

SPENCER MUSEUM of ART



Spencer Museum of Art Student Research Awards Application Form

Deadline: By midnight, February 13, 2021

Award Amount: Up to a maximum of \$500 for individual projects

Award Description: The [Spencer Museum of Art](#) offers research awards to stimulate and support student research in the arts, and particularly projects connected to the Museum's collection, exhibitions, and strategies for engaging and serving visitors. Each award provides up to a maximum of \$500 for individual projects, and supports costs pertaining to research pursuits or the dissemination of research. Interdisciplinary and collaborative projects involving two or more students are welcome and encouraged, and there may be additional funds for supporting increased costs for collaborative projects. While some travel support may be possible, any travel must be in compliance with KU guidelines, particularly those pertaining to COVID-19 protocols (for the most accurate information, see <https://protect.ku.edu/>). Funding for these awards is supported by the KU Student Senate Educational Opportunity Fund. Awardees will be required to submit reports about their completed research.

Eligibility:

- KU undergraduate and graduate students in any field are invited to apply.

Application instructions:

1. Please complete the following research proposal form. All items are required; if not applicable, enter N/A. If there are collaborators, please add the contact information and university affiliation for each collaborator.

I. Contact Information

Name:

E-mail address:

Major (and minor) fields of study:

Type of degree being sought:

Year of study:

II. University Affiliation

Undergraduate

Graduate

Department Affiliation: _____

1. A brief description of the nature and purpose of the proposed study. (approximate total 500 words)

The following prompts are to assist in developing a research proposal. These prompts can be responded to specifically or used to guide an overall proposal narrative. (For detailed guidelines on how to prepare a research proposal, you may also consult KU's Center for Undergraduate Research website: <https://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/fund/research-awards/proposal>)

Background: How did you come to this project and what skills do you bring to it?

Collaboration: If your project is team-based, what role does each collaborator play? What do the members of your team bring to the project in terms of perspectives or knowledge?

Arts Connections: How does your project connect with the arts? This may include connections to the Spencer Museum of Art's collection, exhibitions, and/or strategies for engaging and serving visitors.

Goals: What research questions are you seeking to address through this project? What do you want to know, prove, demonstrate, analyze, test, investigate, or examine in your research?

Approach to research question(s): How will you address these research questions? What is your approach?

Resources: Do you require particular resources, and if so, explain why or how they will be used? (Specify any special equipment, e.g. software or materials)

Applicant's preparation: Describe your preparation and plans to complete this project. This can be in the format of a work plan/schedule.

Expected outcomes, significance or rationale: Why is your research important? What do you expect it will deliver? What are the expected outcomes? Establish the importance of your project by highlighting its originality, creativity, and/or why it is worth pursuing. Highlight the benefits, positive expected outcomes, or innovative applications of knowledge.

2. A brief description of what the funds will be used for and how they will support your research. (150 words)

Additional details such as conference proposal abstract, email acceptance of conference paper, letter from research archive, or any documentation for research or dissemination may be enclosed with the proposal form.

3. Please complete the following budget form. It should include all project costs (in each of the categories indicated below) that the Applicant intends to support with their Research Award as well as other project costs. You may add other boxes/categories as needed.

Research-Related Expenses

Category	Amount	Note
Research materials (please specify)		
Conference registration or other fees (please specify)		
Research experiment/analysis/report preparation and other costs (please specify)		
Other costs (please specify)		
Total Requested Funds =		

4. Evaluation Criteria (for applicant reference only; to be completed by selection committee)

Research Topic and Question(s)	1 = Poor or Absent	2 = Fair	3 = Good	4 = Exceptional	Score
	<p>Topic is unmanageably broad or vague; or narrow in scope, omitting significant or relevant aspects of topic. Questions are too simple, obvious, or without focus.</p>	<p>Topic is somewhat focused and manageable, but may need adjustments in scope during the research process. Questions appear to explore known or common problems or issues that are open or unresolved.</p>	<p>Topic is focused and manageable, addressing significant and relevant aspects of topic. Questions focus on potential gaps in the field, or they adequately tackle existing problems or issues that are still open and unresolved.</p>	<p>Topic is exceptionally well focused and manageable, addressing significant and relevant aspects of topic. Questions focus on potential gaps in the field, or on creative reexamination of existing problems or issues that are still open and unresolved.</p>	
Approach	1 = Poor or Absent	2 = Fair	3 = Good	4 = Exceptional	Score
	<p>The approach to the research question is not clear. The student does not provide a general picture of the proposed activities.</p>	<p>Inadequately explained or inadequate approach. There is no relationship between what the student proposes to do and why.</p>	<p>Student explains well the approach and why their approach is good for the topic of study.</p>	<p>Shows evidence of exceptional insight and understanding of research issues in the discipline; the approach to the research question is exceptionally well thought out.</p>	

Student Preparation	1 = Poor or Absent	2 = Fair	3 = Good	4 = Exceptional	Score
	Student does not appear to have the skills or background needed to carry out the project. The proposal does not describe relevant coursework or training. Proposal does not address how student will gain needed skills to complete project.	Student has some of the skills or background needed to carry out the project. Proposal mentions some coursework or training, but the connection to the project is unclear. Proposal gives some information about the student's preparedness.	Student has most of the skills or background needed to carry out the project. Proposal describes relevant coursework or training. Proposal addresses how student will gain needed skills to complete project.	Student is exceptionally well prepared for the project. Proposal makes a strong case for the student's preparation through relevant prior experience, coursework, and/or training.	
Feasibility of Plan	1 = Poor or Absent	2 = Fair	3 = Good	4 = Exceptional	Score
	Budget is missing. Student does not identify all the actions and resources needed to carry out the project.	Budget is present but not adequate to support the project. Student identifies the actions and resources needed to complete the project, but their articulation is not always detailed and/or accurate.	Budget is present, detailed, and generally accurate. Student identifies almost all the actions and resources needed to complete the project.	Budget is adequate to support the project activities, costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives of the project, budget is clear to understand. The project is clearly feasible.	
Arts Connections	1 = Poor or Absent	2 = Fair	3 = Good	4 = Exceptional	Score
	No demonstration connections with the arts.	Somewhat demonstrates connections with the arts..	Clearly demonstrates meaningful connections with the arts.	Exceptionally demonstrates significant and meaningful connections with the arts.	
TOTAL SCORE=				out of 24

Strengths of the proposal:

Areas for improvement:

5. Application Submission Procedure

Applicants must complete this form and submit via email with any supporting documents by the deadline of midnight, February 13, 2021 to academic@ku.edu. The supporting documents should be combined into a single PDF and use the following naming convention: EOF2020_[LAST NAME]_[FIRST NAME], e.g. EOF2020_JONES_KAY.

Contact

For questions about the research award and the application materials, please contact:

Celka Straughn

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