A Foot in the Door: Transitioning a Job into a Career

By Becky Bacheller and Amber Wingerson
Becky Bacheller is currently an Assistant Registrar at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and is a graduate of George Washington University's Museum Studies Program specializing in Collections Management and History of Decorative Arts. This includes work at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, New-York Historical Society, and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.
Amber Wingerson is the Curatorial Assistant at the Cape Ann Museum in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Prior to this position, she completed two long-term fellowships, two short-term fellowships, and two contract positions in addition to internships and volunteering.
What we will be covering today:

1) Volunteering
2) Internships
3) Other types of positions - fellowships
4) Other types - Federal
5) Front of house/unrelated part time jobs
6) General networking (include mentoring)
7) Networking – conferences
8) Presentations/publications
9) Ideas to make you stand out – portfolio
10) Ideas to make you stand out - website

We are not getting into the nitty gritty of applications, resumes, and interviewing (but are happy to answer questions about that later!)
Volunteering
Internships - Becky
Internships - Amber
Cataloging Fellowships

Boston Furniture Archive, Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library
Cataloging Fellowships
Classical Institute of the South, The Historic New Orleans Collection
Year-long Fellowships

- Trustees of Reservations
- Preservation Society of Newport County
Federal and Contract Positions
Contract Positions

Trustees of Reservations, Fruitlands Museum
Assistant Guest Curator
Contract Positions

Catawba County Historical Association
Special Exhibition Coordinator
Front of House/Part-time Jobs
Networking
Conferences: Academic Organizations

ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIANS OF NINETEENTH-CENTURY ART

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

THE DECORATIVE ARTS TRUST
If you want to get really specific!
Presentations

Call For Papers & Proposals

PA Museums seeks nominations of an exemplary Pennsylvania museum project, process, or individual for their "PA Museums Special Achievement Award."
**Deadline: November 1, 2019.**


The Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation at William & Mary seeks proposals for its 10th Annual Lemon Project Symposium held March 19-21, 2020 in Williamsburg, VA. **Deadline for proposals: November 15, 2019.**

The Preservation Society of Newport County has announced an Emerging Scholars Call For Proposals for their 2020 Newport Symposium held April 16-18, 2020 in Newport, RI. The 28th annual Newport Symposium will investigate the women that introduced, shaped, and redefined American art and culture. **Deadline for proposals: December 1, 2019.**

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) seeks proposals for its 2020 Annual Meeting, themed "What Kind of Ancestor Will You Be?," which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on September 23-26, 2020. **Deadline for submissions: December 9, 2019.**

The Disability History Association (DHA) is excited to announce a new initiative: the Public Disability History Award, recognizing public disability history projects. **Deadline to apply: December 20, 2019.**

Specific Graduate symposiums

Emerging Scholar calls for papers

Be sure to apply! This list was screenshot from MuseWeekly on October 24th.
Publications

Particularly curatorial positions look for a history of publishing, but it can be beneficial for other positions as well!

Lots of options to look into to fit your particular topic
Ideas to Make You Stand Out - Portfolio

Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, DC

Rehousing Directed Research

September 2012 – December 2012
Ideas to Make You Stand Out - Website

Amber L. Wingerson

About Me

I am a trained museum professional, decorative arts and public historian with curatorial, collections management, and research experience at different art museums, historic houses, historic sites, and libraries. I am currently the Curatorial Assistant at the Cape Ann Museum in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Visit my LinkedIn page for a more detailed explanation of work I completed at the Preservation Society of Newport County, Trustees of Reservations, Boston Furniture Archive, and others.
Exhibitions, Curatorial and Collections Projects

Prior to my current curatorial position, I completed several internships, fellowships, and contract positions in the museum field. Below, you will find photos and descriptions of my current and prior positions. In the case of Cape Ann Museum and Fruitlands Museum, The Trustees of Reservations, click through to view more extensive explanations and photo galleries of multiple exhibitions and projects I completed or am currently working on.

Cape Ann Museum
Curatorial Assistant, September 2018 to present

A member of the three person curatorial team at the Cape Ann Museum, I complete a range of tasks including exhibitions, research, and cataloging work as part of an inventory of the entire collection. In addition to this, I process archival collections in the Library & Archives.

Click here to view the projects I have completed, projects currently in process, and exhibitions I have been a part of as the curatorial assistant.
Focus listings for jobs, conferences, calls for papers, etc.