

## Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Student Collections Study Award

### Background

The NHM Collections Study Awards were instituted to provide funding for undergraduate and graduate students to visit and study the collections of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the La Brea Tar Pits & Museum, and the William S. Hart Ranch and Museum (The Natural History Family of Museums). Collections visits must be arranged through the appropriate department's collections manager.

### Deadlines

There are two award deadlines each year: **April 1st** and **October 1st**. Applications should be **submitted via email to Tyler Hayden (thayden@nhm.org)**. Prospective applicants should contact the relevant curator and collections manager of the collections they wish to visit before assembling proposal materials.

### Eligibility

The NHM Student Collections Study Award is open to all undergraduate and graduate students that are currently enrolled in an accredited degree-granting program. International undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to apply, but should contact museum curators if assistance is required to obtain a letter of invitation that could be used in a visa application.

Researchers that are within daily commuting distance of the Natural History Family of Museums are not eligible for this award.

Researchers that have had proposals not funded are encouraged to resubmit, but an individual cannot receive more than one award within a three-year timeframe.

### Criteria

Applicants are required to contact the relevant curator and collections manager of the collections they wish to visit **prior to submission** of their applications to confirm availability of collections and logistics regarding the use of museum facilities.

Applications should include information on: the objectives and significance of the proposed research; the relevance of NHM collections to the project; any collaboration with NHM curators (if applicable); and the methods used in the research. Both the quality of the proposed research as well as the project's feasibility will be evaluated. In addition, preference will be given to proposals that: **1)** demonstrate a critical role of NHM collections in the proposed research; and **2)** enhance the NHM collections (e.g., identifications, curation, transcription, annotation of records, generation of new data, etc.).

Any proposed research that involves digitization, molding & casting, and/or destructive sampling of NHM specimens, must meet the appropriate department's collections use criteria, and also be approved ahead of time by the appropriate curator and collections manager.

Awards are made in either partial or full support of travel, lodging, and incidental costs while visiting the NHM collections. Individual award amounts can vary, but typically range from \$500–

\$1000, with a maximum of \$1500. Reimbursement for housing is limited to a maximum \$200 per day.

Awards are made in the form of a check issued by the NHM to the awardee. Awardees are required to complete and submit a W-9 form prior to the distribution of funds. Award funds can only be used for the awardee's qualified travel, lodging, and incidental expenses. For awards greater than \$600, the NHM is required to report these amounts to the IRS, and recipients are responsible for paying income taxes.

As part of the visit, awardees will be expected to give a brief, "brown-bag" style presentation/discussion for the relevant collections department related to their research. In addition, as part of the submission of reimbursement expenses, awardees are also required to submit a short 1-page report describing their collections visit and research activities at the museum. This information will be kept on file, and used in museum-related outreach, e.g., the NHM R&C Newsletter. Any publications, conference abstracts, or similar products that utilize NHM collections as part of this award should acknowledge both the "NHM Student Collections Study Award" funding and the relevant departmental collections and staff. Copies of publications/abstracts should be submitted to Tyler Hayden (thayden@nhm.org) and the appropriate curator and collections manager.

#### **Award Review and Notifications**

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee composed of Natural History Family of Museums curators and collections managers. Notification of award status can be expected approximately 1 month after each submission deadline.



## Application (1 of 2)

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Institutional Address:

Curriculum Vitae: (Please attach separately)

Undergraduate/Graduate student (circle one)

Current Faculty Advisor's Name and Email:

Project Title:

Proposed Dates of Visit:

Do you currently have additional funding for this project, and/or is this visit part of a larger trip (e.g., other collections or conferences)? If "yes" to either, please explain:

Proposed Specimens to Study:

Budget (MAXIMUM \$1,500)

Lodging (MAXIMUM \$200/night):

Transportation:

Meals/Incidentals:

Total:



Last Updated: 1/24/17

## **Application (2 of 2)**

Proposed Research (MAXIMUM 1-page, single-spaced not including references or figures, 10pt or larger font describing the proposed work):

## Helpful Resources

### Museum Links

NHM homepage: <http://www.nhm.org>

La Brea Tar Pits & Museum homepage: <http://www.tarpits.org/>

William S. Hart Ranch and Museum homepage: <http://www.hartmuseum.org/>

Research & Collections: <http://www.nhm.org/site/research-collections>

### Travel

The NHM is located at 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007. The La Brea Tar Pits & Museum is located at 5801 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036. The William S. Hart Ranch and Museum is located at 24151 Newhall Avenue, Newhall, CA 91321. The NHM is approximately 12 miles (~30 minutes by car) away, the La Brea Tar Pits & Museum is approximately 11 miles (~30 minutes by car) away, and The William S. Hart Ranch and Museum is approximately 35 miles (~1hr by car) away from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The William S. Hart Ranch and Museum is approximately 18 miles (~20 minutes by car) away from Bob Hope Airport (BUR). In addition to taxi/Über/Lyft, LAX is serviced by Metro Bus and Rail (typically >1hr to NHM or La Brea Tar Pits & Museum).

The Los Angeles Metro (<https://www.metro.net/>) connects the greater LA area, and the Expo Line (<http://www.nextbus.com/googleMap/?a=lametro-rail&r=806>) includes a stop at the NHM.

There are many hotels near the NHM, the La Brea Tar Pits & Museum, and the William S. Hart Ranch and Museum, as well as along the Expo Metro line that services the NHM. Hotels.com is a helpful webpage for searching for lodging near the museums.

### Lodging - NHM

Radisson at USC, Los Angeles (213) 748-4141

A chain hotel within walking distance of the NHM. Room rates are around \$200/night

<https://www.radisson.com/los-angeles-hotel-ca-90007/cafiguer>

3540 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007

The Inn at 657 (213) 741-2200

A bed and breakfast within walking distance of the NHM. Room rates are around \$150/night

<http://www.patsysinn657.com/>

657 and 663 W. 23rd St. Los Angeles, CA 90007

[info@patsysinn657.com](mailto:info@patsysinn657.com)

Vagabond Inn Los Angeles-USC (800)-491-6126

A chain hotel within walking distance of the NHM. Room rates are around \$110/night

<http://www.vagabondinn.com/california/vagabond-inn-los-angeles-at-usc.aspx>

3101 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90008

Ginosi FiGaro Apartel (800)-491-6126

Apartments with kitchens near the LA Convention Center, and a short drive or metro ride from the NHM. Room rates are around \$130/night

<https://www.ginosi.com/apartel/ginosi-figaro-apartel--downtown-los-angeles>

1360 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90015

**Lodging - La Brea Tar Pits & Museum**

Cinema Suites Bed & Breakfast (323) 272-3160

A bed and breakfast within walking distance of the museum. Room rates are around \$125/night

<http://www.cinemasuitesbnb.com/>

925 S. Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Park Plaza Lodge Hotel (323) 931-1501

A small hotel nearby the museum. Room rates are around \$100/night

<http://www.parkplazalodgehotel.com/>

6001 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90036

**Lodging - William S. Hart Ranch and Museum**

La Quinta Inn & Suites Santa Clarita-Valencia (661) 286-1111

A chain hotel nearby the museum. Room rates are around \$100/night

<http://www.laquintasantaclaritastevensonranch.com/>

25201 The Old Road, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381