximally from further collection, library, and archival holdings in Antwerp and Belgium are strongly encouraged to apply. Dutch language skills increase eligibility for the programme.

Fellows will receive a stipend of $27,000. If the fellow chooses to remain less than the full 12 months, the stipend will be prorated accordingly. The fellowship period must be at least 6 months. In addition to the stipend, the BAEF will provide health insurance.

The Rubenianum will provide office space and access to its specialized art history library and photographic documentation. The Fellow will work closely with Rubenianum staff and will be encouraged to engage in current projects and in the research culture of the institute. Professors, librarians, curators, and other visiting scholars will be available for consultation. She or he will work on site with curatorial staff of the Rubens House Museum and the 2018 Baroque Festival year. The Fellow will attend conferences, symposia, and lectures at the Rubenianum and introductions will be provided to other research institutes in Antwerp and beyond. The Fellow is expected to take part in interuniversity seminars in Leuven (KU Leuven) and Ghent (U Gent) and will give a public Rubenianum Lecture in the historic Kolveniershof. The Rubenianum encourages the Fellow to organize a scholarly workshop or conference in Antwerp around his or her research topic in the second half of the fellowship period.
Application

Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Applicants must either be registered in a graduate programme towards a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in the United States, or hold a Ph.D. in Art History. Preference is given to applicants under the age of 30. The Fellow must reside in Belgium during the tenure of his or her fellowship.

Application forms can be downloaded from the BAEF website at www.baef.us. In addition to a completed application form, applicants must furnish:

- Undergraduate and graduate transcripts
- A complete curriculum vitae
- A three page research proposal, outlining how your study will take advantage of the resources available
- A copy of a published paper or a recent writing sample
- Three letters of recommendation

Completed applications for the 2017-2018 fellowship must be submitted as electronic documents in pdf format attached to an email sent not later than October 31, 2016 to Prof. Dr. Emile Boulpaep, President of the BAEF.

Procedure

Applications will be reviewed by the BAEF Selection Committee. The selected applicant will be notified by May 1, 2017. The Fellow could start at the Rubenianum any time from September until end of December 2017.

Contact

For additional information contact Véronique Van de Kerckhof at the Rubenianum, rubenianum@stad.antwerpen.be, +32 3 201 15 77
Being a visiting researcher at the Rubenianum

Dr. Adam Eaker, BBAEF Fellow (2012-2013) and currently Assistant Curator at the Department of European Paintings, Metropolitan Museum of Art, shares his experience.

“The phenomenal library and archival collections of the Rubenianum have been of critical use to me.” “Being welcomed into this vibrant and dynamic art historical community has been a wonderful experience. The many conferences, workshops, and lectures organized by the Rubenianum are attended by scholars from near and far, enabling me to engage with a wide array of colleagues whose work and interests intersect with my own.”

Dr. Abigail D. Newman
BBAEF Fellow and visiting researcher 2013-2016

“Being based at the Rubenianum, with its outstanding library and visual archive, has been absolutely essential to the success of my research.” “The collections and the collegial environment together make the Rubenianum, in my opinion, the single best place to conduct research on early modern Netherlandish art, and I am very grateful for the time I have been able to spend there.”

Dr. Sarah Joan Moran
Postdoctoral research fellow, Swiss National Research foundation 2013-2015

“To list the ways that being affiliated with the Rubenianum has streamlined my work would be to sell this experience short. For it has enabled a speed and efficiency of research that I hadn’t known was possible. Even coming from US institutions with incredibly rich libraries, it was hard for me to imagine a place that has virtually everything published (and many times not even published) on my topics of inquiry; in turn, I have accomplished research that might have taken several days and weeks in the states in the space of an afternoon with a stack of books shelved steps away from my desk.”

Aaron Hyman
PhD Candidate, UC Berkeley, History of Art Department, BBAEF Fellow 2014-2015

Dr. Abigail D. Newman
BBAEF Fellow and visiting researcher 2013-2016