

Travel Research in Equity Collections (TREC)

Short-term Travel Awards at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History

To encourage use of its equity-related collections, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History offers support in the form of short-term travel awards for researchers to come to the Museum and use the Archives Center's 20,000 feet of archival materials.

This 10-day award is intended for research in NMAH collections related to one or more of the following: disability; LGBTQ, gender, sexuality; and race, ethnicity. Researchers may be at any level or rank, from any institution as well as independent scholars, writers, journalists, artists, or film-makers. Recipients are awarded a lump sum of \$1500. The funds may be used for travel, living expenses, and research support. All funds awarded are subject to tax and non-US applicants should inquire about visa status and tax implications. The researcher is expected to be in residence at the museum for 10 business days. The award of the TREC fellowship is unrelated to other fellowships and applicants may apply for simultaneous support elsewhere or at another time.

The TREC award is a way to familiarize researchers with NMAH's resources and/or allow completion of small, contained projects. The travel support is for applicants not residing or attending school within commuting distance of the National Museum of American History.

The Archives Center at the National Museum of American History houses stellar collections for intersectional research. A range of materials can be found throughout the Center's holdings, such as trade literature, letters and manuscripts, photographs, film, and newsletters. In addition, the museum's object collections cover the same topics through extensive 3-dimensional resources.

Selection decisions are made on the basis of relevancy of the project for NMAH collections and review by the Smithsonian staff.

Requirements:

Recipients must commence and complete their 10 days of research at the National Museum of American History within one year of being notified of the award.

Recipients are requested to submit a short report (700 word max.) on their research at the National Museum of American History. Edited versions of or excerpts from these reports may be used in NMAH's reports, social media, and publications.

Recipients are asked to provide the Archives Center with a copy of any publication resulting from research conducted as a result of the award.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must apply using the Smithsonian [online application system](#).

Please be aware that complete applications must include the following:

application form

current curriculum vitae or resume (2 pages, maximum)

bibliography of relevant secondary sources (1-2 pages)
statement of purpose summarizing the project and detailing why the Archives Center's
collections are essential to their research (1500 word maximum)
name and contact information for 3 references

The application deadline is July 15. Awards will be announced August 15. Four awards will be made each year.

More information about Smithsonian collections and staff can be found on the following websites:

[National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution](#)
[Archives Center, NMAH, Smithsonian Institution](#)
[Smithsonian Institution Libraries](#)
[Other Smithsonian museums and research facilities](#)

To request additional information about NMAH's TREC awards, contact Dr. Katherine Ott, otk@si.edu. or Omar Eaton-Martinez, eatonMO@si.edu.

Or write to
TREC Awards Program
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Smithsonian Institution
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